

HORIZONS

TREE BROCHURE 2026

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 2026 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, credit card or eCheck. If using a credit card/eCheck go to our IL epay site at bit.ly/4rwNxF5 and select "make a one-time payment". **Orders forms** paid through IL epay must be received either by mail or email to winnebago.co.swcd@gmail.com.

Tree orders will be available for pick-up on *April 9 (tentative)* at our office located at 4833 Owen Center Road, in Rockford. Customers will be notified by postcard and email with pick-up instructions.

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

Selecting a Tree for Your Home

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

Selecting a Shrubs for Your Home

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

Place your order early - supplies are limited!

Order deadline is February 25, 2026.

(orders will still be accepted after the deadline - call the office for availability)

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

EVERGREENS (10-16")

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.

CONCOLOR FIR (*Abies concolor*) (2-1, P+1) H 40-70' W 20-30'

This tree has soft, flat needles that are bluish-green to silvery in color and release a pleasant citric-like fragrance when crushed. It has a symmetrical, pyramidal shade with horizontally tiered branches. Grows in well drained soils and will grow in multiple exposures. Fast growth rate.

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) 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.

WHITE SPRUCE (*Picea glauca*) (2-1) H 40-60' W 10-20'

The white spruce tree is a tall, cold-hardy evergreen and works great as a windbreak. It has a straight trunk and a conical crown, bearing short, bluish-green needles that release a pungent odor when crushed. It's cylindrical cones mature in one season and drop after releasing seeds. Grows best in well drained soils with multiple exposures. 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.

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.

NANNYBERRY (*Viburnum lentago*) H/W 6-18'

Multi-stemmed shrub. Rounded crown and produces clusters of creamy white flowers in the spring, followed by bluish-black, berry-like dupes in the late summer and fall. These fruits are edible, with a sweet flavor. Glossy, finely serrated leaves turn striking shades of yellow to reddish-purple in the autumn. Prefers moist soils. Multiple exposures. Slow 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.

BLACK CHOKEBERRY (*Aronia melanocarpa*) H/W 3-8'

A hardy, deciduous shrub. Rounded form and glossy, dark leaves that turn vibrant shades of red, orange and purple in autumn. In the spring it produces clusters of small white flowers that attract pollinators, followed by shiny black berries in late summers. These fruits are tart and astringent when eaten raw but are rich in antioxidants and can be canned whole, juiced or used for jelly making. Prefers moist soils. Full sun/partial shade. Slow growth rate.

TREE PACKS

EDIBLE LANDSCAPE PACK

- (2) 10-16" - Highbush Blueberry
- (3) 6-12" - Red Currant
- (3) 12-18" - Serviceberry (normal = Downy)
- (2) 12-18" - Paw Paw

POLLINATOR PACK

- (2) 12-18" - Red Osier Dogwood
- (2) 12-18" - Chokeberry
- (2) 12-18" - American Plum
- (2) 12-18" - Meadowsweet
- (2) 12-18" - Pasture Rose

SHADE TREES (12-24")

PIN OAK (Quercus palustris) H 50-70' W 40-60'

Straight trunk and a broad, pyramidal crown that becomes more oval with age. Distinctive for its dropping lower branches. Deeply lobed leaves, with sharp bristle-tipped points, turn a brilliant scarlet to bronze-red in autumn. This tree produces small acorns. Moist soils preferred, with full sun exposure. Fast growth rate.

BLACK WALNUT (Betula nigra) H 75-100' W 75-100'

This tree produces long, feather-like leaves that will produce round green husks that fall in autumn to reveal the distractively deep-ly ridged walnut shells. Fall color is yellow. Grows in well drained soils with full sun exposure. Moderate growth rate. *releases a chemical called juglone, which can inhibit growth of some nearby plants.

WHITE OAK (Quercus alba) H 50-80' W 40-45'

This is a majestic, long-lived hardwood tree. Pyramidal when young and matures into a substantial tree with a rounded crown with dense foliage. Its leaves are deeply lobed with rounded tips and its acorns mature in a single season. Leaves turn red in autumn. Grows best in rich, moist, well-drained soils in full sun. Moderate to slow growth rate.

RIVER BIRCH (Betula nigra) H 40-70' W 40-60'

Fast growing. Broad, spreading crown. Salmon-pink to reddish brown bark exfoliates to reveal lighter inner bark. Diamond-shaped, medium to dark green leaves with doubly toothed margins turn yellow in the fall. Prefers moist soils, but will tolerate drier soils. Full sun to part shade. Fast 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.

DOMESTIC APPLE (Malus domestica) H 6-15' W 10-15'

This tree produces a fragrant flower that starts off pink and then fades to white in mid-to-late spring. Apples come in various colors and vary in size and shape. These trees prefer a well-drained, loamy soil with a slightly acidic to neutral PH and requires a location with full sun exposure to yield a good harvest. Moderate growth rate.



Pond Stocking Fish Sale

Early spring 2026

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

- ◆ Regular Bluegill
- ◆ Hybrid Bluegill
- ◆ Redear
- ◆ Channel Catfish
- ◆ Black Crappie
- ◆ Largemouth Bass

DEADLINE TO ORDER
February 25, 2026

ORDER FORM

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

EMAIL: _____ PHONE: (____) _____

(please print clearly)

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

ITEM ID	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 or eCheck - go to IL epay at bit.ly/4rwNxF5 & select "make a one-time payment" *service fees apply - send in your order form either by mail or email to winnebago.co.swcd@gmail.com

\$ TOTAL
no sales tax

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

www.winnebagoswcd.org

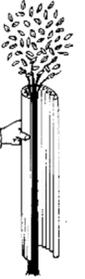
Tree Order Pick-Up
***Tentative* - Thursday, April 9, 2025 - 12:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.**
A postcard and email will be sent with pick-up instructions.

SPECIALTY ITEMS



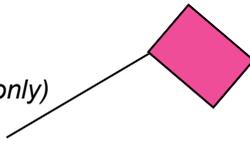
Tree Mats - Each mat gives 9 square feet of weed free soil, covered with more than 400 tiny funnel-shaped holes, which allows almost every drop of water thru to the soil. Includes 5 staples.

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)
*rain barrel order pick-up may be scheduled in late April



Linking Hose - used for attaching multiple barrels together



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



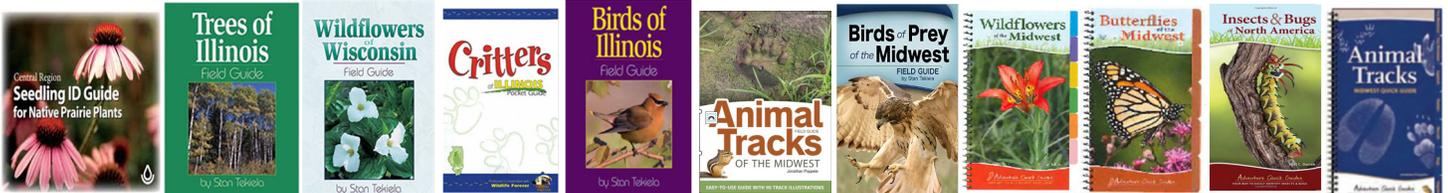
Wood Pedestal - raises rain barrel off the ground

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.



PRICE LIST

PRICE/5	\$20	PRICE/25	\$80	PRICE/50	\$140
----------------	-------------	-----------------	-------------	-----------------	--------------

Trees must be ordered in bundle sizes of 5, 25 or 50 of the same species.

10-16"	
ITEM ID	EVERGREENS
A	White Cedar
B	Concolor Fir
C	White Pine
D	Norway Spruce
E	White Spruce

TREE PACKS	PRICE
Pollinator Pack	\$40
Edible Landscape Pack	\$40

18-24"	
ITEM ID	SHRUBS
M	American Hazelnut
N	Common Lilac
O	Nannyberry
P	American Plum
Q	Black Chokeberry

12-24"	
ITEM ID	SHADE TREES
F	Pin Oak
G	Black Walnut
H	White Oak
I	River Birch
J	Sugar Maple
K	Red Oak
L	Domestic Apple

Max of 50 per species can be ordered - due to supply limitations.

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

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

RAIN BARRELS & ACCESSORIES	PRICE
rain barrel (terra cotta, black & grey)	\$75
linking hose	2+/\$70
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

HORIZON SPONSORS - 2025

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



WINNEBAGO-BOONE FARM BUREAU

Ann Marie Cain, FBCM
Farm Bureau Manager
(815) 962-0653
wbfbmanager@winnebago-boonefarmbureau.org
www.winnebago-boonefarmbureau.org
Like us on Facebook!



SOLUTIONS BANK

A better idea. A better *Solution.*

Brett Frederick
Executive Vice President
- Lending

Phone: 815.248.2101
Direct: 815.650.2765
Mobile: 815.985.4518
Fax: 815.248.2972

1005 Cameron Drive
Durand, IL 61024
bfrederick@solutions.bank

solutions.bank



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