

10,000 TREES INITIATIVE

TREE INFO CARD

Sycamore

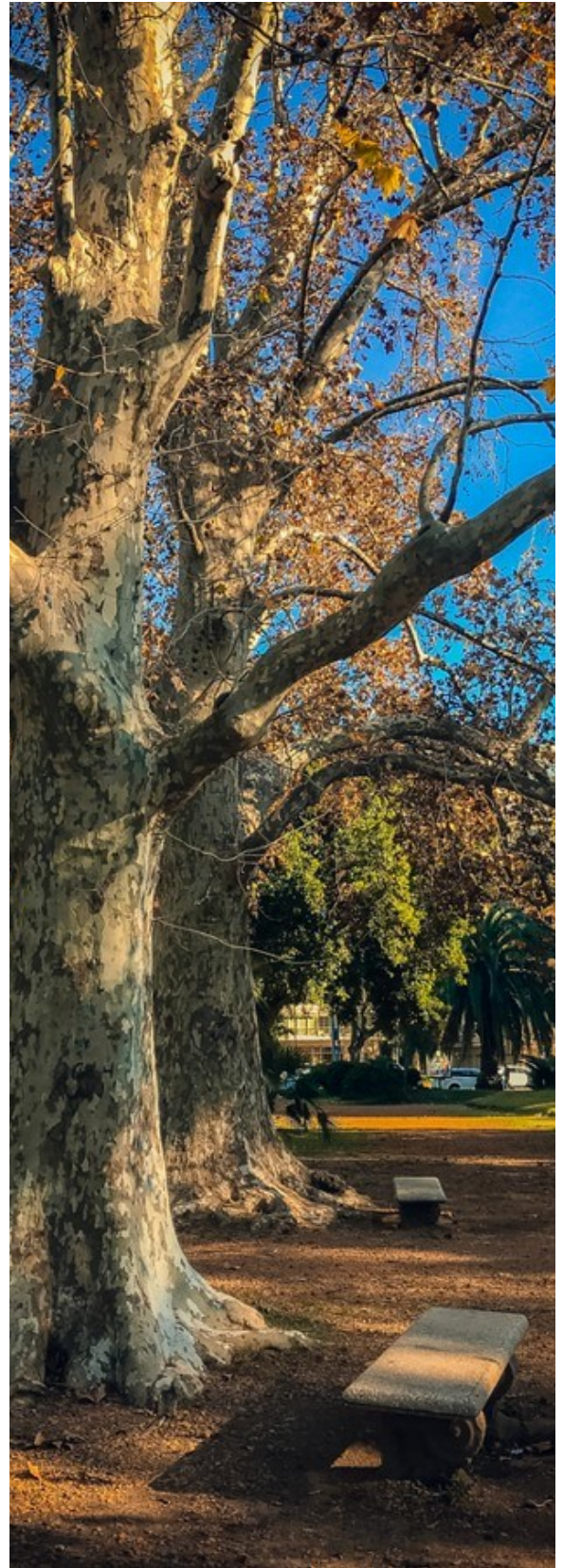
(Platanus occidentalis)

Get to know your tree:

The American sycamore is native to Michigan. It has large, 3- or 5-lobed, toothed leaves similar to those of maples. Fall leaf color is dusty green, yellow, or orange-brown. Flowers form small red or green balls on long stalks. Fruits are seeds clustered in small balls hanging from long stalks. Bark is peeling and mottled in colors of pale green, grey, brown, cream, and white – resulting in a camouflage appearance. This species prefers growing in relatively wet environments.

Tree benefits:

Each year, a 1-inch diameter sycamore tree provides approximately \$19.00 in benefits and reduces atmospheric CO₂ levels by 5 pounds. To learn more about the benefits provided by your tree, or to see the benefits that would be provided by larger sycamore trees, please visit www.treebenefits.com.



Fun facts about your tree:

The trunks of larger individuals of this species are often completely hollow!

The American sycamore is the largest hardwood native to North America, in terms of trunk diameter. The largest sycamore on record had a diameter of nearly 15 feet!



Plant your tree:

When choosing where to plant this tree, consider spots with at least partial sun exposure (at least 4 hours of sun per day). Sycamores grow to heights of 75-100 feet, with a spread of around 80 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 best in moist soils. It is somewhat tolerant of air pollution and salt.

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 very tolerant of drought, and prefers moist soil. 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.

