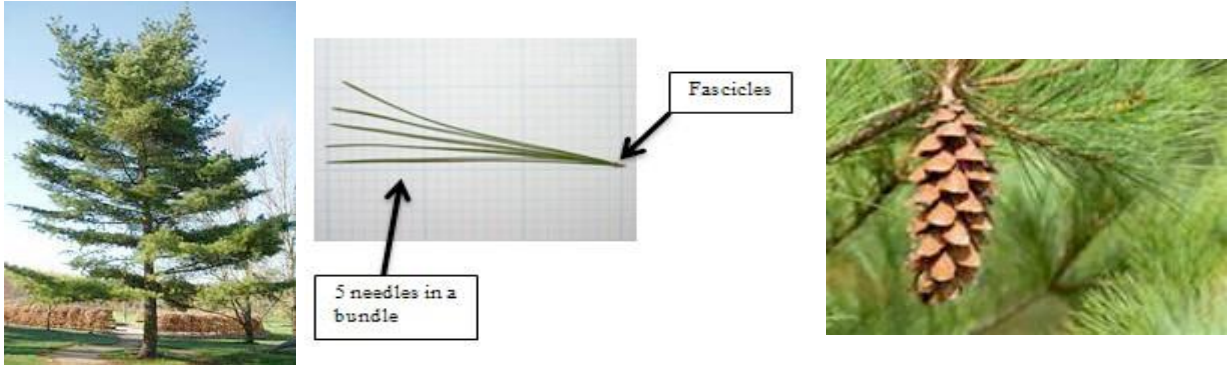


“Celebrate Spring” Plant a Tree and Wildflower Seeds



Eastern White Pine (*Pinus strobus*)

Eastern white pine is Michigan's State tree and can be found in almost every county of the Upper and Lower Peninsula. It typically grows in mixed forests and sandy plains.

How do you identify a white pine?

White pine is a conifer; it keeps its needles all year long and produces cones. The easy way to identify a pine from any other conifer, is by the needles. If they are in bundles or clumps called fascicles, it is a pine tree. If they have single needles, it is not.

White pine trees have **five long needles in a bundle**, while red and jack pines have two needles in each bundle.

Another way to identify white pine is by its pine cones. White pines have long hard pine cones that are often curved.

How are white pines beneficial to the environment?

White pine seeds are eaten by songbirds and small mammals. White-tailed deer, cottontails, and snowshoe hares eat pine needles or soft shoots. This type of eating is called browse.

Fun Facts

White Pine is considered the backbone of the Michigan lumber industry during the time Michigan led the nation in lumber production in the late 19th century. It is a soft wood and is currently used for doors, moldings, cabinets, and furniture.

How long do white pine trees live in Michigan?

Mature white pines can easily live 200+ years of age, with some Michigan trees that have approached 500 years in age. The eastern white pine has the distinction of being the tallest tree in eastern North America, and pre-colonial stands were reported over 200' in height.

The eastern white pine, is also known as “soft pine.” It was called the **Tree of Peace** by the Iroquois and in Ojibway, Zhingwaak.

Small white pines are popular as Christmas trees due to their ability to hold needles, while large white pines were prized as ship masts and known as mast pines by the British navy.

<https://michpics.wordpress.com/2012/04/26/michigans-state-tree-white-pine-pinus-strobus/>

Michigan.gov



PRE-PLANTING CARE: Plant seedlings as soon as possible after receiving them, keeping roots moist throughout the planting process.

Exposure to sun and wind can kill a seedling in a short time. If necessary, mist or sprinkle tree roots with water to keep them moist. Do not soak roots in water for an extended time as the moisture retaining soil particles on the roots will be washed off, and the trees may drown.

“Root Dip” or other water absorbent/retention materials may help conserve moisture in dry weather. If you cannot plant immediately, store seedlings in a cool, shaded location for up to 7-10 days, misting or sprinkling roots with water each day.

Spring: Plant in the spring as soon as possible after the frost is out of the ground.

6+hours of direct sun

50-80' tall

20-40'wide

<https://www.washtenawcd.org/>



We hope you enjoyed our “Celebrate Spring” program at the Chelsea Farmers Market. CAGC encourages gardening and the planting of trees and wildflower seeds which improves the climate and provides critical habitat for wildlife.

The Chelsea Area Garden Club, founded October 20, 1997, is dedicated to horticultural education, beautifying our city, and socializing with members who are interested in sharing their love of plants and gardening. Our objective is to promote environmentally responsible horticultural practices and encourage conservation through education and demonstration.

In-person meetings are normally September-May, the second Monday of the month, at 12:00 PM at the Chelsea First United Methodist Church, 128 Park Street. Please check our website for the latest on meeting information. chelseagardenclub.com