

Tulip Tree

Liriodendron tulipifera

Liriodendron tulipifera commonly known as the tulip tree. The tulip tree is part of the Magnolia Family. The tulip tree is one of the largest of the native trees of the Eastern United States, known to reach the height of 60 m (190ft.) with a trunk 3m (10ft.) in diameter; its ordinary height is 20 to 30 m (70 to 100ft) The bark is brown and furrowed. The branches are smooth and lustrous initially reddish maturing to dark gray and finally brown and aromatic and bitter.

Leaves: Alternate, simple; 4" to 6" across; deciduous; usually 4-lobed; leaf base and tip flat, leaf shape very distinctive; entire margin; glabrous; bright green with yellow fall color; petiole 2" to 4" long.

The twigs/ buds fairly stout; red – brown; pith divided into chambers. Terminal buds about ½" long covered with 2 duck bill scales; lateral buds much smaller.

Flowers / Fruit: Perfect flowers, large green yellow flowers that appear in May or June after the leaves are open. Fruit an aggregate of deciduous samaras 2 – 1 ½" to 3" long.

Tulip tree bark is dark green and smooth on young stems; becoming thick and ash – gray, furrowed with rough ridges.

The wood is very important light yellow sapwood; light yellow to dark brown heartwood even textured diffuse- porous; used for furniture interior finish, boxes, pallets, crates, plywood etc. The wood is commonly available in lumber yards where it usually called poplar.

You can find these trees by Plat U – Block – 11 & Block - 14 and also near X – 7.

