

Red Oak

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Description: The Red Oak may be the most common large oak in North America and occurs in all regions of Kentucky. A large tree with rounded crown of stout, spreading branches. A good street tree that tolerates pollution and compacted soil.

Height: 60 - 90 feet.

Trunk Diameter: 1 - 2 1/2 feet.

Spread: 45 feet (from center at maturity).

Growth Rate: Fast. One of the fastest growing oaks, grows 2 - 3 feet per year.

Leaves: 4-9 inches long by 3 - 6 inches wide. Elliptical, usually divided less than halfway to mid-vein into 7-11 shallow lobes. Dull green in color.

Fall Color: Brown-dark red.

Flowers: April - May. Female flowers are inconspicuous; male catkins are pendulous.

Fruit: Acorns 5/8 - 1 1/8 inch, egg shaped.

Root: Initially, saplings develop a strong tap root, but as the tree matures a more shallow fibrous root system develops.

Sun: Full sun.

Value: A popular and handsome shade and street tree with good form and dense foliage. Also valued for its wood.

Issues:

