



*Teaching kids the  
value of trees for over  
13 years*

## **Our Mission:**

"To promote the value of trees to Iowa's youth by providing educational information with opportunities for tree planting and care."

### **Inside This Issue:**

How It Works	p. 2
Partner Window Display	p. 3
Sponsors	p. 4
Press Release	p. 5

# **Trees For Kids & Teens**

Spring 2003

Partner News

## **Applause for Trees For Kids Sponsors**

*Trees For Kids* and *Trees For Teens* continue to grow! You, our sponsors have made it possible by helping teachers educate students on the benefits of planting and caring for trees. Our numbers have grown steadily since the founding of the educational outreach program in 1990. In fact, last year over 10,250 educators and their students planted over 108,000 trees through their participation in the *Trees For Kids* and *Trees For Teens* programs. Our goal in 2003 is to keep these numbers growing while increasing the quality of our materials and communication with partners like you.

*Trees For Kids* and *Trees For Teens* would not have been a success for the last thirteen years without the local or statewide support of the Iowa Nursery & Landscape Association, Iowa Bankers Association, MidAmerican Energy, Aquila, Alliant Energy, Iowa Tree Farm Committee, Trees Forever, Iowa State University Extension Forestry, Iowa Conservation & Education Council, Society of American Foresters, USDA Forest Service and the Iowa Department of Natural Resources.

## **Preparations Underway**

The 2003 *Trees For Kids* and *Trees For Teens* programs are currently underway. We are in the process of developing and mailing educational materials to educators in time for their Earth/Arbor Day (April 21-28, 2003) plantings and have already received hundreds of responses to our letters to teachers around Iowa. We appreciate your continued patience and support in helping us smoothly coordinate the planting of trees with Iowa's educators and students in your communities.

A list of local Iowa Nursery and Landscape Association members, Iowa Bankers Association members, and Trees Forever Committee contacts is being maintained and used by the DNR to provide references for Iowa educators in coordinating their tree plantings. We provide educators with the names of your nurseries and banks in their area in order to assist them in getting their free or low-cost trees. Partners and educators may contact *Trees For Kids/Teens* coordinator Sarah Roney at (515)281-4915 for direct assistance or email [tfkids@dnr.state.ia.us](mailto:tfkids@dnr.state.ia.us).

***Thanks!***  
**For helping**  
***Trees For Kids***  
**and**  
***Trees For Teens***  
**teach kids the**  
**value of trees**  
**for 13 years.**

**Feel free** to make initial contacts with local teachers and youth group leaders about planting trees in your area. If you need copies of educational materials or more information, call Sarah Roney at (515)281-4915 or John Walkowiak at (515)242-5966.



## Trees For Kids & Teens

# Sponsors Make The Difference...



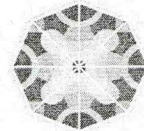
The DNR-Forestry prepares, prints and mails teacher packets in late-March, and promotes the *Trees For Kids* program in the media. Representatives from the DNR conduct approximately two dozen large demonstration plantings across the state. The DNR also coordinates communications between *Trees For Kids* partners and help solve any problems.

MidAmerican Energy is a major funder for the printing and distribution of *Trees For Kids* and *Trees For Teens* programs statewide. Also funded are *Trees For Kids/Teens* demonstration plantings in their service areas. Local MidAmerican Energy Offices are encouraged to contact educators in their communities to get them involved in *Trees For Kids/Teens*.

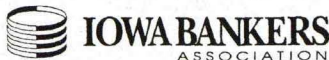


The INLA nurseries will provide various species of landscape trees to teachers at wholesale cost or below cost. Iowa Nursery and Landscape Association members will be knowledgeable about the *Trees For Kids* program, and will promote it in their local school district. INLA provides an annual donation to assist educational material development and distribution.

Aquila, a major funder, aids in the printing and distribution of *Trees For Kids* and *Trees For Teens* programs statewide. Also funded are *Trees For Kids/Teens* demonstration plantings within their service areas. Local Aquila Offices are encouraged to contact educators in communities to get involved in *Trees For Kids/Teens*.



Aquila



Member Banks will provide reasonable funding (\$25 to \$50 per school) to teachers, schools, and local *Trees* committees in order to make a landscape tree purchase from an INLA nursery possible. Each bank should designate one person to be knowledgeable about the *Trees For Kids* program and promote it in their local school district.

Alliant Energy is a major funder for the printing and distribution of *Trees For Kids* and *Trees For Teens* statewide. Also funded are *Trees For Kids/Teens* demonstration plantings within their service areas. Local Alliant Energy Offices are encouraged to contact educators in their communities to get involved in *Trees For Kids/Teens*.



ALLIANT ENERGY.



Trees Forever encourages its local committees to utilize the *Trees For Kids* materials and to contact teachers to promote *Trees For Kids*. Trees Forever committees are also encouraged to help local teachers purchase trees.

The Society of American Foresters through its network of Iowa members provides on the ground support to local teachers and students to plant trees and learn about forestry programs across the state.



The USDA Forest Service provides funding, financially and in-kind support, through its Northeastern Area State and Private Forestry Conservation Education Program.



The Iowa Tree Farm Committee aids in the purchase of educational materials for the *Trees For Kids/Teens* packets and promotes the program in schools across the state.

## Iowa State University Extension

The Iowa State University Extension Forestry program provides major educational materials and coordinates poster development. Their Tree Steward program for youth promotes *Trees For Kids*.



ICEC informs and shares information about *Trees For Kids* through its network of naturalist and science teachers.

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY



*Trees For Kids*  
and  
*Trees For Teens* allow you to make a difference in your community by supporting local schools in their efforts to educate Iowa's youth on the importance and benefits of trees.

## How It Works

In order to develop, print and distribute free educational materials, the DNR has received private donations from MidAmerican Energy, Aquila, Alliant Energy, Iowa Nursery and Landscape Association, and Iowa Tree Farm Committee. A Conservation Education grants was also received from the USDA Forest Service. These materials are made available to teachers/youth leaders at no cost. Educators and school principals are contacted by mail and encouraged to participate by returning a postage paid card to the DNR. Beginning in late-March, educational materials are mailed by the DNR to the requesting educator. *Trees For Kids* materials targets elementary students, and *Trees For Teens* materials focuses on middle and high school students.

In order to receive a tree to plant during earth week, educators contact the DNR to find out which local partners will assist them. INLA nurseries are asked to provide schools with trees at cost. In addition, INLA members are also asked to assist teachers in choosing the appropriate tree and to help deliver it to the school for planting. Local IBA member banks or local Trees Forever committees are asked to provide funding for the remainder of the tree cost (\$25-\$50 per school). The number of trees donated or paid for is entirely up to each firm or organization.

That land is a community is the basic concept of ecology, but that land is to be loved and respected is an extension of ethics...We abuse land because we regard it as a commodity belonging to us. When we see land as a community to which we belong, we may begin to use it with love and respect.

~  
Aldo Leopold

### Trees For Kids/Teens Goals 2003

- \* Distribute 11,000 teacher packets of classroom activities & posters.
- \* Plant 110,000 trees on school grounds.
- \* Improve communication among *Trees For Kids* partners.
- \* Produce & distribute a greater number of *Trees For Teens* materials for middle school and high school teachers and students.

## What The Teachers Receive

After expressing interest in the *Trees For Kids/Teens* programs, educators receive a packet of materials in the mail in late March. The packet includes sample classroom lessons and activities relating to trees (this year's theme is Native Trees and Plants), a large two-sided original artwork educational poster, tree planting and maintenance information, and instructions on how to receive a free landscape-sized tree through INLA nurseries and garden centers. All materials are provided free of charge at teacher or principal request. Those that home school are also eligible to participate in the program.



# PLANT NATIVE TREES TO BENEFIT OUR NATURAL ECOSYSTEMS

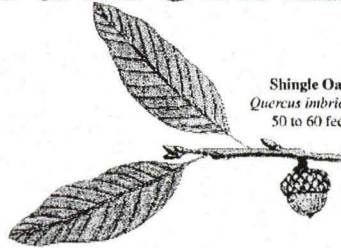


White Oak  
*Quercus alba*  
60 to 80 feet

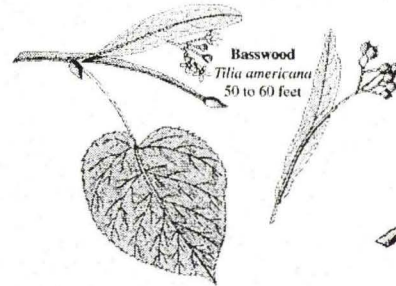
River Birch  
*Betula nigra*  
40 to 50 feet



Shingle Oak  
*Quercus imbricaria*  
50 to 60 feet



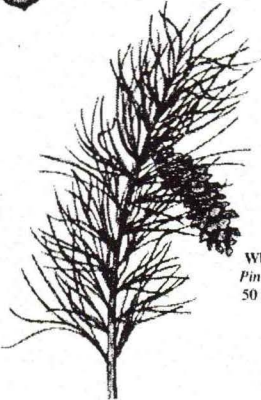
Basswood  
*Tilia americana*  
50 to 60 feet



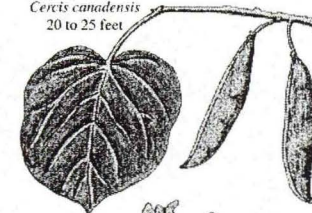
Swamp White Oak  
*Quercus bicolor*  
50 to 60 feet



White Pine  
*Pinus strobus*  
50 to 80 feet



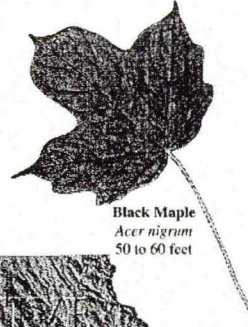
Redbud  
*Cercis canadensis*  
20 to 25 feet



Sugar Maple  
*Acer saccharum*  
50 to 60 feet



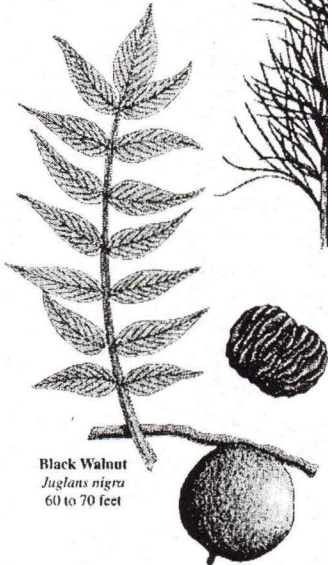
Black Maple  
*Acer nigrum*  
50 to 60 feet



Hackberry  
*Celtis occidentalis*  
40 to 50 feet



Black Walnut  
*Juglans nigra*  
60 to 70 feet



American Hornbeam  
*Carpinus caroliniana*  
20 to 25 feet



Ironwood  
*Ostrya virginiana*  
20 to 30 feet



Kentucky Coffeetree  
*Gymnocladus dioica*  
50 to 60 feet

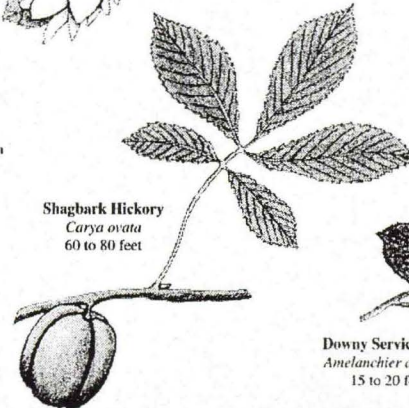


White Ash  
*Fraxinus americana*  
60 to 80 feet

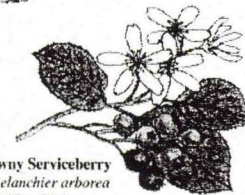


Illustrations and design  
by  
Mark Müller  
2003

Shagbark Hickory  
*Carya ovata*  
60 to 80 feet



Downy Serviceberry  
*Amelanchier arborea*  
15 to 20 feet



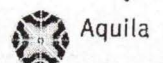
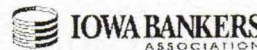
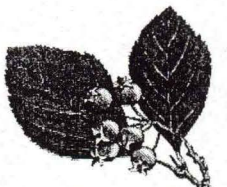
Red Oak  
*Quercus rubra*  
70 to 80 feet



Bur Oak  
*Quercus macrocarpa*  
50 to 60 feet



Hawthorn  
*Crataegus crus-galli*  
20 to 25 feet





# What they're saying...

## Kids and Teachers Share

"On Wednesday Hiatt Middle School welcomed 8 purple ash trees on the property -- Ms Glynn and her students enjoyed planting the trees with the forester even in the rain. In closing, this quotation begins to express our feelings for the gift you and your sponsors bestowed upon Hiatt: Trees are the earth's endless effort to speak to the listening heaven"

-- Bette Prey, Dean of Students - Hiatt Middle School - Des Moines

"Thank you so much for helping us plant the trees. I like trees alot and I had never planted one before. Now I know some tricks ."

--Stephanie - Grinnell Middle School student

"Dear Trees For Kids: I saw your packet of materials someone else had and I'd like very much to receive a copy I teach science at Cedar Valley Christian School in Cedar Rapids - thanks so much for sending the materials."

-- Edie Dukek - Cedar Valley Christian School

"I will treasure my class tree for a long time. I hope for a long time those trees will provide shade for lots of people."

--Matt, a student from Delaware Elementary School

### Sample

#### Press Release: Tree Plantings At Local Schools

*Trees For Kids* and *Trees For Teens*, nationally awarded Iowa education and tree planting programs, will be available in late March. The goals of these programs are to educate students about the value of trees and to encourage the planting of landscape-sized trees on school grounds or other public areas.

*Trees For Kids* targets upper elementary students, while the *Trees For Teens* program focuses on middle and high school students.

Educators receive an educational packet containing a teacher's manual with lesson plans that focus on trees, an educational poster, tree planting and maintenance information, and instructions on how to get a free tree.

In 2002, *Tree For Kids/Teens* involved more than 10,250 teachers and their students. As a result, over 108,000 trees were planted.

Sponsors for *Trees For Kids/Teens* include: Iowa Department of Natural Resources, MidAmerican Energy, Aquila, Alliant Energy, Iowa Nursery and Landscape Association, Iowa Bankers Association, Iowa Tree Farm Committee, Trees Forever, Iowa Conservation Education Council, Society of American Foresters, USDA Forest Service and Iowa State University Extension Forestry.

(Nursery/Bank Name), a member of the (Iowa Nursery and Landscape Association/Iowa Bankers Association), is a strong supporter of the *Trees For Kids/Teens* program. Contact (Nursery/Bank Name) or Sarah Roney, the *Trees For Kids/Teens* Coordinator, at (515)281-4915 or email [tfkids@dnr.state.ia.us](mailto:tfkids@dnr.state.ia.us), for more information.

*We have not inherited this earth from our forefathers; we are borrowing it from our children.*

- AMERICAN INDIAN SAYING



Support Your Community



It's Up To You!

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TREES FOR KIDS & TREES FOR TEENS  
Iowa Department of Natural Resources  
Wallace State Office Building  
502 E. 9th Street  
Des Moines, Iowa 50319-0034

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