

Michigan

2012 State Report



Michigan's state tree is the Eastern White Pine.

Michigan State Statistics

Active Arbor Day Foundation Members in Michigan: **50,066**



Program in Michigan:

Tree City USA Communities: **120**

Total population served: **3,637,882**

Largest Tree City USA in Michigan:

Detroit, population 850,000

Smallest Tree City USA in Michigan:

Richland, population 725

Tree Line USA Utilities: **3**

Tree Campus USA Colleges: **2**

Certified Nature Explore Classrooms: **0**

**Michigan celebrates Arbor Day
on the last Friday in April.**

Nature Explore Classrooms Are Changing the Lives of Children

Children today spend less time outdoors and are more disconnected from nature than ever before. At the same time studies show increasing rates of childhood obesity, diabetes, and behavior challenges. Addressing the problem is the growing Nature Explore program, a collaborative project of the Arbor Day Foundation and Dimensions Educational Research Foundation. Nature Explore provides comprehensive, field-tested resources to help educators, administrators, and families make nature part of the daily lives of children – at child care centers, schools, nature centers, parks, and at home.

Nature Explore Classrooms, in spaces large and small, continue to be designed and built across the country using field-tested principles in the *Learning With Nature Idea Book* (available at natureexplore.org). In Nature Explore Classrooms, children begin to understand the natural world around them, instilling a lifelong sense of wonder and a love of nature...creating the earth's next generation of tree planters and environmental stewards. To learn more about Nature Explore Classrooms in Michigan, please visit natureexplore.org/classrooms.



Michigan Members Plant 405,923 Trees

The Arbor Day Foundation's dedicated members are making a difference by planting trees in their communities across the United States. Our 50,066 Michigan members helped plant more than 405,923 trees across the state last year.

Toribio Fierro, a loyal member from Holland, Michigan, has been planting Foundation membership trees since 1987. Toribio shared with us the photo at right and a note about his love of trees. "I am no expert on trees, but I love trees. I love to see small trees grow, the trees are like family to me." With wonderful, dedicated members like Toribio, Michigan will always have a strong and majestic tree presence.



A membership tree planted by member Toribio Fierro.

Mackinaw State Forest Report

Within Michigan's northern lower peninsula is the Mackinaw State Forest, approximately 5,500 acres of scenery that natives describe as a "four-season paradise." This land provides a rich habitat for elk, deer and songbirds, including the endangered Kirtland's warbler. This Neotropical migrant songbird's breeding habitat is almost exclusively confined to young, dense jack pine stands in the area.

Today, Kirtland's warblers are found in only ten counties on Michigan's northern lower peninsula and four counties in the upper peninsula. As part of this project, 695,000 jack pine trees were planted on approximately 600 acres and spaced to create the needs for critical warbler nesting habitat. Efforts by our replanting partners have increased the number of singing male Kirtland's warblers from less than 200 to more than 1,300, bringing them back from the brink of extinction.



Tree Campus USA

The Tree Campus USA program recognizes college and university campuses that:

- Effectively manage their campus trees.
- Develop connectivity with the community beyond campus borders to foster healthy, urban forests.
- Strive to engage their student population utilizing service learning opportunities centered on campus, and community forestry efforts.

Colleges and universities can be recognized, just like the **University of Michigan and Western Michigan University**, as a Tree Campus USA college by meeting five standards developed to promote healthy trees and student involvement. By meeting the annual standards and being recognized as a Tree Campus USA college, the campus not only benefits the environment but instills pride in the students, faculty, and community.

Learn more about the Tree Campus USA program at arborday.org/treecampususa.

Michigan Tree City USAs Support Community Forestry

The Arbor Day Foundation's Tree City USA® program encourages, supports, and strengthens effective urban and community forestry programs in diverse communities nationwide through recognition, education, and publicity. From the humble beginning of the program 36 years ago, it has grown to be the leading community forestry recognition program in the country, with more than 3,400 designated Tree City USAs across America.

Tree City USA is thriving in Michigan because of the strong partnership between the Arbor Day Foundation and the Michigan Forestry Commission. Michigan boasts 120 certified Tree City USA communities. Last year, Michigan Tree City USAs spent a combined total of \$27,100,035 on their urban forestry budgets benefiting the more than 3.6 million Michigan residents who live in those communities. The dedication of Michigan's urban and community foresters, city officials, and citizens to planting and caring for trees in their cities and towns helps increase energy savings, clean the air and water, and beautify the entire state.



Contacts

For more information about programs offered by the Arbor Day Foundation and our work in Michigan, please visit arborday.org or call:

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