

COMMEMORATIVE TREE PROGRAM

NATIVE TREE SPECIES SELECTION

LOGEPOLE PINE

Pinus contorta var. *Latifolia*



The lodgepole pine is Alberta's provincial tree. Primarily located throughout Western Canada, it is highly adaptable with a tall narrow shape. Used by Indigenous peoples in many practices, its name is derived from the homes they built from the strong dense wood.

Characteristics:

- Size: Mature size of 20m tall and 4m wide
- Needles: Stiff and twisted in bundles of two, dark- green to yellow- green in color
- Cones: Vary in shape and may remain on the branches for many years
- Habitat: Highly adaptable tree that grows in a number of different environments

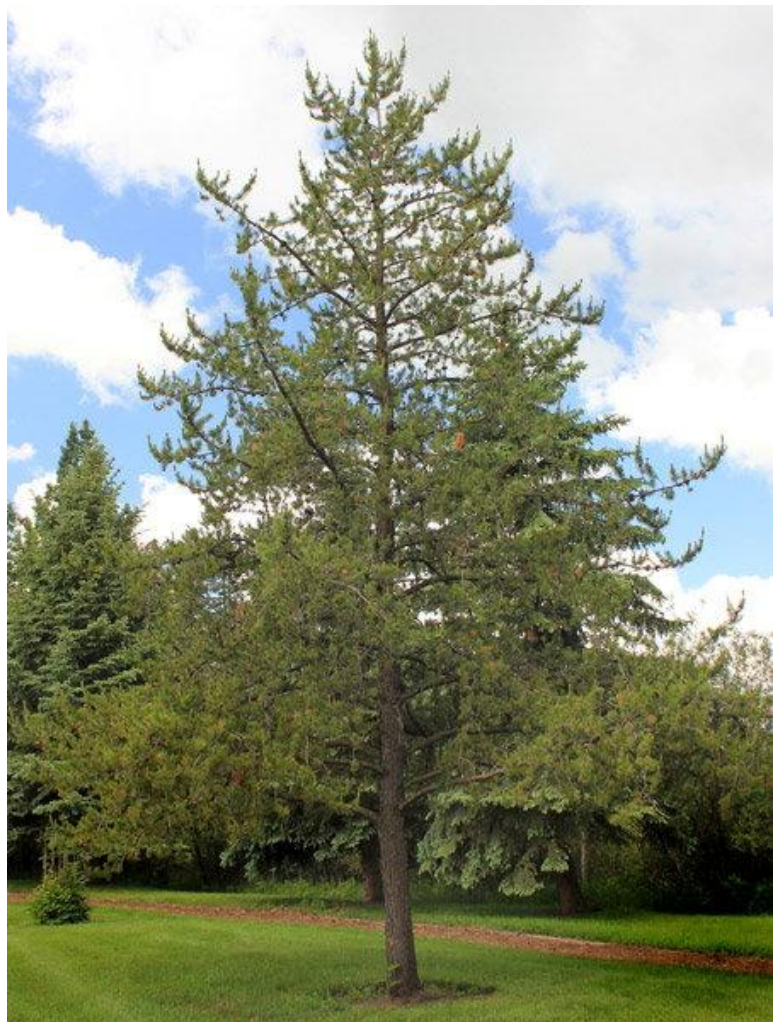
JACK Pine

Pinus banksiana

Jack Pines tend to have straight trunks. Their branches are long and spreading, forming an open ragged crown. Cones are serotinous, meaning they mainly open in the heart of a forest fire. Its heat dependent cones allow it to reproduce quickly making it a pioneer species following a fire. Fossil evidence indicates that the jack pine survived the glacial period.

Characteristics:

- Size: Small tree, up to 20m high and 30cm in diameter. Last up to 150 yrs
- Needles: Evergreen in bundles of 2
- Cones: Curved inward at the tip
- Habitat: Very tolerant of dry, sandy sites



WHITE SPRUCE

Picea glauca

A very hardy tree that is common in northern temperate and boreal forests of North America. Found in all forested regions of Canada except the West Coast. The white spruce is the provincial tree of Manitoba. It is frequently planted for landscape and forestry purposes.

Characteristics:

- Size: Medium Size trees - up to 25m high and 60cm in diameter
- Needles: Bluish-green
- Cones: cylindrical, with rounded, smooth-edged scales
- Habitat: Occurs in various type of soils, Shade-tolerant



TAMARACK LARCH

Larix laricina

Tamaracks are found in every province and territory of Canada and are the Official Tree of the Northwest Territories. Larches are noted for being deciduous conifers, meaning their needles turn and drop in the fall. Frequently planted for landscape purposes because of their pleasing form, soft green foliage that turns brilliant yellow in autumn. Leaves (needles) appear earlier in the spring than most species.



Characteristics:

- Size: medium-sized trees, up to 25m high, 40cm diameter, and 150 years old. The trunk is usually slender and straight
- Needles: deciduous, very soft and flexible
- Cones: Seed cones are ovoid and remain intact on the tree for some months after maturing
- Habitat: Found mainly on cold, wet, poorly drained sites

TREMBLING ASPEN

Populus tremuloides

One of the most widely distributed species in North America that occurs throughout the forested areas of Canada. Aspens can reproduce as clones from long roots running parallel to the surface of the ground. The Trunk is cylindrical. Young bark is smooth, pale green to whitish; mature bark becomes dark and furrowed.

Characteristics:

- Size: Medium-sized trees, up to 25m high, 40 cm in diameter and grow to 80 years old. Larger and older on favorable sites.
- Leaves: Broadly oval to kidney-shaped. 3 - 7cm long. Small round leaves on long stalks tremble in the breeze
- Habitat: Occurs from a great variety of soils. Often grows in pure sites.



Balsam Poplar *Populus balsamifera*

Found coast to coast in Canada, this species has sticky, fragrant buds that smell of balsam. Frequently planted in rural areas for shelterbelts and windbreaks. Intolerant of shade prefers full sun. Sometimes bees harvest the resin from balsam poplar and use it to disinfect their hives.

Characteristics:

- Size: Medium-sized tree, up to 25 m high, 50 cm in diameter, and 70 years old. Occasionally much larger and older
- Leaves: Pointed, shiny, oval-shaped leaves. Leaves glisten and shake in the wind.
- Bark: Young bark is greenish-brown. Mature bark is flat gray with scaly ridges.
- Habitat: Found most often in river valleys; on any moist, rich, low-lying ground with other Boreal forest species

