

White Oak

Who am I?

White Oak (*Quercus alba*) is a large tree with a long, straight trunk and a broad, rounded crown. Leaves are alternate, simple, 5–9 inches long, 2–4 inches wide; margin entire, with 6–10 fingerlike lobes; lobes rounded at the tip; upper surface bright green, smooth, often shiny; lower surface whitened, smooth (without hairs). The acorns are up to 1" long with a warty cap that covers about ¼ of the nut.

Where can you find me?

The White Oak prefers full sun to partial shade in coarse, deep, moist, well-drained, loamy, slightly acidic upland soil but is adaptable to other soil types and is fairly drought tolerant once established.

What Ecological Services do I provide?

Like all trees, White Oak trees take in carbon dioxide (CO₂), release oxygen by way of photosynthesis, and store carbon in their trunks.

The acorns of White Oak are an important food for many kinds of wildlife. More than 180 different kinds of birds and mammals use oak acorns as food; among them are squirrels, Blue Jays, crows, woodpeckers, deer, Black Bear, Wild Turkey, quail, mice, chipmunks, ducks, and Raccoons. White Oak twigs and foliage are browsed by deer especially when they are less than 6 years old. It also supports a wide variety of butterflies and moths.

White Oak is the most important lumber tree of the oak group, as its high-grade wood is useful for many things, including, construction lumber, furniture and staves for barrels.

My name is
Nimloth. You can
find me on the
Yellow Trail

