

10,000 TREES INITIATIVE

TREE INFO CARD

Japanese Zelkova (*Zelkova serrata*)

Get to know your tree:

The Japanese zelkova is native to eastern Asia, but is non-invasive in Michigan. It has small, narrow, toothed leaves with slightly uneven leaf bases. Fall leaf color is typically orange or red. Flowers are tiny and inconspicuous. Fruits are very small berries located in the leaf axils. Bark is smooth and pale grey with horizontal lenticels, developing orange mottling with age. This species typically exhibits a vase-shaped growth form.

Tree benefits:

Each year, a 1-inch diameter zelkova 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 zelkovas, please visit www.treebenefits.com.



Fun facts about your tree:

This tree is very popular for use in the art of bonsai.

Wood from this species is favored in Japan for use in furniture and taiko drums.



Plant your tree:

When choosing where to plant this tree, consider spots with full sun exposure (at least 6 hours of sun per day). Zelkovas grow to heights of 50-80 feet, with a spread of around 50-70 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 wind, pollution, and compacted soil, but can be susceptible to frost damage when young.

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.



www.a2gov.org/10ktrees