10,000 TREES INITIATIVE
TREE INFO CARD

Tuliptree
(Liriodendron tulipifera)

Get to know your tree:
The tuliptree is a Michigan native species with medium-sized, 4-lobed leaves shaped like the outline of a tulip flower. Fall leaf color is typically a golden yellow. Flowers are large, upright, and tulip-like, with 6 petals exhibiting a gradient in color from greenish-yellow to orange. Fruits are an upright cone-like cluster of samaras, which unfold and drop in winter. Bark is smooth and faintly striped on younger trees, and has distinct ridges with pale furrows on older individuals. Trunks are typically very tall and straight.

Tree benefits:
Each year, a 1-inch diameter tuliptree provides approximately $42.00 in benefits and reduces atmospheric CO₂ levels by 34 pounds. To learn more about the benefits provided by your tree, or to see the benefits provided by larger tuliptrees, visit www.treebenefits.com.
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). Tuliptrees typically grow to heights of 75-100 feet, with a spread of around 40-50 feet, but can reach heights of 150 feet or more — make sure to consider the size of the tree and do not plant this tree in close proximity to buildings or undernearth overhead utilities. Please also consider potential conflicts with solar panels. This species does best in moist, slightly acidic soils. It is intolerant of highly compacted soils.

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 moderately tolerant of drought, but 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.

Fun facts about your tree:

This is one of the largest tree species native to Eastern North America, with the tallest recorded individual reaching a height of 192 feet!

The flowers of this tree are important for pollinators, including hummingbirds and bees – honey produced by bees visiting this tree’s flowers is strong and well suited for baking!