

# 10,000 TREES INITIATIVE

## TREE INFO CARD

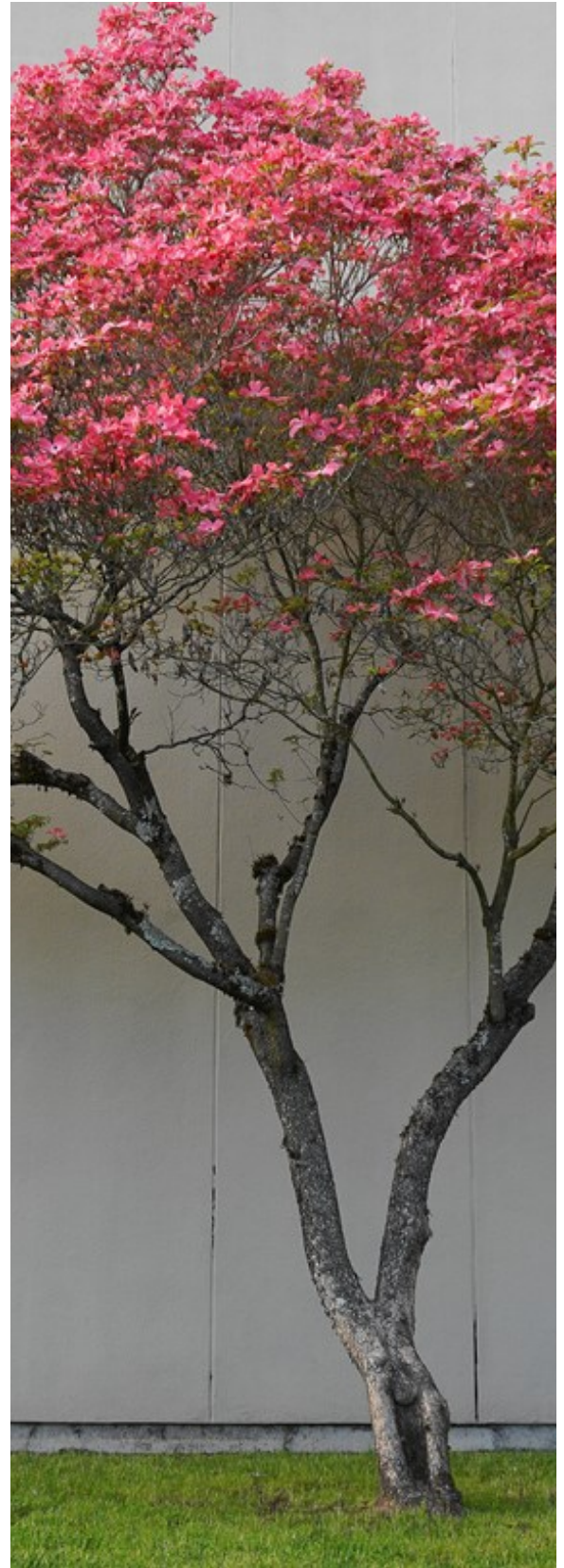
### Flowering Dogwood (*Cornus florida*)

#### Get to know your tree:

The flowering dogwood is a Michigan native species with medium-sized, oblong leaves with pointed tips. The leaves have veins which curve to follow the leaf edge. Branches and leaves emerge opposite one another. Fall leaf color is typically a deep red. Flowers are small, greenish-yellow, and occur in clusters surrounded by showy bracts, a type of modified leaf. The bracts are blunt-tipped and are typically white, though pink and red cultivars exist. Fruits are small red berries occurring in clusters. Bark is broken up into small square blocks and is typically grey in color. This species can exhibit single- or multi-stemmed growth habits.

#### Tree benefits:

Each year, a 1-inch diameter flowering dogwood provides approximately \$9.00 in benefits and reduces atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> levels by 11 pounds. To learn more about the benefits provided by your tree, or to see the benefits provided by larger flowering dogwoods, visit [www.treebenefits.com](http://www.treebenefits.com).



## Fun facts about your tree:

Wood from this species is extremely shock-resistant and is used for making weaving-shuttles, spools, pulleys, and mallets.

The bark and roots of the flowering dogwood can be used to make a remedy for malaria.



## Plant your tree:

When choosing where to plant this tree, consider spots with partial sun exposure (around 4 hours of sun per day). Flowering dogwoods may grow to heights of 15-25 feet, with a spread of around 15-20 feet. This species does well in most soil types.

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)