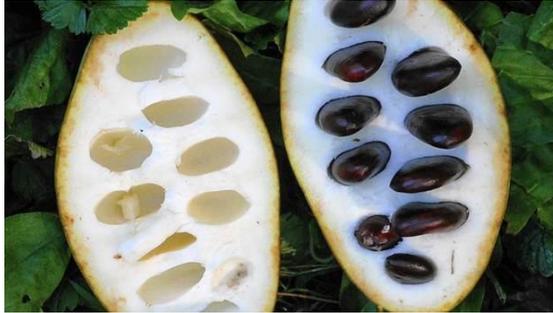


## ILLINOIS

<http://www.chicagotribune.com/lifestyles/home/ct-sun-1102-garden-morton-pawpaw-20141027-story.html>

# Warming up to pawpaw, a native tree with tropical relatives

## Pawpaw bears unusual fruit



The fruit of the native pawpaw tree has a tropical flavor with hints of mango, banana and melon. (Morton Arboretum, Handout)  
By Beth Botts Chicago Tribune (IL), 102714

Growing pawpaw trees gives Midwesterners taste of the tropics

Thomas Jefferson grew pawpaw trees — and you can, too

Among all the trees that glow golden in the Illinois woods in autumn, there's one that brings a hint of tropical warmth.

The pawpaw, a small tree with interesting edible fruit, is the northernmost representative of the custard-apple family, which mainly includes trees that grow in the tropics. Its large leaves, more than a foot long, add to the exotic impression.

"They have a very palm-tree-like feel to them," says Stephanie Adams, research specialist in plant health care at The Morton Arboretum in Lisle, who is fond of pawpaws.

But the pawpaw (*Asimina triloba*) is thoroughly native to the eastern United States and the Midwest, including the Chicago region. Lewis and Clark feasted on pawpaws on their way to explore the Missouri River, and Thomas Jefferson grew them at Monticello. They have given their name to places from Paw Paw Creek in West Virginia to Paw Paw Township in Kansas. Pawpaws, native to bottomlands, floodplains and the forest understory, grow happily among the native oaks and hickories at the Arboretum. They are small trees that thrive in the shade of larger ones and often spread to form thick stands. Enter, and "it's like a green dome," Adams says. In fall, the big leaves turn golden yellow.

The fruit is not grown commercially because it is hard to store and transport. But in early autumn, when the smooth, irregularly shaped fruits ripen, they can be a treat. "You have to beat the raccoons to them," Adams says.

Each fruit contains several dark seeds the size of lima beans in yellow flesh that tastes like a combination of mango, banana and melon.

A pawpaw can reach 35 feet high but most are in the 15- to 25-foot range. The spring flowers are dark purple or maroon, sometimes with a faintly disagreeable odor, so you might not want to plant one right by the patio. But, Adams says, "It's a nice little ornamental tree." Beth Botts is a staff writer at The Morton Arboretum in Lisle ([mortonarb.org](http://mortonarb.org)). For tree and plant advice, contact the Arboretum's Plant Clinic (630-719-2424 or [plantclinic@mortonarb.org](mailto:plantclinic@mortonarb.org)).

## INDIANA

<http://wane.com/2014/10/27/program-to-add-250-trees-to-citys-parks/>

# Program to add 250 trees to city's parks



**Representatives from the Fort Wayne Parks and Recreation Department, Friends of the Parks of Allen County and Indiana Michigan Power helped plant a tree on October 27, 2014 in honor of the Great Tree Canopy Comeback.**

By WANE (IN), October 27, 2014, 12:37 pm

FORT WAYNE, Ind. - The Fort Wayne Parks and Recreation Department is raising awareness about an event the first of November that will add 250 trees to the city's parks. The Great Tree Canopy Comeback is a public- private partnership focused on developing and preserving the urban landscape.

The Parks and Recreation Department along with Friends of the Parks of Allen County and Indiana Michigan Power partnered together to plant a tree in honor of the new Rivergreenway rest area located next to the City Utilities Water Filtration Plant.

"The rebuilding of our tree canopy is an important investment for the future," Mayor Tom Henry stressed at a press conference on Monday.

The Great Tree Canopy Comeback is scheduled for 10 a.m. Trees will be planted in McMillen Park & Golf Courses, Rockhill Park, Kettler Park, Psi Ote Park, Reservoir Park, Foster Park South, Werling Park in New Haven and Payton County Park.

"It's no easy task to organize a tree planting on such a wide scale, but Friends of the Parks has remained dedicated to coordinating this effort, rallying businesses, neighborhoods and community volunteers to work together with great success," Fort Wayne Parks and Recreation Director, Al Moll said.

"Close to 3,000 trees have been planted since 2002 during Great Tree Canopy Comeback events," Moll said. "Once the trees are planted, they need to be preserved, which is why it was essential to develop a comprehensive urban forest management plan."

Anyone who would like to help with the Great Tree Canopy Comeback should contact Charlotte A. Weybright at [cwey0409@frontier.com](mailto:cwey0409@frontier.com).

[http://www.nwitimes.com/news/local/porter/valparaiso/students-help-plant-trees-at-kirchhoff-park/article\\_44cb0548-07fa-5828-a726-901aeb24ac67.html](http://www.nwitimes.com/news/local/porter/valparaiso/students-help-plant-trees-at-kirchhoff-park/article_44cb0548-07fa-5828-a726-901aeb24ac67.html)

## Students help plant trees at Kirchhoff Park

NW Indiana Times, 102714

VALPARAISO | The emerald ash borer has done its damage, and now the students at Parkview Elementary School are going to help replace the dead trees in the Miller Woods area of Kirchhoff Park on Wednesday.

As part of National NeighborWoods month, the youngsters will plant 18 new trees of a variety of native species. That will bring the total planted in the park to 64. The new trees will include Kentucky coffee trees, redbuds, yellowwoods, American beech, American plum and serviceberry.

"A local saw mill is harvesting the damaged ash trees, making use of the timber in exchange for their services in removing the affected trees," city Horticulture Superintendent Steve Martinson said. "This is a good project. The logs went to a good use, and that saved us a heck of a lot of money. This is a good example of putting the woods back the way it was." Martinson said Kirchhoff is the oldest park in the city and the planting will restore it to the kind of trees that were in the original park.

The planting will be done by the youngsters in Lori Tonne's fifth-grade class at Parkview. Before they take shovels in hand, they will get a presentation from Talltree Arboretum on non-native insects like the ash borer and why they damage the trees. They also will learn about the native tree species and how they are more resistant to invaders.

The new trees were bought with a grant from the CSX Railroad Trees for Tracks Program and the Alliance for Community Trees. The volunteers from the city's Shade Brigade will be assisting the youngsters along with the parks staff. Over the past two years, the Shade Brigade volunteers have planted more than 200 trees throughout the city.

To learn more about the Shade Brigade, go to [valpo.us/trees](http://valpo.us/trees).

## IOWA

<http://www.kwqc.com/story/27016294/groundbreaking-for-food-forest-in-davenport>

# Groundbreaking for Food Forest in Davenport



KWQC (IA), Oct 25, 2014 10:44 PM EDT

Volunteers are combating food insecurity by planting one tree at a time, breaking ground for the new Food Forest in Davenport on Saturday.

The Quad Cities Food Forest will be the first of its kind here, giving residents access to local pesticide-free food.

Dozens of people came out on Saturday to help plant the first of many trees for the Food Forest.

"I'm really happy this is here. I think this is great progress for the Quad Cities and I'm really excited to be a part of it," said one volunteer, Lucy Andich.

Andich helped plant the nation's first food forest when she lived in Seattle. Now, giving her time this weekend to plant the Quad Cities' first food forest, she says she's seen the benefits:

"There was work days every month so lots of volunteers came out and everyone came together. It really helped build a lot of community," she said.

And, this food forest will help feed hundreds here in our community, giving them access to free food - ripe for the picking.

That's something city leaders say is really needed.

"If there were a national emergency, a natural disaster, there would be a run on the stores.

So it would be a nice back up to have healthy food available: apples, berries, nuts, etc. in times of an emergency," Davenport Mayor Bill Gluba said.

Community members and leaders planted a total of 80 trees this weekend on land owned by the city of Davenport.

But it could take awhile to see results:

"We're going to be planting some stuff next year that may be able to bear in a year, but a lot of the fruit and nut trees you're looking at five years out to get the crop. Some of them like a tall nut tree will be up to 20 years before its in full production," Food Forest Organizer Chris Rice explained.

Rice says this is just the beginning for a more food-secure Quad Cities.

"We're doing this not just for us, but for our kids and grandkids," he said.

Organizers are also hoping to use the food forest to educate the community on native foods.

They say the number of trees they'll plant in the spring will depend on the number of donations they receive.

## MICHIGAN

<http://www.lansingstatejournal.com/story/news/local/michigan/2014/10/26/search-survivor-ash-trees-ohio-michigan/17973133/>

### Search on for survivor ash trees in Ohio, Michigan



**Researchers have determined the emerald ash borer first arrived in Michigan in the early 1990s. AP file - -An emerald ash borer is seen in the bark of a dead ash tree Thursday, Aug. 12, 2004, in Waterford, Mich. Ash trees from the surrounding area were brought to LaMont Brothers Tree Service, Inc. Marshalling Yard in Waterford to be turned into railroad ties, rough cut lumber and wood chips. (AP Photo/Detroit Free Press, Richard Lee)**

Associated Press (MI), 8:13 p.m. EDT October 26, 2014

Researchers studying a tree-killing beetle are asking residents in northwestern Ohio and southeastern Michigan to help them with a scavenger hunt of sorts.

Scientists think there are few ash trees in the wild that have been able to withstand the emerald ash borer and are hoping that they could provide some clues about how they were able to fend off the destructive beetle.

"They just want to understand the mechanism," said Jane Hodgins, a spokeswoman for the U.S. Forest Service's Northern Research Station in Minnesota.

Researchers decided to focus on looking for these "survivor" trees in northwestern Ohio and southeastern Michigan, because that's where the ash borer first took hold in the United States, The (Toledo) Blade reported.

The beetle is native to Asia and arrived in the U.S. around more than a dozen years ago. It has since killed about 50 million ash trees in the Upper Midwest.

Some homeowners have been able to save their ash trees by treating them with insecticides, but the scientists are looking for trees that have survived on their own.

Kathleen Knight, one of the research station's scientists, said that a few years ago she found a perfectly healthy ash tree amid dozens of sick and dead ones she was monitoring in a park near Toledo.

"To understand the mechanisms of resistance, we need to study more than just a few survivors," Knight said in a statement. "We need to be able to look at different species as well as genetic diversity within the same species."

Their plan is to take small limbs and other cuttings from the trees that are small enough so they don't harm the trees. The cuttings will be grown into little offspring trees in greenhouses and ash borer eggs will be placed on those lab-grown trees so that the researchers can study what happens.

<http://www.hometownlife.com/story/news/local/royal-oak/2014/10/27/city-cuts-diseased-trees-near-veterans-memorial/18013833/>

## City cuts down diseased trees near Veterans Memorial



**Six diseased Norway maple trees were removed from near the Veterans Memorial last week in an effort to make the area look better. The trees were causing other plants to die, and the birds who flocked there made a mess of the memorial with their droppings. (Photo: City of Royal Oak)**

Nathan Mueller HometownLife.com (MI), 2:07 p.m. EDT October 27, 2014

ROYAL OAK – The half-dozen Norway maple trees that separated city hall from the library and surrounded the Veterans War Memorial were taken down last week in effort to improve the area.

According to Carol Hennessey, chair of the Royal Oak Memorial Society, the trees had verticillium wilt disease and would have had to have been removed eventually.

Also the trees were causing all of the other plants in the area, which were planted in 2006, to die because they could not get water.

“They have roots that are high up so when the sprinklers go on and water, the trees were grabbing all the water and the plants couldn’t get the nourishment they needed to grow,” she said. “We don’t like taking down trees because we know we are founded on trees, but it’s killing everything else around it.”

City Manager Don Johnson said during his research of the trees he found they are an invasive species and are not a Michigan tree.

He said with the trees down they expect the arborvitaes and other plants in the area to “survive and thrive.”

Another benefit of removing the trees is that it will keep out the birds that made a mess of the memorial plaza with bird droppings.

The droppings not only made the area look and smell bad, but also caused damage to the memorial and posed a health risk.

“I find it disrespectful to the memorial that we cannot keep it clean,” Johnson said.

City officials tried to keep the birds away with fake and real predators, speakers making predator sounds, special substances and even shotgun blasts. None of it worked.

Johnson wanted to take the trees down in August 2013, but the commission was not in favor at the time.

It was supported this time, but with the caveat that those trees be replaced elsewhere in the city. The replacements will be going into either Starr Jaycee Park or Whittier Park.

The Downtown Development Authority also has agreed to cover the cost of redoing the landscaping at the memorial. A cost estimate has yet to be determined.

## MINNESOTA

<http://blogs.mprnews.org/updraft/2014/10/2014-a-perfect-year-for-fall-color/>

# 2014: A perfect weather year for fall color?

Minnesotans have enjoyed a splendid fall color show this year.



### Fall color show in Deephaven. Paul Huttner / MPR News

Paul Huttner October 27, 2014, 12:01 PM 0

It turns out the weather of 2014 has been ideal for putting on a vibrant, lasting fall color show in Minnesota. The polar vortex, June monsoon, lack of intense summer heat and a dry temperate fall with lighter than average wind speeds combined to produce excellent, lasting fall color.

October color show in the Victoria Weather Lab. Paul Huttner / MPR News

Here are some of the ingredients that went into what many Minnesotans describe as the best fall color show in years.

Polar vortex 2014. Cold is generally good for native trees in Minnesota. It kills invasive pests that can weaken trees. Last winter's extreme cold helped cull the emerald ash borer population in Minnesota.

I asked forestry expert Lee Frelich, director of the University of Minnesota Center for Forest Ecology about how last winter's extreme temperatures may have helped kill ash borer larvae. He wrote:

Paul: I think the forecast temperatures that we will experience in the next several days will cause a lot of mortality for emerald ash borer in MN. Details below—probably more than you need.

I looked up the most recent research this morning, because I figured I will get a lot of questions about this over the next week. Winter mortality for emerald ash borer is definitely temperature dependent.

The larvae can supercool to a certain point, but they die if they freeze, and there is variability in tolerance among individual insects. A recent study from the Forest Service (Venette and Abrahamson—see attached) in Minnesota showed that 5% of the insects die at 0F, 34% at -10F, 79% at -20F and 98% at -30F.

David Cappaert, Michigan State University

Wet spring and early summer Abundant rainfall in the early warm season helped trees leaf out vigorously. Rainfall was several inches above average across Minnesota this spring. It

flooded our rivers and basements, but the trees loved it.

Lack of intense summer heat The Twin Cities managed to squeak out just two 90 degree days this year. The warmest day was 92 degrees on July 21. The lack of intense summer heat meant less heat stress on trees.

2014 temperature and rainfall. Twin Cities National Weather Service

Dry, temperate and less windy fall weather The mild fall weather, lack of driving rain, and relatively tame wind speeds this fall have helped keep the leaves on the trees longer this year than in many past years.

The average wind speed at Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport has been 9.4 miles per hour so far in October. That compares to a monthly average wind speed of 10.6 mph for October. More importantly, the highest gust observed since Oct. 8 has been just 25 mph at the airport.

It turns out the weather of 2014 has been near perfect for putting on the best fall color show in years.