



photos: Dan Jaffe

NORTHERN RED OAK

Quercus rubra

This rugged staple of the Eastern Forest is just at home as an urban shade or street tree. Oaks are among the most beneficial genera for diverse wildlife.

Growing Information

Sunlight Sun
Soil Type Dry to moist, acidic
Height 80–120'
Flowering calendar April

Benefits for Wildlife

Leaves Yes
Flowers Yes
Fruit
Seeds Yes

Host to 431 caterpillar species, including:
(common names) Bantam Maple Dagger;
Clymene Moth; White Fircula; Rosy maple
moth; Elm Sphinx; Definite Tussock Moth;
Interrupted Dagger Moth; Banded Purple

Benefits for People

- Adaptable shade and landscape tree
- Excellent wood
- Acorns are edible—usually dried and crushed as flour

Natural Habitat

- Forest

