10,000 TREES INITIATIVE
TREE INFO CARD

Pecan

(*Carya illinoinensis*)

Get to know your tree:

The pecan is not native to Michigan, but is native to eastern North America and is non-invasive in Michigan. It has large, pinnately compound leaves with 11-17 leaflets. The leaflets are narrow and curved, have off-center midribs, and emerge opposite one another, with one terminal leaflet. Fall leaf color is typically a golden yellow or pale orange. Flowers are on long green catkins hanging in groups of three. Fruits are nuts located inside 4-winged husks that are green when young and brown when mature. Bark is smooth and grey-brown on younger trees, developing thin ridges with age.

Tree benefits:

Each year, a 1-inch diameter pecan provides approximately $42.00 in benefits and reduces atmospheric CO$_2$ levels by 34 pounds. To learn more about the benefits provided by your tree, or to see the benefits provided by larger pecans, visit [www.treebenefits.com](http://www.treebenefits.com).

[www.a2gov.org/10ktrees](http://www.a2gov.org/10ktrees)
Fun facts about your tree:

Pecan is the most economically important cultivated tree in North America. The nuts are harvested commercially for food, and the wood is commonly used for furniture, flooring, and smoking meats.

A single pecan tree can produce 70-150 pounds of nuts in a single year!

Plant your tree:

When choosing where to plant this tree, consider spots with full sun exposure (at least 6 hours of sun per day). Pecans grow to heights of 75-100 feet, with a spread of around 40-70 feet – make sure to consider the size of the tree and do not plant this tree in close proximity to buildings or underneath overhead utilities. Please also consider potential conflicts with solar panels! This species does well in most soil types.

For detailed planting instructions, please visit www.arborday.org/trees/planting. And always make sure to call Miss Dig (1-800-482-7171) to mark underground utilities before digging on your property!

Care for your tree:

This species is not tolerant of drought, and will require frequent watering. Watering should be done during dry periods - especially in the summer - but there’s no set amount of water your tree needs. Instead, how much you water should be based on the soil. Check the soil at a depth of two inches - if it’s moist, there’s no need to water. But if it’s dry, you should water your tree! Make sure not to water if the temperature is below freezing. Most trees need watering during the first two years after planting - but keep an eye on older trees as well.

www.a2gov.org/10ktrees