

HORIZONS

TREE BROCHURE

2025

Each year the District sells bare root shade trees, evergreens and shrub seedlings in an effort to provide energy conservation and/or habitat cover for wildlife. These starter seedlings and transplants are an investment in the future.

HOW DO I ORDER?

Make your selection from the 2025 Tree Sale Brochure, fill out the order form and return it along with payment to the Winnebago County SWCD.

Tree orders can be mailed, emailed or dropped off at the office.

Payment can be made with check/money order, cash or credit card. If using a credit card go to our IL epay site at bit.ly/3UFAPxQ and select "make a one-time payment". Order forms paid with credit cards must be received either by mail or email to winnebago.co.swcd@gmail.com.

Tree orders will be available for pick-up on *April 10 (tentative)* at our office located at 4833 Owen Center Road, in Rockford. Customers will be notified by postcard and email with pick-up instructions.

**Place your order early - supplies are limited!
Order deadline is February 26, 2025.**

(Orders will still be accepted after deadline if trees are still available)



Conserving Our Land Today For Tomorrow

The Winnebago County Soil & Water Conservation District is a locally operated unit of government functioning under Illinois Law. Our purpose is to promote the protection, maintenance, improvement and wise use of the soil, water and related resources within the District.
Est. 1940



SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Soil & Water Conservation Districts (SWCD), established in 1937 under the Illinois Soil and Water Conservation District Act, are local units of government. The Act gives SWCD'S the responsibility to provide technical information to individuals and groups on methods of soil and water conservation and to provide natural resource inventory information on properties slated for zoning changes. The Winnebago County Soil and Water Conservation was formed in 1940 and is a locally operated unit of government functioning under Illinois Law. Our purpose is to promote the protection, maintenance, improvement and wise use of the soil, water and related resources within the District.

Who develops the policies of the Winnebago County SWCD?

The Winnebago County Soil and Water Conservation District is a public body made up of citizens concerned with the protection of our natural resources. It is governed by a five-member board of directors elected by District landowners and residents. This Board of Directors, along with the United States Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) develop annual and long range plans that direct the activities of the District and NRCS.

Who funds the SWCD?

Districts have no taxing authority. Funding is provided by the Illinois Department of Agriculture (IDOA). Districts offer several programs which supplement IDOA funding. The additional funding is utilized for operation expenses and education programs.

Melisa Long

Horizons Editor

General Election of Directors




Tuesday, January 14, 2025
7:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

WC SWCD Office
4833 Owen Center Road
Rockford, IL

Eligible voters must be landowners or occupiers of land in the District and are of legal voting age (18).

HORIZON SPONSOR - 2024
(continued on page 9)



**DISCOVER
THE NATURE OF LIFE**

44 Forest Preserves in Winnebago County offer opportunities for year-round outdoor activities, including hiking, fishing, paddling, cross-country skiing, camping, and much more!

forest preserves
of winnebago county

winnebagoforest.org
815-877-6100
fpwc@winnebagoforest.org

EVERGREENS (10-18'')

COLORADO BLUE SPRUCE (*Picea pungens*) (2-1, 2-2) H 50-75' W 10-20'

Most popular spruce. Classic Christmas tree shape. This is a dense conical tree with stout, prickly blue-green needles about 1 1/2". Does have cones in winter. Provides wildlife cover. Pyramid shaped evergreen. Lower branches are the widest and often touch the ground. Prefers rich, moist soil with full sun. Slow to moderate growth rate.

WHITE CEDAR (*Thuja occidentalis*) (2-1, P+1) H 20-40' W 10-15'

Also known as the American Arborvitae and has flat green pyramidal leaves, with feather-like yellowish green needles with blunt tips. Green cones turn light brown when mature and ready to release seeds. Used for windbreaks, hedges and wildlife habitat. Seeds are eaten by various songbirds. Provides wildlife cover. Slow to medium growth rate, depending on soil conditions and sun exposure. A long living species.

WHITE PINE (*Pinus strobus*) (2-1, 3-1) H 50-80' W 20-40'

Sometimes referred to as the "King of the Northwoods", rapid growing and long lived. Produces long, flexible, bluish-green, soft clustered needles in bundles of five. Cones fall to winter. Pyramidal in it's early years, but matures to a broad oval habit with an irregular crown. Grows best in well-drained soils, but can withstand a wide range of soil conditions with multiple exposures. Fast growth rate.

NORWAY SPRUCE (*Picea abies*) (2-1, P+1) H 40-60' W 25-30'

This is a pyramidal tree with strong sweeping branches all the way to the ground. Fastest growing member of the spruce family. Bright-green foliage when young, changing to glossy dark-green. Singled needled tree that produces the largest cones of all spruces. Great for windbreaks. Provides wildlife cover. Does well in a multiple of variety of soils and exposures. Fast growth rate.

CANAAN FIR (*Abies intermedii*) (2-2, P+2) H 40-60' W 15-25''

Closely related to the Balsam Fir. Pyramidal shape with a narrow crown. Distinguishing feature is this trees bark, which is grayish brown color and smooth with resin blisters that produce a fragrant, sticky sap. Tree cones are 3-4" and are cylindrical with grayish-brown color and papery scales. The cones site upright on the branches and are often persistent on the tree for several years. The Caanan Fir has dark green needles that are soft to the touch. Prefers full sun to partial shade. Moderate growth rate.

GROWTH RATE: *This rate is relative to the type of plant. For example, what is a fast growth rate for a tree would be slow for a vine. For trees, "slow" indicates less than 10 inches per year, "moderate" is 10-20 inches per year, and a fast-growing tree is more than 20 inches per year (The Morton Arboretum).*

DESIGNATIONS (behind the EVERGREEN species): *The numbers listed after the different species of evergreens are year designations. The first number equals years in the seedling bed and the second number equals years in the transplant bed. For example 2-1 = 2 year seedling then transplanted for 1 year in transplant bed and the P+1 = started out in a greenhouse as a plug then transplanted 1 year in a transplant bed.*

A plug is not grown in a seedling bed. It is grown in a test tube like container and then transplanted into a transplant bed. Transplants have a heavier stem, a more developed root system and multiple branching.

Trees are sourced from nurseries in Michigan.

SHADE TREES (18-24")

RED MAPLE (*Acer rubrum*) H 40-60' W 35-40'

A rapid grower. Bright red flowers in the spring followed by green leaves. Fall colors vary from yellow to scarlet and is one of the first trees to color in the fall. Has a rounded oval crown. Moist soil is preferred with full-sun to part-shade exposure. Moderate growth rate.

YELLOW BIRCH (*Betula alleghaniensis*) H 50-70' W 60-75'

Aromatic tree with a broad rounded crown of drooping branches. Fall color is yellow. Bark is silvery bronze and peels into small strips. Oblong and ovate leaves. Prefers full sun to partial shade. The best fall foliage can be achieved when planted in full sun. Moist-well drained soil. Moderate growth rate.

RED BUD (*Ceris canadensis*) H 20-30' W 25-35'

Small tree, single or multiple thin trunks with low branching on umbrella-like crown. Fall color is yellow. Spring flowers that are pea-like lavender to pink that grow along the branches. Bark is gray and smooth with medium reddish streaks and will become scaly with age. The red bud prefers moist soil with full sun or light shade. Moderate growth rate.

BUR OAK (*Quercus macrocarpa*) H 70-80' W 40-50'

Does well in a variety of soil conditions. Noted for its corky branches. Leaf color is dark green in summer and yellow to yellowish brown in the fall. Provides food & shelter for wildlife. Largest acorns of all Oaks. Does well in full sun but will tolerate part shade. Prefers moist soil. Moderate to slow growth rate.

SUGAR MAPLE (*Acer saccharum*) H 40-60' W 40-45'

Also known as Scarlet or Swamp Maple. Highly prized because of its bright red flowers in early spring before the leaves appear. Bright green leaves turn brilliant red or orange in the fall. Has a dense, rounded crown. Maple syrup from the maple sap can be collected in early spring. Grows well in multiple soil types with full sun exposure. Moderate growth rate.

RED OAK (*Quercus rubra*) H 60-70' W 40-45'

Long lived statuesque shade tree. Large, fast growing tree with reddish fall color. Excellent for wildlife planting. Broadly rounded crown. The acorn has a very shallow, saucer shaped cap. Rounded to broad - spreading irregular crown. Moist soils preferred with full sun exposure. Moderate growth rate.



Pond Stocking Fish Sale

Early spring 2025

**Call the office or email to request a brochure.
(815) 965-2392, Ext. 3
winnebago.co.swcd@gmail.com**
(previous customers will receive a brochure)

- ◆ Regular Bluegill
- ◆ Hybrid Bluegill
- ◆ Redear
- ◆ Channel Catfish
- ◆ Black Crappie
- ◆ Largemouth Bass
- ◆ Fathead Minnow
- ◆ Triploid Grass Carp

SHRUBS (18-24")

AMERICAN HAZELNUT (*Corylus americana*) H/W 8-16'

Commonly called the American Filbert. Rounded, multi-stemmed tree/shrub that occurs in dry or moist thickets, woodlands, wood margins, valleys, uplands and prairies. In spring, male flowers appear in showy, 2-3" long, yellowish brown catkins and female flowers appear in small, reddish, inconspicuous catkins. In July - August it produces small, egg-shaped, 1/2" long, edible nuts. The fall color is quite variable, ranging from attractive combinations of orange, rose, purplish red, yellow and green to yellowish green. Does well in multiple soil types and exposures. Moderate growth rate.

COMMON LILAC (*Syringa vulgaris*) H/W 6-15'

Forms perfect hedge or screen. Provides good cover for many birds and mammals. Blooms in April - May, light - purplish flowers bring beauty and a sense of nostalgia to all who stop to enjoy their fragrance. Has broad oval leaves. This large and vigorous shrub does best in drained locations. Prefers moist, well-drained soil with full sun. Moderate growth rate.

HIGHBUSH CRANBERRY (*Viburnum trilobum*) H/W 8-12'

Easy to grow and adaptable to a variety of soils. Deciduous shrub that feature spreading habit lacecap with flowers in the spring. Drooping clusters of cranberry-like red berries in the fall with maple-like dark green leaves. Foliage turns a purplish red in the fall. Prefers moist well drained soil. This shrub does best in full sun to part shade. Moderate growth rate.

AMERICAN PLUM (*Prunus American*) H/W 15-25'

This native is among one of the first to bloom in the spring with fragrant white flowers followed by small, yellow-red deciduous fruits. Grown as a multi-stemmed shrub. Excellent for wildlife. Prefers well drained, moist soils. Full sun to part shade. Will become large depending on management. Moderate growth rate.

RED OSIER DOGWOOD (*Cornus sericea*) H/W 8-16'

Excellent for attracting birds and wildlife, this multi-stemmed shrub has dark green foliage that turns purple in the fall. It also produces small white clusters of flowers succeeded by bluish-white berries and dark red branches in the winter. It adapts well to a wide range of soils, although it does best on wetter ones. Grows best in multiple exposures with moist, well-drained soil. Fast growth rate.

BLACKHAW VIBURNUM (*Viburnum prunifolium*) H/W 12-15'

An attractive, slow-growing, rounded shrub or small tree with glossy dark green foliage that turns to a shiny red in the fall. It displays clusters of white flowers in May, followed by small pink, changing to black, edible berries. This shrub will tolerate full sun to full shade and prefers moist, well-drained soils. Blackhaw is multi-trunked and has a dense twiggy upright growth initially, but quickly becomes rounded and sprawling with age. Moderate to slow growth rate.



Available by calling the District office
(815) 965-2392, Ext. 3

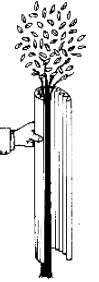
SPECIALTY ITEMS

(all prices on page 8)



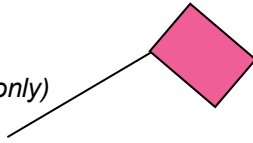
Tree Mats - Each mat gives 9 square feet of weed free soil, covered with more than 400 tiny funnel-shaped holes, which allows almost every drop of water thru to the soil. Includes 5 staples.

Tree Protectors - Provides tree protection from wind and wildlife damage. Will also increase growth and lower maintenance costs. Protectors are corrugated, so it is easier to form a circle around the tree and to thread the locktie through the holes. Protectors are designed to be used on hardwood trees only. Tree protectors should **NOT** be used on evergreens or shrubs. Wooden stakes can also be purchased to aid in the stability of the protector.



Fertilizer Packets - Biodegradable, contain 10 essential nutrients that new seedlings need to get off to a great start. The packets are made to be put into the hole when you are planting the seedling. Nutrients are released slowly during the first twelve months right when the seedling needs them. One packet per 12" of plant height.

Marking Flags - size 3 ft. (fluorescent pink only)



MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

Rain Barrels (55 gal) - reconditioned plastic food grade barrels, fitted with a screw-on mesh lid, spigot and bottom drain plug (terra cotta, grey and black)



Linking Hose - used for attaching multiple barrels together



Flex Elbow - for attaching downspout to discharge into barrel opening (white, brown & black)



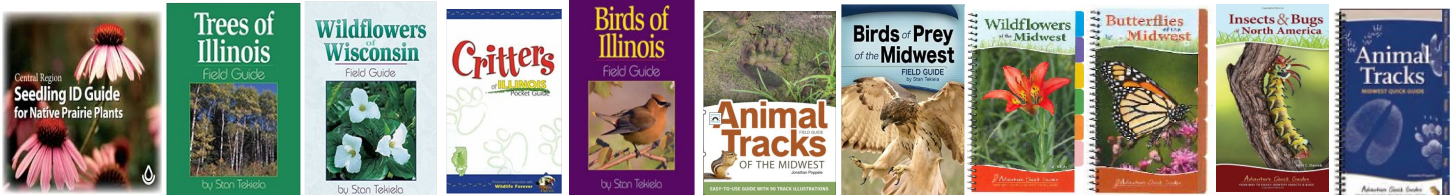
Wood Pedestal - raises rain barrel off the ground

Honey Bear Pollinator Mix - plants a 20' x 20' area

*(mix includes - sideoats, wild bergamot, little bluestem, Illinois bundleflower, lanceleaf coreopsis, cardinal flower, greyheaded coneflower, partridge pea, purple coneflower, pale purple coneflower, common milkweed crimson clover and black-eyed susan) *subject to change



Conservation Books - These guides have detailed photos and drawings to help you identify several common native plants and wildlife. Field guides can help students complete school assignments. Conservation books make great gifts! Additional information on the conservation books - can be found on our website or by calling the office.



DEADLINE TO ORDER
February 26, 2025

ORDER FORM

NAME: _____
 ADDRESS: _____
 CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____
 EMAIL: _____ PHONE: (____) _____
(please print clearly)

ITEM ID	SPECIES	BUNDLE SZ	# OF BUNDLES	TOTAL # OF TREES	SUBTOTAL
C	(example) White Pine (example)	5	2	10	\$40.00

SPECIALTY / MISC ITEMS	PRICE	QTY / COLOR	SUBTOTAL

PAYMENT INFORMATION

PAYMENT MUST ACCOMPANY ORDER

- cash
- check or money order (made payable to: WC SWCD)
- credit card - go to IL epay at bit.ly/3UFAPxQ & select "make a one-time payment" - send in your order form either by mail or email to winnebago.co.swcd@gmail.com.

\$ TOTAL
(or \$100.00)

Winnebago County SWCD
 4833 Owen Center Road
 Rockford, IL 61101
 (815) 965-2392, Ext. 3

www.winnebagoswcd.org

Tree Order Pick-Up
***Tentative* - Thursday, April 10, 2025 - 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.**
 A postcard and email will be sent with pick-up instructions.

PRICE LIST

PRICE/5	\$20	PRICE/25	\$80	PRICE/50	\$140
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8-24"	
ITEM ID	EVERGREENS
A	Colorado Blue Spruce
B	White Cedar
C	White Pine
D	Norway Spruce
E	Canaan Fir

18-24"	
ITEM ID	SHADE TREES
F	Red Maple
G	Yellow Birch
H	Red Bud
I	Bur Oak
J	Sugar Maple
K	Red Oak

18-24"	
ITEM ID	SHRUBS
L	American Hazelnut
M	Common Lilac
N	Highbush Cranberry
O	American Plum
P	Red Osier Dogwood
Q	Blackhaw Viburnum

*Max of 50 per species can be ordered due to supply limitations.
Trees must be ordered in bundle sizes of 5, 25 or 50 of the same species.*

SPECIALTY ITEMS	PRICE
36" tree mat w/staples	\$1.75
36" tree protector	\$2
36" wooden stake	\$1.25
48" tree protector	\$2.50
48" wooden stake	\$1.50
(5) fertilizer packets	\$2
marking flags (fluorescent pink)	25 - \$3.50 100 - \$13

POLLINATOR SEED	PRICE
Honey Bear Pollinator Seed (plants a 20' x 20' area)	\$30
call the office for larger plot seed mixes	

RAIN BARRELS & ACCESSORIES	PRICE
rain barrel (terra cotta, grey & black)	\$75 2+/\$70
linking hose	\$15
flex elbow (brown, white or black)	\$10
pedestal	\$30

CONSERVATION BOOKS	PRICE
Trees of IL	\$14
Birds of IL	\$15
Critters of IL	\$6
Wildflowers of WI	\$17
Animal Tracks	\$20
Seedling ID	\$10
Birds of Prey of the Midwest	\$15
Butterflies of the Midwest	\$10
Wildflowers of the Midwest	\$10
Insects & Bugs of North America	\$10
Animal Tracks (quick guide)	\$10

All proceeds generated from the SWCD tree sale go to continuing conservation efforts in the Winnebago County Soil & Water Conservation District. The District cannot accept responsibility for size or viability of trees. Size and description as stated by the nursery. NO REFUNDS.

*An amendment to the Soil & Water Conservation Districts Act (Section 22.05) requires the following statement:
"These plants are for conservation purposes only and shall not be used as ornamental or for landscaping."*

HORIZON SPONSORS - 2024

The following businesses are sponsoring your Soil and Water Conservation District.



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Winnebago County SWCD

4833 Owen Center Rd.
Rockford, IL 61101-6007

Office Hours
Monday - Friday
8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Follow us 

www.winnebagoswcd.org

We encourage you to do your own research along with using information in this brochure to pick suitable trees for your location.

For more detailed descriptions and information on selecting the right trees for your location visit:

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service

[Plants Database - http://plants.usda.gov/home](http://plants.usda.gov/home)

The Morton Arboretum

<https://www.mortonarb.org/trees-plants/tree-plant-descriptions>

University of Illinois Extension

University of Illinois Extension

Selecting a Tree for Your Home

<http://urbanext.illinois.edu/treesselector/>

Selecting a Shrubs for Your Home

<http://urbanext.illinois.edu/shrubselector/>