

Whitpain Tree Giveaway 2025

CANOPY TREES

Acer rubrum

The red maple (*Acer rubrum*) a native tree of Pennsylvania, is known for its remarkable adaptability to various environmental conditions. Once established, it can thrive in both wet and dry sites. In landscape settings, red maples are fast-growing, medium-sized trees that typically attain heights of 40 to 60 feet. This species is particularly noted for its striking red fall foliage, making it one of the most desirable native trees for autumn color in our region.

Acer saccharum

The northern sugar maple (*Acer saccharum*) is a native Pennsylvania tree that can reach heights of 40 to 80 feet tall. This species is the primary source of maple syrup production. Notably, sugar maples are among the most shade-tolerant native trees in our region. This species flourishes in moist, well-drained soils but is sensitive to compacted soils and road salts. During fall the leaves turn various hues of yellow to burnt orange.

Fagus grandifolia

American beech (*Fagus grandifolia*) is a native tree that can grow 50 to 80 feet tall. This species makes a magnificent stately tree featuring smooth gray bark and a broad spreading canopy. In the fall, its foliage transforms into striking golden-bronze hues. American beech thrives in deep, rich, moist, well-drained soils.

Liriodendron tulipifera

The tulip poplar (*Liriodendron tulipifera*) is a prominent native tree species that can grow to heights of 70 to 120 feet, with some specimens reaching up to 200 feet, making it one of the tallest native trees in eastern North America. This fast-growing species thrives in deep, moist soils, commonly found along streams and in bottomlands. In the spring, it produces attractive orange and chartreuse flowers, and in the fall, it showcases exceptional golden-yellow foliage.

Quercus lyrata

The overcup oak (*Quercus lyrata*) is a robust, long-lived shade tree that can reach heights of 40 to 70 feet. This bottomland oak species is highly adaptable, thriving in both dry and poorly drained soils, and can even tolerate periodic flooding. Its dark, glossy green leaves transition to striking shades of golden yellow to burgundy in the fall, enhancing its appeal as a versatile and valuable landscape tree.

Quercus rubra

The northern red oak (*Quercus rubra*) is a medium-sized native tree that can reach heights of 40 to 70 feet. This fast-growing species thrives in moist, well-drained, fertile, and acidic soils. Once established, it exhibits remarkable tolerance to drought, salt, and pollution. Its lustrous dark green leaves transform into a striking russet-red in the fall, making it a valuable addition to any landscape.

Quercus bicolor

The swamp white oak (*Quercus bicolor*) is a wet-tolerant species commonly found in lowland or swampy areas in Pennsylvania. Remarkably, once established, these trees exhibit significant drought tolerance. Their glossy green leaves turn a vibrant golden yellow in the fall. As a moderately fast-growing species, the swamp white oak can reach heights of up to 60 feet, making it a valuable addition to diverse landscapes.

Platanus occidentalis

The American sycamore (*Platanus occidentalis*) is a prominent deciduous tree native to eastern North America, typically reaching heights of 60 to 90 feet. This species is easily recognizable by its unique bark, which exfoliates in large flakes to reveal a striking mosaic of white, gray, and green patches. This tree flourishes in rich, moist, well-drained soils, often found along creeks and in floodplains. Notably, the American sycamore located behind the Manor House at Prophecy Creek Park is one of the largest specimens in Pennsylvania, highlighting the impressive growth potential of this remarkable tree.

***Nyssa sylvatica* 'Wildfire'**

The black tupelo (*Nyssa sylvatica*) is a medium-sized deciduous tree, typically reaching heights of 40 to 60 feet. Renowned for its longevity, some specimens of black tupelo have been confirmed to live over 400 years, making it one of the longest-lived trees in eastern North America. This native species thrives in a wide range of soil conditions, from moist, well-drained lowland sites to drier upland forests. The cultivar 'Wildfire' is noted for its new foliage, which emerges bright red before maturing to a dark, glossy green. These leaves transform into brilliant shades of red and orange in the fall, earning it a reputation as one of the best trees for autumn color.

***Ulmus americana* 'Princeton'**

The Princeton American elm (*Ulmus americana* 'Princeton') is a selection of the American elm noted for its remarkable resistance to Dutch elm disease. This large, fast-growing tree typically reaches 50 to 70 feet tall. It forms a broad, vase-shaped crown and is highly adaptable, thriving in a variety of soil conditions, including both wet and dry sites. Once established, it is also drought, salt, and pollution tolerant, making it an excellent choice for use as a street tree.

UNDERSTORY and FLOWERING SPECIES

Cladrastis kentukea

Yellowwood (*Cladrastis kentukea*) is a small to medium-sized deciduous tree native to the southeastern United States. Typically reaching heights of 30 to 40 feet, this species is notable for its striking chains of fragrant white flowers that bloom in early summer. In the fall, its foliage transforms into a vibrant golden yellow, adding seasonal interest to landscapes. Yellowwood thrives in moist, well-drained soils and performs best when planted in full sun. Its ornamental qualities and adaptability make it a valuable addition to gardens and urban green spaces.

Carpinus caroliniana

American hornbeam (*Carpinus caroliniana*), a native tree of Pennsylvania, is a small understory species that typically grows to a height of 20 to 30 feet. This tree is highly tolerant of shade and thrives in moist, rich organic soils. Fuzzy chains of chartreuse flowers in spring are followed by chains of papery nutlets in fall. As the tree matures, its branches develop a distinctive sinewy fluting, which has earned it the common name "musclewood."

Cercis canadensis

The Eastern redbud (*Cercis canadensis*) is a fast-growing, small native tree known for its striking early spring display. This species is most notable for the clusters of small, pink flowers that adorn its trunks and branches. Highly adaptable, the Eastern redbud thrives in a variety of conditions and typically reaches a height of around 20 feet. In the fall, its foliage transitions to shades of yellow and muted red, adding seasonal interest to the landscape.

Cornus florida 'Kay's Appalachian Mist'

The flowering dogwood (*Cornus florida*) is a native tree of Pennsylvania, serving as a prominent indicator of mid-spring with its profusion of white flowers. This species typically reaches heights of 15 to 30 feet and thrives in moist, well-drained soils, whether in full sun or partial shade. Optimal growth is achieved when the roots are kept cool, either through strategic siting or the application of a generous mulch layer. The cultivar 'Kay's Appalachian Mist' is particularly noteworthy for its exceptional resistance to powdery mildew, making it a resilient and attractive choice for ornamental planting.

Magnolia virginiana MOONGLOW®

MOONGLOW® sweetbay magnolia (*Magnolia virginiana 'Jim Wilson'*) is an exceptional selection of a small tree native to Pennsylvania. Typically reaching heights of 15 to 25 feet, this semi-evergreen tree is notable for its tolerance of full shade. It thrives in rich, acidic, and consistently moist soils. In late spring, the MOONGLOW® sweetbay magnolia produces fragrant, creamy white flowers, often followed by cone-like fruits that contain showy red seeds. MOONGLOW® is particularly distinguished by its enhanced cold hardiness.

Ostrya virginiana

The American hop-hornbeam (*Ostrya virginiana*) is a small understory tree native to eastern North America. This slow-growing species typically reaches heights of 20 to 30 feet and thrives in dry, rocky forests and well-drained soils. In late summer, the tree produces small, chartreuse chains of hop-like fruit, which contribute to its common name. Additionally, the American hop-hornbeam is notable for its shaggy, strip-like bark, which adds a unique element of winter interest to the landscape.