10,000 TREES INITIATIVE TREE INFO CARD

Crabapple

(Malus spp.)

Get to know your tree:

The crabapple is a group of species, some of which are native to Michigan. No species of crabapple is invasive in Michigan. Crabapple trees have small, finely-toothed oblong leaves which occasionally are lobed at the leaf base. Fall leaf color is typically a drab yellow. Thorns may appear at the ends of twigs. Flowers are showy and are typically white or pink in color. Fruits are typically small, round, long-stalked, and fleshy. Bark is grey-brown and typically has long scales.

Tree benefits:

Each year, a 1-inch diameter crabapple provides approximately \$8.00 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 crabapples, visit www.treebenefits.com.



Fun fact about your tree:

Botanically, there is little to no difference between apples and crabapples.
Conventionally, any species with fruits smaller than two inches in diameter is considered to be a crabapple, while those with larger fruits are considered to be a species of apple.



Plant your tree:

When choosing where to plant this tree, consider spots with full sun exposure (at least 6 hours of sun per day). Crabapples grow to heights of 10-25 feet, with a spread of around 10-15 feet. This tree does well in most soil types.

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.

