

# 10,000 TREES INITIATIVE

## TREE INFO CARD

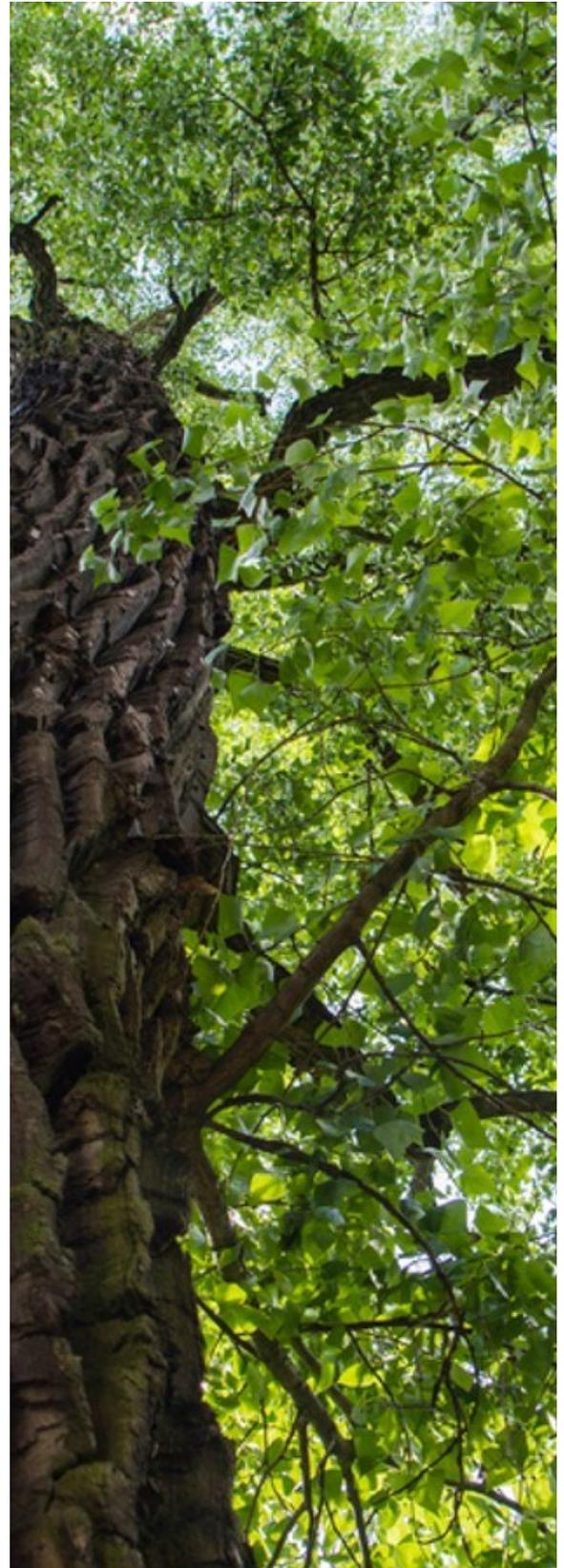
### Eastern Cottonwood (*Populus deltoides*)

#### Get to know your tree:

The eastern cottonwood is a Michigan native species with medium-sized, triangular leaves with rounded teeth and flattened leafstalks. Fall leaf color is typically a golden yellow-brown. Flowers are green or red catkins. Fruits are 3- to 4-parted, pointed capsules hanging in groups from long stalks. Seeds attached to cottony fluff are released from these capsules in early summer. Bark is smooth and greenish grey on younger trees, becoming darker and deeply furrowed with age.

#### Tree benefits:

Each year, a 1-inch diameter eastern cottonwood provides approximately \$42.00 in benefits and reduces atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> levels by 34 pounds. To learn more about the benefits provided by your tree, or to see the benefits provided by larger cottonwoods, visit [www.treebenefits.com](http://www.treebenefits.com).



## Fun facts about your tree:

The eastern cottonwood is one of the fastest growing species native to North America, averaging around 5 feet of height growth per year – and growing as much as 13 feet in the first year!

The leaves of this species are an important food source for the larvae of many species of butterflies and moths.



## 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). Cottonwoods grow to heights of 100 feet or more, with a spread of around 50 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. It is tolerant of salt and pollutants.

For detailed planting instructions, please visit [www.arborday.org/trees/planting](http://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.



[www.a2gov.org/10ktrees](http://www.a2gov.org/10ktrees)