

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

# Quercus macrocarpa

## Bur Oak



A magnificent slow-growing tree with interesting bark and texture. Summer foliage is beautiful with dark upper surfaces accented in the wind by simmering light undersides. Over many years, open grown trees develop a beautiful wide spreading form. Young trees are more upright in form and may retain some of their light brown autumn leaves through the winter. A majestic, rugged tree tolerating a wide range of habitats. Also an important source of wildlife food.

**Suggested Companions:** smooth aster (*Aster laevis*), showy goldenrod (*Solidago speciosa*), Culver's root (*Veronicastrum virginicum*), virginia creeper (*Parthenocissus quinquefolia*), black-eyed susan (*Rudbeckia hirta*), wild bergamot (*Monarda fistula*)

Photo Credit: Wisconsin State Herbarium,  
by Michael Clayton

Plant Type: Tree  
Size: 55-80" H  
70-80' W

Water Tolerant: Somewhat

Habitat:

Open field/ Prairie  
Forested Wetland  
Woodland Margin

Soil: Average Garden Soil  
Sandy/ Gravelly  
Rich Moist  
Very Damp/Wet  
Clay

Exposure: sun  
filtered

Flower Color:

Yellow  
Green

Bloom Time:

May

Plant in: Spring

Groundcover: No

Other Attributes:

Wildlife attracting  
Winter interest  
Butterfly attracting  
Bird attracting