

10,000 TREES INITIATIVE

TREE INFO CARD

Black Walnut

(Juglans nigra)

Get to know your tree:

The black walnut is a Michigan native species with large, pinnately compound leaves with 15-23 narrow, pointed leaflets. The terminal leaflet is typically small and may occasionally be lacking. Fall leaf color is typically a greenish-yellow. Flowers are small and green. Fruits are relatively large, rounded nuts with irregular grooves, encased in a seamless husk that is green when young and turns brown with age. Bark is dark and furrowed in a diamond pattern.

Tree benefits:

Each year, a 1-inch diameter black walnut 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 black walnuts, visit www.treebenefits.com.



Fun facts about your tree:

The roots of this species contain juglone, a toxic substance released when the roots of other plant species come in contact with walnut roots. Plants susceptible to this toxin include many fruit trees, chestnuts, pines, azaleas, hydrangeas, blueberries, blackberries, tomatoes, potatoes, cabbages, peas, and peppers.

Black walnuts are the second most economically valuable species native to eastern North America, after pecans. There have even been instances of black walnut trees being stolen!



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). Black walnuts grow to heights of 50-75 feet, with a spread of around 50-75 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, fertile soils. It can suppress the growth of other plants nearby.

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.

