

10,000 TREES INITIATIVE

TREE INFO CARD

American Yellowwood (*Cladrastis kentukea*)

Get to know your tree:

The American yellowwood is not native to Michigan, but is native to eastern North America and is non-invasive in Michigan. It has large, pinnately compound leaves with 5-11 leaflets. Leaflets are oval, smooth-edged, and tend to increase in size towards the terminal leaflet. Fall leaf color is typically a golden yellow. Flowers are white and hang in long clusters at the ends of twigs. Fruits are small seed pods that are green in color but turn brown with age. Seed pods may persist into winter. Bark is smooth and pale grey.

Tree benefits:

Each year, a 1-inch diameter yellowwood provides approximately \$36.00 in benefits and reduces atmospheric CO₂ levels by 9 pounds. To learn more about the benefits provided by your tree, or to see the benefits provided by larger American yellowwoods, visit www.treebenefits.com.



Fun facts about your tree:

This species is highly tolerant of pollution, making it ideal for urban environments. It was named the Urban Tree of the Year by the Society of Municipal Arborists in 2015.

The species is named for its heartwood, which is yellow in color and is prized for use in specialty furniture and other decorative wood products.



Plant your tree:

When choosing where to plant this tree, consider spots with partial sun exposure (around 4 hours of sun per day). Yellowwoods may grow to heights of 25-35 feet, with a spread of around 20-30 feet. This species does best in rich, well-drained soils.

For detailed planting instructions, please visit www.arboday.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 relatively tolerant of drought and won't 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.



www.a2gov.org/10ktrees