



THE BIG TREES of ST. JOSEPH COUNTY

Meet St. Joseph County's Big Tree Champions!

2015



What are the Big Trees of St. Joseph County?

The Big Trees of St. Joseph County celebrates the largest native trees growing within the borders of the county. Area residents were asked to nominate trees and all champion trees were verified by the naturalist staff of sponsoring agencies.

Several nominations were placed by the Big Trees Day Campers, a group of students participating in St. Joseph County Parks' summer day camp program about trees.

How do we determine champions?

A point index is calculated for each tree using the following formula: the circumference in inches, plus the height in feet, plus 1/4 of the average crown spread in feet. The tree of each species with the highest point index is the champion.

To view the trees

Many of the trees are on public land, such as parks, cemeteries, and college campuses and can be easily viewed. Those that are listed on private property may not be as easily viewed. **Please do not trespass on private property to view any champion tree.**

This Big Tree listing was published in January, 2015. The next publication will take place in 2020. For a nomination form, contact St. Joseph County Parks, 32132 SR 2, New Carlisle, IN 46552 574/654-3155 or log onto www.sjcparks.org.

The Big Trees of St. Joseph County is sponsored by:



The University of Notre Dame Department of Biological Sciences



The Big Trees of St. Joseph County

ASH

Blue Ash - No Nominations

Black Ash - No Nominations

Green Ash

Fraxinus pennsylvanica
Owner: Mac Willingham
3418 Southshore Drive
Mishawaka, IN 46544

Nominator: same
Circumference at 4 1/2 feet: 150"
Height: 96'
Average Crown Spread: 87.63'
Point Index: 267.91

White Ash

Fraxinus americana
Owner: Joe and Mary Ann DeKever
2112 Linden Avenue
Mishawaka, IN 46544

Nominator: same
Circumference at 4 1/2 feet: 156"
Height: 88'
Average Crown Spread: 78.13'
Point Index: 263.53

ASPEN

Bigtooth Aspen

Populus grandidentata
Owner: University of Notre Dame
Nominator: same
Location: southeast corner of basketball court near Carroll Hall
Circumference at 4 1/2 feet: 59"
Height: 80'
Average Crown Spread: 35.4'
Point Index: 147.85

Quaking Aspen - No Nominations

BASSWOOD

American Basswood

Tilia americana
Owner: University of Notre Dame
Nominator: same
Location: west of pool near Touchdown Jesus
Circumference at 4 1/2 feet: 138"
Height: 80'
Average Crown Spread: 63.75'
Point Index: 233.9

BEECH

American Beech - No Nominations

BIRCH

River Birch

Betula nigra
Owner: Susan Cline
1706 Cedar Street
South Bend, IN 46617
Nominator: same
Circumference at 4 1/2 feet: 183"
Height: 52'
Average Crown Spread: 66.58'
Point Index: 251.65

Yellow Birch - No Nominations

Gray Birch - No Nominations

BUCKEYE

Ohio Buckeye - No Nominations

BUTTERNUT

Butternut - No Nominations

CEDAR

Eastern Redcedar

Juniperus virginiana
Owner: Southlawn Cemetery
Nominator: Brian Kubiak
Location: north side of cemetery
Circumference: 70"
Height: 50'
Average Crown Spread: 35.65'
Point Index: 128.91

CHERRY

Black Cherry

Prunus serotina
Owner: Gunter Kison
63620 Maple Rd.
South Bend, IN 46614
Nominator: same
Circumference at 4 1/2 feet: 120"
Height: 64'
Average Crown Spread: 73.15'
Point Index: 202.3

Pin Cherry - No Nominations

COTTONWOOD

Eastern Cottonwood

Populus deltoides
Owner: St. Joseph County Parks
Nominator: Greg Joy
Location: Ferrettie/Baugo Creek County Park
Circumference at 4 1/2 feet: 212"
Height: 104'
Average Crown Spread: 71.25'
Point Index: 333.81

Swamp Cottonwood - No Nominations

DOGWOOD

Flowering Dogwood
Cornus florida
Owner: Highland Cemetery
2257 Portage Avenue
South Bend, IN 46616
Nominator: Big Trees Day Campers
Circumference at 4 ½ feet: 77”
Height: 26’
Average Crown Spread: 33’
Point Index: 111.25

ELM

American Elm
Ulmus americana
Owner: Robert and Sharon Humbarger
29987 Hurd Rd.
New Carlisle, IN 46552
Nominator: Chris Humbarger
Circumference at 4 ½ feet: 119”
Height: 76’
Average Crown Spread: 72.25’
Point Index: 213.06

Rock Elm - No Nominations

Slippery Elm - No Nominations

HACKBERRY

Hackberry
Celtis occidentalis
Owner: Town of New Carlisle
Nominator: Dwain Kern
Location: Memorial Park in New Carlisle
Circumference at 4 ½ feet: 189”
Height: 96’
Average Crown Spread: 83.15’
Point Index: 312.37

HAWTHORN

Cockspur Hawthorn - No Nominations

Dotted Hawthorn - No Nominations

Downy Hawthorn
Crataegus mollis
Owner: University of Notre Dame
Nominator: same
Location: south of library, west of pool
Circumference at 4 ½ feet: 64”
Height: 26’
Average Crown Spread: 32.2’
Point Index: 98.05

HICKORY

Bitternut Hickory
Carya cordiformus
Owner: St. Joseph County Parks
Nominator: Rose Coman
Location: Bendix Woods County Park
Circumference at 4 ½ feet: 61”
Height: 60’
Average Crown Spread: 63.46’
Point Index: 136.87

Mockernut Hickory - No Nominations

Pignut Hickory
Carya glabra
Owner: Gary Weaver
51572 Teasdale Ct.
South Bend, IN 46637
Nominator: same
Circumference at 4 ½ feet: 85”
Height: 120’
Average Crown Spread: 56.25’
Point Index: 219.06

Red Hickory
Carya ovalis
Owner: University of Notre Dame
Nominator: same
Location: east side of fire station
Circumference at 4 ½ feet: 78”
Height: 64’
Average Crown Spread: 90’
Point Index: 164.5

Shagbark Hickory - No Nominations

Shellbark Hickory - No Nominations

HOPHORNBEAM

Eastern Hophornbeam - No Nominations

HORNBEAM

American Hornbeam
Carpinus caroliniana
Owner: University of Notre Dame
Nominator: same
Location: north side of Crowley Hall
Circumference at 4 ½ feet: 57”
Height: 32’
Average Crown Spread: 28’
Point Index: 96

JUNEBERRY

Juneberry
Amelanchier arborea
Owner: University of Notre Dame
Nominator: same
Location: Northeast corner of Law School
Circumference at 4 ½ feet: 42”
Height: 26’
Average Crown Spread: 25.8’
Point Index: 74.45

KENTUCKY COFFEETREE

Kentucky Coffeetree
Gymnocladus dioicus
Owner: James Kidder
Nominator: same
Location: Olive Road in South Bend
Circumference at 4 ½ feet: 132”
Height: 120’
Average Crown Spread: 67.92’
Point Index: 268.73

LOCUST

Honeylocust - No Nominations

Black Locust
Robinia pseudoacacia
Owner: University of Notre Dame
Nominator: same
Location: southwest side of fire station
Circumference at 4 ½ feet: 81”
Height: 88’
Average Crown Spread: 49’
Point Index: 181.25

MAPLE

Boxelder - No Nominations

Black Maple
Acer nigrum
Owner: Rum Village Park
Nominator: same
Circumference at 4 ½ feet: 126”
Height: 112’
Average Crown Spread: 47.96’
Point Index: 249.9

Red Maple
Acer rubrum
Owner: Jim and Sharon George
69682 Juniper Road
Bremen, IN 46506
Nominator: same
Circumference at 4 ½ feet: 161”
Height: 78’
Average Crown Spread: 76.25’
Point Index: 258.06

Silver Maple
Acer saccharinum
Owner: Terry and Mary Wade
54082 Tulip Rd.
New Carlisle, IN 46552
Nominator: same
Circumference at 4 ½ feet: 205”
Height: 96’
Average Crown Spread: 77.83
Point Index: 320.46

Sugar Maple
Acer saccharum
Owner: Ron Milliken
25301 Adams Rd.
South Bend, IN 46628
Nominator: same
Circumference at 4 ½ feet: 173”
Height: 68’
Average Crown Spread: 74.13’
Point Index: 259.53

MULBERRY

Red Mulberry - No Nominations

OAK

Black Oak
Quercus velutina
Owner: Judith K. Cauffman
12778 Day Road
Mishawaka, IN 46545
Nominator: same
Circumference at 4 ½ feet: 221”
Height: 100’
Average Crown Spread: 85.58’
Point Index: 342.4

Bur Oak
Quercus macrocarpa
Owner: Dwayne Hershberger
20300 Whitmer Road
South Bend, IN 46614
Nominator: same
Circumference at 4 ½ feet: 254”
Height: 100’
Average Crown Spread: 101.75’
Point Index: 379.44

Chinquapin Oak
Quercus muehlenbergii
Owner: Livinghouse Family Farms
Nominator: same
Location: County Line Road in New Carlisle
Circumference at 4 ½ feet: 225”
Height: 60’
Average Crown Spread: 87.46’
Point Index: 306.87

Jack Oak
Quercus ellipsoidalis
Owner: University of Notre Dame
Nominator: same
Location: north end of O’Shaughnessy Hall
Circumference at 4 ½ feet: 940”
Height: 58’
Average Crown Spread: 52’
Point Index: 165

Pin Oak
Quercus palustris
Owner: Raymond Walbert
Nominator: Kennard Feltz
Location: 28607 Chicago Trail
New Carlisle, IN 46552
Circumference at 4 ½ feet: 163”
Height: 72’
Average Crown Spread: 93.17’
Point Index: 258.29

Red Oak
Quercus rubra
Owner: James Kidder
Nominator: same
Location: Olive Road in South Bend
Circumference at 4 ½ feet: 190.25”
Height: 90’
Average Crown Spread: 66.04’
Point Index: 296.76

Scarlet Oak - No Nominations

Shingle Oak
Quercus imbricaria
Owner: University of Notre Dame
Nominator: same
Location: Grotto, near west entrance
Circumference at 4 ½ feet: 83”
Height: 80’
Average Crown Spread: 68.5’
Point Index: 180.1

Swamp White Oak
Quercus bicolor
Owner: Richard Rybicki
30163 Grant Road
New Carlisle, IN 46552
Nominator: same
Circumference at 4 ½ feet: 138”
Height: 72’
Average Crown Spread: 81.17’
Point Index: 230.29

White Oak
Quercus alba
Owner: Patrick and Liah Griffin
51811 Clubhouse Court
South Bend, IN 46628
Nominator: Dominic Ganser
Circumference at 4 ½ feet: 180”
Height: 110’
Average Crown Spread: 98.75’
Point Index: 314.69

PAWPAW

Pawpaw - No Nominations

PINE

Eastern White Pine
Pinus strobus
Owner: University of Notre Dame
Nominator: Big Trees Day Campers
Location: Walsh Hall main entrance
Circumference at 4 ½ feet: 122”
Height: 92’
Average Crown Spread: 67.3’
Point Index: 230.83

PLUM

American Plum - No Nominations

POPLAR

Balsam Poplar - No Nominations

REDBUD
Eastern Redbud
Cercis canadensis
Owner: University of Notre Dame
Nominator: same
Location: edge of St. Mary’s Lake
Circumference at 4 ½ feet: 99”
Height: 26’
Average Crown Spread: 31.5’
Point Index: 132.9

SASSAFRAS

Sassafras - No Nominations

SYCAMORE

Sycamore
Platanus occidentalis
Owner: University of Notre Dame
Nominator: Big Trees Day Campers
Location: Near grotto
Circumference at 4 ½ feet: 260”
Height: 108’
Average Crown Spread: 124.25’
Point Index: 399.06

TAMARACK

Tamarack - No Nominations

TULIP TREE

Tulip Tree
Liriodendron tulipifera
Owner: University of Notre Dame
Nominator: same
Location: across the road from fire department
Circumference at 4 ½ feet: 132”
Height: 88’
Average Crown Spread: 77’
Point Index: 239.25

TUPELO-BLACK GUM

Tupelo-Black Gum
Nyssa sylvatica
Owner: Red Hen Turf Farm
Nominator: Kennard Feltz
Location: 28540 Chicago Trail
New Carlisle, IN 46552
Circumference at 4 ½ feet: 142.0”
Height: 95.0’
Average Crown Spread: 980.0”
Point Index: 257.42

WALNUT

Black Walnut
Juglans nigra
Owner: John Martens
1702 Spring St.
Mishawaka, IN 46544
Nominator: same
Circumference at 4 ½ feet: 200”
Height: 100’
Average Crown Spread: 120.7’
Point Index: 330.18

WILLOW

Black Willow - No Nominations

Peachleaf Willow - No Nominations