

Bur Oak

Quercus macrocarpa

Height: 70-90' | Spread: 60-80' | Light: ☀ | Moisture: Moderate, well-drained

Bur oak is named for its furry, “bur like” acorn caps that cover large, gold-ball sized acorns. It may take up to 35 years this tree to bear a first crop of acorns. It is of the white oak group. The leaves of bur oak also are large, so they are easy to rake. This species is resistant to oak wilt and a number of other problems and is capable of withstanding a wide range of harsh conditions (one of the most drought resistant oaks). Twigs are sometimes ridged with corky wings. The bur oak is the “most western of the eastern oaks”, extending all the way to the foothills of the Rockies! In general, oaks are a keystone species, meaning that entire ecosystems depend on them for survival. They can live for centuries, providing food and habitat for hundreds of species of wildlife, and cleaning the air for future generations. If you have the space, choose this tree! Leave a legacy of clean air and water!



Photos (Clockwise from top): Jason Sharman, Vitalitree, Bugwood.org; T. Davis Sydnor, The Ohio State University, Bugwood.org; Johnny N. Dell, Bugwood.org; T. Davis Sydnor