



# COTTONWOOD

## POPULUS DELTOIDES

Eastern cottonwoods typically grow in wet locations along local streams and creeks. Its leaves are pyramidal shaped and the bark is light brown and deeply horizontally furrowed. This quick growing, short-lived tree (80 years) is susceptible to wind and ice damage.



**TYPE:**  
Deciduous



**SIZE:**  
100 feet high  
60 feet wide



**SUN:**  
Full sun



**FLOWERS:**  
Male and female flowers on separate trees; form drooping catkins 2-3" long.



**USDA ZONES:**  
3-9



**ID TIPS:**  
The fluffy, white, cottony seeds are common in the early spring.



**WILDLIFE VALUE:**  
Rabbits and deer feed on the seedlings and small trees. Beavers use trees for food and in dam construction. Cottonwoods are the larval host to viceroy, mourning cloak and red-spotted purple butterflies.



**INTERESTING FACT:**  
The fluffy seeds released in spring can look like a snow squall.

