

14th ANNUAL BIG TREE CONTEST 2022

Find the largest Hickory tree in the city limits of New Ulm and win up to \$200 toward a tree to plant anywhere in the city limits of New Ulm, including in your yard!

Sponsored by the City of New Ulm Tree Advisory Commission (TAC)

Fill out this form and get it to the New Ulm Recreation Center by Monday **July 25 2022**. Your tree will be measured by members of TAC. Final determination of winning tree will be made by TAC.

Prize: The entrant who identifies the largest **Hickory** tree in New Ulm city limits will be reimbursed up to \$200 to purchase and plant a tree, from the city approved tree list, procured from a city designated local nursery.

Bitternut Hickory (*Carya cordiformis*)

Form

Height 40 to 75 feet; diameter 10 to 25 inches; tall and slender with straight, green trunk and broad, rounded crown. Shade tolerant; moderately slow growing.

Bark

Bark is granite-gray, faintly tinged with yellow, broken into thin, platelike scales.

Leaf

Alternate on stem, length 6 to 10 inches, pinnately compound with seven to 11 leaflets that are bright green with finely toothed margins; it is the smallest of all hickory leaves, turns golden yellow in autumn. The tree's bright yellow winter buds are a good identification tool.

Fruit (seed) and Flowers

A nut that is almost round with a sharply pointed tip, enclosed in a thin, scaly husk that splits about halfway down in four lines of division. It's very bitter kernel gives the tree its common name, bitternut.

Range

Found in rich, moist woods, common southward and extending through the Big Woods north of Mille Lacs and infrequently to the upper Mississippi and tributaries of the St. Louis River.

Shagbark Hickory (*Carya ovata*)

Form

Height 60 to 100 feet; diameter up to 24 inches; irregular round top crown: trunk frequently divided. Shade tolerant when young, moderately shade intolerant when mature; slow growing.

Bark

Bark is shaggy light gray; thick vertical strips that are only slightly attached to the tree; trigs are smooth or clothed with short hairs.

Leaf

Alternate on stem; length 8 to 15 inches, pinnately compound with five (rarely seen) ovate leaflets that have finely toothed margins; dark, yellowish green leaves turn golden yellow in autumn.

Fruit (seed) and Flowers

A nut that is oval in shape and has an outer husk that splits into four sections when ripe, revealing the single, white, thin-shelled nut whose sweet kernel is edible.

Range

Confined entirely to the southeastern corner of the state, extending northward into Wabasha County; thrives on rich, damp soil and found along streams and on most hillsides.

Rules

1. Entrant, if declared the winner, may plant the winner's prize tree in New Ulm's city limits.
2. Contest entry tree must be a **Hickory** tree and located within the city limits of New Ulm.
3. Measure the tree circumference with a tape measure at a height of 4 1/2 feet above the ground.
(If there are multiple stems only one stem counts)
4. Tree can either be located on private or public property. If on private property, the applicant and city staff/commissioner must have permission to enter the property and measure the tree.
5. If multiple entries are received for the winning tree, owner's entry takes precedence then entries by date and time received.
The last day to enter is Monday, July 25, 2022.
6. The winner can select the specie of tree to plant, from the City of New Ulm approved species list, to be procured (and planted if desired) from a city designated New Ulm nursery. The New Ulm TAC will reimburse payment for the tree (and planting if desired) up to a maximum of \$200.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone No. _____

Tree Location: _____

Circumference at 4 1/2' Above Ground Level in inches: _____

Mail, email toms@newulmmn.gov or drop off your above-mentioned necessary information at the New Ulm Recreation Center 122 South Garden Street New Ulm MN 56073. For questions call Jeff Andersen in City Hall Engineering Office at 359-8245.