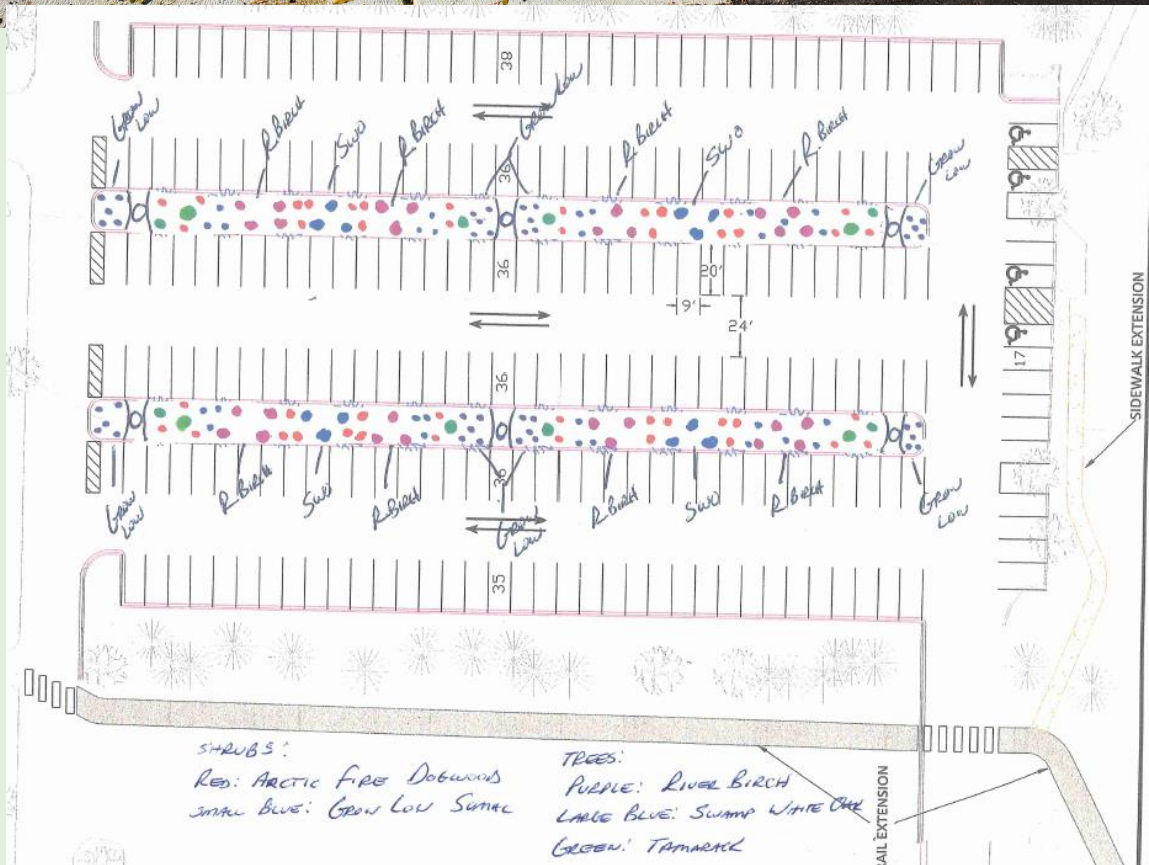


## Existing Conditions





River Birch  
(28, 12' BB)



## River birch (*Betula nigra*)



Click on the images help you identify an River birch.



### Form

Height 40' to 60' with a diameter of up to 24"; a mature tree usually has a short trunk that divides into several large ascending limbs that compose an open, irregular crown of slender drooping branchlets.

### Bark

Dark brown at base of old trunks, deeply furrowed; higher up on main stem and on larger branches, becomes lustrous reddish brown; peels more or less freely; twigs, reddish color with white dots (lenticels).

### Leaf

Simple, alternate on stem, length 1-1/2" to 3"; more or less triangular with double-toothed edges; upper surface dark green, lower surface pale yellow green; turns yellow in autumn.

### Fruit (seed)

Winged nutlets densely crowded into a cone-shaped catkin about 1" long; ripens in late spring or early summer.

### Range

Grows along rich bottom lands of streams and rivers in the southeastern corner of the state, especially in the Mississippi and Root River valleys; common along Mississippi River as far as Wabasha County; also reported near Mankato; shade intolerant, moderately fast growing.

### Wood uses

Swamp White Oak  
(12, 2.5" BB)



## Swamp white oak (*Quercus bicolor*)



Click on the images help you identify an Swamp white oak.



### Form

Height may reach 65' with a diameter of up to 36"; narrow, rounded top, open crown; the upper trunk is often fringed with short drooping branches.

### Bark

Thick, deeply and irregularly divided by fissures into broad ridges; grayish brown; bark on twigs ragged and often peeling.

### Leaf

Simple, alternate on stem, length 5" to 6"; often crowded toward ends of twigs; broad at middle (pear shaped) and wedge shaped at base; wavy and indented along margins; dark green and shiny above, grayish and fuzzy beneath; turns brown in autumn.

### Fruit (seed)

Nut or acorn, length about 1"; enclosed for about one-third of its length in a thick, narrow cup; usually in pairs on slender dark brown stalks that are 2" to 4" long.

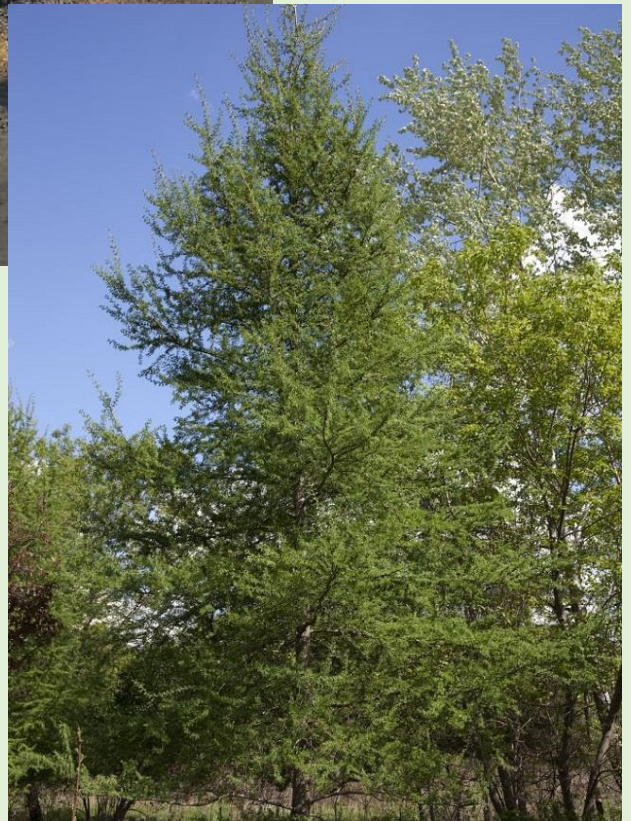
### Range

Common in river bottoms in the extreme southeastern corner of the state and in the southern part of the Minnesota River Valley; rarely grows as far north as St. Paul; requires moist soil as name implies; moderately shade tolerant, slow growing.

### Wood uses

Light brown, hard, strong, tough, and durable; used for railway ties, barrels, mine

Tamarack  
(12, 6' BB)



## Tamarack (*Larix laricina*)



Click on the images help you identify an Tamarack.



### Form

Straight, upright trunk extending to top of tree; spreading or ascending branches; height 40' to 70', diameter 14" to 24". Large trees are rare because most old specimens were killed years ago by the larch sawfly.

### Bark

Rough with thin, reddish brown scales. Twigs are light brown and covered with numerous tiny spurs or short branches.

### Leaf

Needlelike, flat, soft, slender, length about 1"; borne in clusters on spurlike branches and distributed singly on terminal shoots; bright green in spring, turning dull yellow in September or October just before falling. Tamarack is the only conifer in Minnesota that sheds all its leaves each fall.

### Fruit (seed)

Young cones red or greenish, mature cones light brown; 3/4" long; nearly spherical; open in the fall to release small winged seeds. Cones often remain on trees several years.

### Range

Found chiefly in the swamps in the coniferous forest region of northern Minnesota; occasionally found in drier localities where it reaches larger size; also found southward scattered in cold swamps throughout the hardwood region as far south as the Twin Cities; shade intolerant.

Arctic Fire Dogwood  
(44, #5 container grown)



Grow Low Sumac  
(65, #5 container grown)

