NATIVE TREES OF OAKLAND COUNTY

A Guide to Native Trees for Oakland County Municipalities

WHY PLANT NATIVE TREES?

NATIVE TREES REQUIRE LESS MAINTENANCE

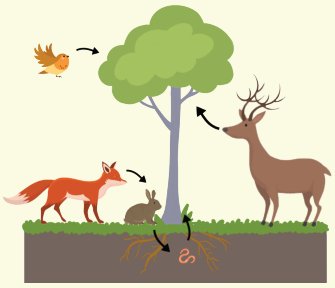
Native trees are adapted to the local climate and soil; they adapt to harsh weather conditions, and require less water and fertilizer.

NATIVE TREES ARE RESILIENT

Native trees can live for hundreds of years! Planting an different types of native trees species improves resilience to climate change, pests, and diseases as other common urban and street trees.

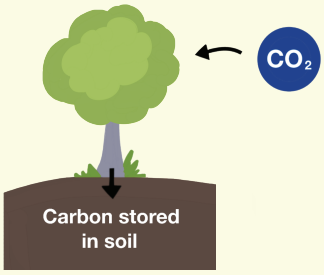
THEY ARE VITAL IN SUSTAINING HEALTHY ECOSYSTEMS

Our Michigan ecosystems have evolved over time to work together. Native wildlife and plants rely greatly on having native trees to support them.



THEY SEQUESTER MORE CARBON

Native trees sequester more carbon compared to non-native trees. Doing this helps with the fight against climate change.



WHAT NATIVE TREE SHOULD I PLANT?

Check out our Oakland County Parks Tree Planting Recommendations Guide that lists recommended native tree species and gives you detailed information about planting the right tree in the right place:

- Height
- Hardiness zone
- Growth rate
- Longevity
- Soil moisture
- Shade tolerance
- Climate resilience
- Fruits and messiness

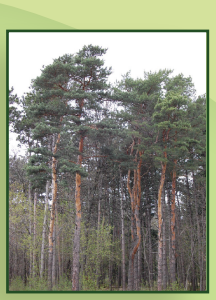
Common Name	Latin name	Height (ft)[1,2]	Hardiness[1,2] Zone	Growth Rate[1,2]			Longevity[3]	Soil Moisture[1,2]		
				Slow	Moderate	Fast		Dry	Moist	Wet
Balsam Fir	*Abies balsamea*	50-70	3-5	X			Short		X	X
Box Elder	*Acer negundo*	30-50	3-9			X	Short	X	X	X
Striped Maple	*Acer pensylvanicum*	15-20	3-7	X			Short		X	
Red Maple	*Acer rubrum*	40-60	3-9		X		Medium		X	X

Refer to the QR code on the back to access the Oakland County Parks Tree Planting Recommendations Guide.

KNOW THE INVADERS

Listed below are the most common ornamental, non-native, or invasive tree species in Oakland County. Avoid planting these species. If these have already been planted in your community, when time and money allow, replace them with a native species.

Callery/Bradford Pear
Pyrus calleryana



Scots Pine
Pinus sylvestris

Norway Maple
Acer platanoides

Black Locust
Robinia pseudoacacia

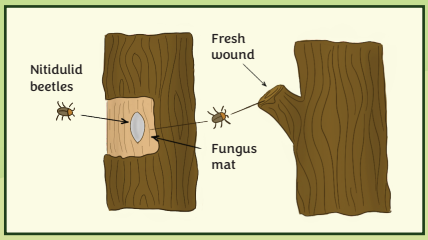
European White Birch
Betula pendula

OAKLAND COUNTY PARKS

TREE PESTS & DISEASES

OAK WILT

The problem: Oak Wilt is a fungal disease that moves through the vascular system of oak trees. Oak wilt kills all trees in the red oak family and damages those in the white oak family.
How it spreads: Above ground beetles (refer to image) spread through adjacent tree roots.



What to look for: Color shift in the top of the tree to light green. Sudden defoliation or browning in late summer (July through August - see image B). Oak wilt fungus mats known as "pressure pads" (see image A).

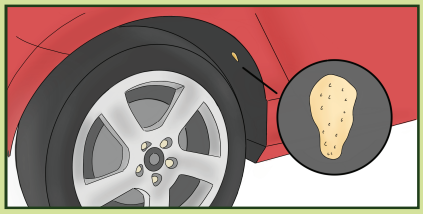
A.Oak wilt fungus mat known as a "pressure pad".
B. Diseased oak wilt leaf.

TREATMENT

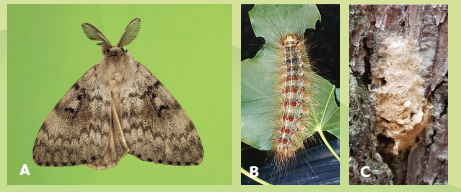
- Establish a double trench line to sever root grafts between diseased and healthy trees.
- Inject healthy trees within the trench line with fungicide (*Propiconazole*) through micro or macro injection system.
- Remove diseased/dead trees only during the dormant season (to help prevent root graft transmission).
- Take removed wood to a tub or chip grinder (to prevent overland spread from the diseased wood) Wood must dry out to prevent pressure pads.

SPONGY MOTH

The problem: Spongy moth caterpillars are voracious eaters that feed on the leaves of more than 300 tree species. This invasive pest can heavily or even completely defoliate a tree. The spongy moth is an aesthetic issue and defoliation would take a long time to harm the health of a tree.
How it spreads: Moth larvae can crawl and be wind-borne. Egg masses can be transported by humans, cars, equipment, or firewood.



What to look for: Defoliation of trees and/or holes in leaves. Egg masses on the trunk of trees, caterpillars, and adult moths (refer to photos below).



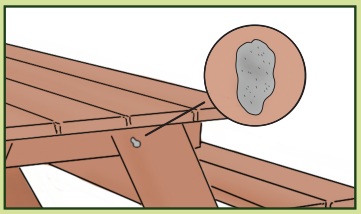
A.Adult Spongy moth. B. Spongy moth caterpillar. C. Spongy moth egg mass on the trunk of a tree.

TREATMENT

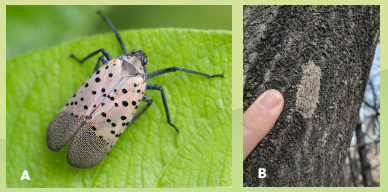
- Several insecticides can be used to control spongy moth caterpillars, (refer to the QR code for additional resources in selecting an insecticide).
- Non-chemical treatment and prevention includes removing egg masses. Remove all egg masses by scraping them into a container of soapy water, burning them, or burying them.

SPOTTED LANTERNFLY

The problem: Spotted lanternfly feeds on the sap of plants and trees which causes wilting, die-back, mold growth, and oozing wounds which can damage or kill fruit trees and crops. They feed on a variety of tree species including a wide range of fruit, woody, and ornamental trees, with Tree-of-Heaven being a preferred host.
How it spreads: Humans that move infested materials containing egg masses. Eggs can be found on nearly any surface including cars, trailers, firewood, outdoor furniture, and more.



What to look for: Light grey-brown egg masses appear in the fall through late spring. The adult moth is approximately one inch in length. Report all findings following the QR code link below.



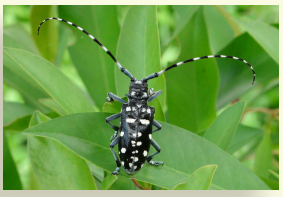
A.Adult Spotted Lanternfly. B. Spotted lanterfly egg mass on tree trunk.

TREATMENT

- Neonicotinoids are the most effective tool to treat spotted lanternflies. However, these insecticides can cause serious harm to beneficial pollinators.
- Always choose the least toxic insecticide that is effective. Egg masses can be sprayed with golden pest spray oil and/or be scraped/crushed. Refer to the QR code below for more information on selecting treatment methods.

• EMERGING TREE HEALTH CONCERNS •

ASIAN LONGHORNED BEETLE



The problem: The Asian Longhorned Beetle is an invasive and destructive pest that creates craters and holes in the trunk of a tree.

What to look for: Round exit holes (in trucks or branches) the diameter of a pencil, wood shaving around the tree. Dead branches falling off a healthy-looking tree. Please report any sightings or signs of the ALB using the QR code below.

HEMLOCK WOOLLY ADELGID

The problem: Hemlock Woolly Adelgid is an aphid-like insect that is deadly to hemlock trees.

What to look for: Small, white, round, cottony masses found on the twig at the base of needles on the underside of hemlock tree branches.

BEECH LEAF/BARK DISEASE

The problem: BLD and BBD are a threat to American beech trees caused by microscopic worms. These diseases are lethal to beech trees.
BLD What to look for: Curling and yellowing of leaves, canopy thinning, dark stripes on the underside of beech leaves.
BBD What to look for: Fuzzy, white coating on the tree's trunk and branches.

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For more information, scan the QR code: