

White Oak

Botanical Name: *Quercus alba*

Pronunciation: KWERK-us AL-buh



Fun Facts:

- Some White Oaks are known to have lived over 600 years.
- Although called the white oak it is very unusual to find a tree with white bark; the usual color is gray
- In spring the young leaves are silvery pink, covered with soft down as with a blanket. As a result the entire tree has a misty, frosty look
- The male flowers are yellow-green and are called catkins
- The wood of white oaks have a closed cellular structure, which does not allow water to pass; the USS Constitution is made from white oak
- Acorns were used by Native Americans as a food
- More than 180 different kinds of birds and mammals use oak acorns as food; among them are squirrels, blue jays, crows, red-headed woodpeckers, deer, turkey, quail, mice, chipmunks, ducks, and raccoon