

**ALPENA  
CONSERVATION  
DISTRICT**



January 2010

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**SPRING 2010**

**SEEDLING DESCRIPTIONS,  
PRICE LIST  
AND  
NEWSLETTER**



**ORDER  
DEADLINE:**

**March 26, 2010**

**Pick-up date: One Day Only!!!**

Friday, April 23rd - 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Tree pick-up will be at the District warehouse located on airport road. If you will be unable to pick up your order on Friday please make arrangements with the Conservation District office at (989) 356-3596 Extension 101.

Thank you  
for your  
support!

*The best time to plant a tree was 50 years ago.  
The next best time is now!*

We have a new item available this spring: Rose Rubrifolia. We have brought back the Sand Cherry, Nine Bark and Mt. Ash. In addition we added a Wildlife Pear Packet, Cherry Packet, Peach Packet and new Bird Packet. Be sure to check them out you won't be disappointed. Our containerized trees are a new company to us. They have been growing containerized trees since 1978.



**ALPENA CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

1900 M-32 West  
Alpena, Michigan 49707

*The Alpena Conservation District is an equal opportunity employer and will not discriminate in employment, promotions, or compensation on the basis of race, ethnicity, religion, gender, age, national origin, marital status, sexual orientation, disability, or any other extraneous considerations, not directly and substantially related to effective performance*

**Other important information:**

- ✓ Site preparation is very important for the success of tree and shrub plantings. It is important to get rid of the grass, weeds, and other vegetation so they do not compete with the seedlings for sunlight, moisture, and nutrients. This can be done mechanically, with herbicides or several other methods. Mowing is not considered weed control because it stimulates weed root growth.
- ✓ If you need help with selection of species and where they grow best or would like a species that is not offered in the catalog stop by the office at 1900 M-32 West or us at 989-356-3596.
- ✓ Donations to Alpena Soil Conservation District are tax deductible.
- ✓ We do not guarantee stock once it leaves the premises or left beyond pickup date. We took care in getting the trees to the customer(s), however once the trees leave us it is the responsibility of the customer/landowner to make sure that they are planted properly and watered. We reserve the right to refund purchase price if seedlings cannot be provided due to circumstances beyond our control. We reserve the right to limit the number of shrubs due to the limited quantities available and to substitute similar shrubs if necessary.
- ✓ It is unlawful for these trees, shrubs, and other plants to be resold with the roots attached, in accordance with the insect Pest and Plant Disease Act, P.A. 189 of 1931 as amended.
- ✓ For more information on district programs, feel free to explore our web site at this address [www.alpenacd.org](http://www.alpenacd.org)
- ✓ We will not have an abundance of overstock the day of the sale. Please anticipate your needs.



Thank you to the Alpena FFA for their continued support with our annual spring tree sale.  
**Contact our FFA Chapter for tree planting needs at (989) 358-5220**

**Jack Pine** A very short needled pine, highly adaptable to poor soil conditions and fast growing

**Red Pine** (Norway Pine) Fast growing tree to 75 feet. Needles are 4 to 6 inches long, flexible, in clumps of two. Prefers well-drained sandy to sandy loam soils and likes full sun.

**White Pine** Fast growing, needles in clusters of five. Tolerate a wide variety of soil types, prefers moist to well-drained sandy soil. This is an excellent tree for wildlife and windbreaks.

**Blue Spruce** Grows to 90 feet. Widely used as an ornamental and Christmas tree. Does best on moist, well drained soil and is moderately shade tolerant. Do not plant next to Douglas Fir.

**Norway Spruce** Medium growth to 150 feet. Thrives well in sandy soil, prefers moist clay to loam soils. Maintains lower branches that droop gracefully as the tree matures and is an excellent for windbreaks.

**White Spruce** Medium growth to 90 feet, found on a variety of sites, prefers well-drained clay to clay loam soils, and are excellent for wildlife cover and windbreaks.

**Balsam Fir** Deep green aromatic true fir that enjoys sun and cool, moist, well-drained soil.

**Douglas Fir** Fast growing. Short, soft, blue-green needles make this an excellent Christmas tree, and does best in well-drained soil. Avoid planting in frost pockets and next to Blue Spruce. Good wildlife tree.

**Fraser Fir** Soft, waxy, aromatic, deep blue-green needles, true fir with silvery undersides. This tree grows best in cool, moist, well-drained soil conditions.

**White Cedar** Slow growing, medium sized tree. Can grow on wet sites but does best on moist areas over limestone with good lateral water movement.

**Black Cherry** A fast growing, valuable timber trees with straight grained wood that has a deep luster when finished. It is shade intolerant and is found in forest openings. Prefers sandy to loam well-drained soils.

**Black Walnut** "Blue Ribbon Hardwood", prized for its wood and edible nuts, does best in fertile, loamy soils that are well drained, may reach a height of 80'-100'.

**Coral Berry** (Buck Brush) Adapts to partial sun, moist to dry conditions and a loamy or rocky soil. Berries persist into winter and are eaten by birds. It's a favorite food plant of the white tailed deer and is often heavily browsed. Provides good cover for wildlife.

**Dawn Redwood** A beautiful and stately tree, well suited for large areas, fast growing to 40' – 70'.

Does best in full sun, need to provide adequate moisture; tolerates windy sites.

**Highbush Cranberry** A tall shrub for lowland area. Clusters of small white flowers give way to bright red berries. Berries persist through winter. This is an excellent shrub for wildlife.

**Hybrid Poplar** Extremely fast growing tree to 80 feet. It will grow 5' to 10' per year after it is established. It is excellent for windbreaks, firewood, and shade. Does best in full sun on well drained soil.

**Red Maple** This tree has a rounded crown with upward reaching branches. Adaptable to many soils, tolerates moisture and alkalinity. Relatively fast growing can reach 40' to 60' in height. Shade tolerant.

**Red Oak** Produces high-quality timber. Fast growing, adaptable to most soil types; good salt and pollution tolerance.

**Lilac** A small dense shrub with beautiful flowers and captivating fragrance. Tolerates a wide variety of soil types. Needs full sunlight. Dense form provides protection for birds and other wildlife.

**Mt Ash** This tree has a slow growth rate, with showy white spring flowers, followed by flame-red fruit loved by birds. Likes acidic loamy, sandy, well drained, wet clay soils. Grows best in full sun to light shade, 10' to 30' high and about 15' wide.

**Nankin Cherry** Can be a shrub or small tree to 8' in height. Has low water needs, full sun to partial shade, tolerates alkaline soils and prefers well-drained soil. Edible red berry are enjoyed by wild birds.

**Nine Bark** A very hardy plant; they do best in full sun or very light shade, flowers in the spring. It is medium sized shrub, 8 to 10 feet tall and about that wide, adapts to most soils and is easy to grow and care for. Soils that are little acidic is preferred. When established, ninebarks are drought tolerant and long lived.

**Red Osier Dogwood** Great for erosion control, food and cover for wildlife. White flowers produce white berries in fall, twigs turn red upon dormancy. Likes wet soil.

**Rose Rubrifolia** is a dense spreading shrub, 5 to 6 feet tall. The canes are reddish-green. Flowers are pink. Rosehips follow blooms and are 1/2 inch long, smooth and red. Prefer full sun and a variety of soils.

**Rose of Sharon** An upright, deciduous shrub that is vigorous, multi-stemmed that typically grows 5-6' tall. It bears multi-colored white, lavender and pink flowers from late summer until mid-fall and grows in a wide variety of soil types.

**Sand Cherry** A native to the sand dunes of Lake Michigan. As such, it is very drought hardy. Dense clusters of white flowers followed by dark purple ½" cherries. Berries are edible. Requires full sun and grows approximately 3' in height.

**Serviceberry** A very early flowering shrub, white flowers appear in clusters early in the spring. A great habitat planting.

**Silky Dogwood** A dense multi-stemmed, moderately shade tolerant woody plant. A spreading shrub, which attains a height of 10' to 12'. Flowers in mid-June and gives way to clusters of blue fruit in September. Prefers moist soils but does well on a wide variety of soil types. Excellent for wildlife.

**Tamarack** Also known as Larch. It sheds its needles in the fall, when the hardwoods drop their leaves. It is shade intolerant; fast growing and grows slowly in swamps but much more rapidly on well drained soils.

**White Birch** Snow-white bark, outstanding year-around beauty, peels in paper-thin sheets, adaptable to many soil types.

**White Oak** The White Oak is fairly tolerant of a variety of habitats, and may be found on ridges, in valleys, and in between, and in dry and moist habitats, and in moderately acid and alkaline soils.

### **CONTAINERIZED SEEDLINGS**

Container grown seedlings are becoming more common as a choice for tree planting stock. These seedlings are of excellent quality. They are easily hand planted. Research shows that containerized seedlings have a much better survival rate. The seedlings have been grown in containers, removed, graded, and wrapped in cellophane 20 per bundle. There are no containers to return.

### **WILDLIFE SEEDS**

For all of the following forage plantings, it is understood that the planting area is free of grass and weeds with a soil texture that will allow soil to seed contact. Food plots do not need to be large. One half acre to two acres is optimum size. Ideally, food plots should be located close to cover with irregular shaped boundaries. If the food plot is in an open or hardwood area, consider planting some conifers along an edge. Don't be afraid to experiment with different forage crops. Wildlife does best with a variety of food.

**Buck Wheat:** This should be planted after June 1<sup>st</sup>. Plant 50 to 70 lbs. per acre. Both the plant

and seed are food. Buckwheat is a summer annual with rather coarse, branched stems and large, broadly arrow-shaped leaves. Provides great summer forage and cover for wildlife.

**Forage Rape:** Rape is similar to canola and is an excellent winter food. It stands very well to heavy snow. Plant 5 to 7 lbs of seed per acre. Works best in conjunction with turnips for fall and winter wildlife plots.

**Forage Turnips:** Similar to purple top turnips, Barkant turnips should be planted in either spring (April 15<sup>th</sup>–May 15<sup>th</sup>) or early fall (August 1<sup>st</sup>-Sept.15<sup>th</sup>) for best results. A seeding rate of 2-3 pounds per acre is recommended in conjunction with other forage types. Turnips are both cold-hardy and drought tolerant. They grow best in a moderately deep loam, fertile and slightly acid soil.

**Ladino Clover** Ladino (White) clover is a short-lived perennial legume that grows rapidly. It grows best during cool, moist weather on well-drained, fertile soils. A recommended seeding rate is 4-6 pounds per acre. Clover should be planted in the spring (April 15<sup>th</sup>-June 1<sup>st</sup>) or fall (August 1<sup>st</sup>-Sept. 15<sup>th</sup>) to ensure good establishment. It can be planted alone but it is most beneficial when it is planted in combination with cool-season perennials.

**Chicory:** A cool-season perennial. It produces abundant spring and summer forage that is highly preferred by whitetail deer. Chicory grows best on well drained to moderately drained soils with medium to high fertility. A seeding rate of 3-4 pounds per acre is recommended. Chicory is best planted in the spring (April 15<sup>th</sup>-June 1). It can be planted alone but it is most beneficial when it is planted in combination with cool-season legumes.

**Forage Oats:** This annual grain crop is an excellent source of food for late season (fall) forage in whitetail deer until extreme cold sets in. A seeding rate of 100-120 pounds per acre is recommended. Oats prefer a well prepared and well drained seed bed, but are well adapted to drought and lesser conditions. For best results, plant between August 15<sup>th</sup> and September 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Great Lakes Deer & Wildlife Mix:** This perennial mixture features high protein legumes and grasses to provide excellent food and cover. Grows well in most soils, and should be planted in the spring (March 1<sup>st</sup>-June 30<sup>th</sup>), or later (August 1<sup>st</sup>-September 15<sup>th</sup>). This 10 pound bag will plant approximately ½ acre. Contains: red fescue, timothy, orchard grass, perennial ryegrass, birdsfoot trefoil, alfalfa, and several clovers. Excellent for bedding areas and cover.

**Does Delight:** This annual wildlife mixture offers a diet of legumes and grasses through the fall. Grows well in most soils, and should be planted in the spring between May 15<sup>th</sup> and July 15<sup>th</sup>. This 10 pound bag will plant approximately 1 acre. Contains: forage peas, soybeans, alfalfa, and ladino clover. It is an excellent source of protein for early antler growth and milk for fawns.

**Rut-N-Ready:** This annual mix is designed as a quick establishing forage featuring high energy turnips, rape, sugar beet, kale, and chicory. This mixture is best planted in the spring (May 1<sup>st</sup>-June 30<sup>th</sup>), or in the fall (August 1<sup>st</sup>-September 15<sup>th</sup>). It will stay green late into the fall and early winter, for late season attraction.

**Longbeard Lettuce:** This perennial mixture is formulated to provide cover, high energy food and to attract insects. Designed to develop long beards in big old Tom Turkeys, and provide a diverse menu to stimulate growth in young birds. This 10 pound bag will plant approximately 1/2 acre, and is best planted in the spring (May 1<sup>st</sup>-June 30<sup>th</sup>), or in the fall (August 1<sup>st</sup>-September 15<sup>th</sup>). It contains several types of clover, rape, ryegrass, Kentucky bluegrass, timothy, and alfalfa to develop several years of food and cover.

**Fall Feast:** This annual mix is an excellent fall attractant for several types of upland game (whitetail deer, pheasants, turkeys, and ruffed grouse). It contains wheat, oats, rye, arrowleaf clover, and crimson clover to offer a wide variety of food types. This mix will do approximately 1/2 acre, and is best planted in the spring (May 1<sup>st</sup>-June 30<sup>th</sup>), or in the fall (August 1<sup>st</sup>-September 15<sup>th</sup>).

#### **PACKETS, BERRIES & OTHER STUFF**

**Butterfly Bush Packet** (5 Bushes) This shrub attracts butterflies with its fragrant flower spikes that are in bloom from summer to fall. Plants grow 4 to 6 feet tall, plant in full sun on moist to well drained soil.

**Bird & Wildlife Packet** (7 TREES) ***New -Size range from 2-4' in height except for the Saskatoon 1-2'*** Chosen to provide food all season long for birds and wildlife. Contains 1 each: Cohke Cherry, Black Elderberry, Sargent Crabapple, Red Mulberry, Nannyberry, Shadblow Serviceberry and Saskatoon Service Berry.

**Wildlife Apple Tree Packet #1** (4 TREES) These are Bud 118 which is the best semi dwarf stock for heavy, poorly drained soils types. Trees are bare root, approximately 5/8" in diameter and 5'-6' tall. Fencing is necessary. Contains a Wolf River, Honey Crisp, Twin Bee Gala and a Connell Red.

**Wildlife Apple Tree Packet #2** (2 TREES) Contains Bud 118 Honey Crisp and Twin Bee Gala.

**Wildlife Pear Packet** (3 TREES) Bartlett, Harrow Sweet and Harrow Delight.

**Wildlife Cherry Packet** (2 TREES) One Balaton and one Sam.

**Wildlife Peach Packet** (1 TREE) Red Haven.

**Fountain Grass** This is an excellent butterfly resting area. They have fuzzy, spike-like flowers that look like narrow bottlebrushes. Flowering occurs in July through fall. Flower color changes from whitish purple to coppery purple and persists well into the winter. Fall foliage is yellow-gold. Grows well in any fertile, moist, wet or well-drained soil. It prefers full sun to very light shade.

**Northeast Annual and Perennial Wildflower Mix** is a colorful mix that will provide up to five years of color, and attracts a variety of birds and butterflies

**Butterfly and Hummingbird Garden Mix** is a beautiful new mix of native and non-native wildflowers and grasses designed to attract nectar loving birds and insects.

**Black Berry-Cheyenne** (1 PER PACK) Prefers upland soils, like full sun and are eaten by a wide variety of birds and animals. Thick tangles provide shelter for birds and wildlife.

**Blue Berry-BlueCrap/Blue Ray** (1 PER PACK) Blue berries require a loose, acid soil (ph of 5.0 or less) and prefer open sites. They are enjoyed by a wide variety of birds and wildlife. Fruit ripens in July/August.

**Raspberry-Red Latham** (2 PER PACK)

Raspberries prefer upland soil in open areas. Enjoyed by a wide variety of wildlife. They are June bearing and very productive.

**Planting Bars** Rugged spud designed for planting tree seedlings. Used by professional tree planters; will last a lifetime. Spud has a 3"x 11" blade wedge shaped in cross section; and has footstep and handle. Weighs 7 pounds.

**Root Dip** This absorbent retains water and gives it back to the plant during dry periods reducing plant stress. Mix with water in large bucket and dip roots into mixture. 1 ounce plants 1000 seedlings.

**Garlic Repellent Sticks** Designed by a professional forest researcher. These unique sticks are clipped to trees and shrubs where they emit a powerful garlic odor. While also protecting the ingredients from the weather. They last up to 6 months. Place four to six feet apart to create a barrier around your plants.

**Tree Tubes** Made of plastic, the tree shelters are 5 feet tall. They protect seedlings from deer, rabbits, herbicides, mowers, weed trimmers and severe weather. They encourage faster seedling growth in a greenhouse environment.

**Flags** An excellent way to identify where you have planted tree seedlings. Fluorescent color with 36" wire.

**Signs** High grade aluminum signs, long lasting, warning "Trees Planted - Keep Off". Sign measures 7.5" x 11", black print on high visibility orange/yellow background.



### News

**Staff Changes** We are please to have Emily Sewell to serve as a Conservationist. She received her Bachelor of Science in Wildlife Biology with a minor in Fishery Biology from Colorado State University. She has worked for the Huron Pines AmeriCorps Program at the Otsego Conservation District. Emily along with Randy Mellberg are providing livestock producers with educational, technical, and financial assistance to reduce the risks of Bovine Tuberculosis (TB) spreading from wildlife to livestock in the northeast Lower Peninsula of Michigan. She works for the Alpena Conservation District (ACD), under the guidance of the ACD Board of Directors, the Michigan Department of Agriculture (MDA), and the United States Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS).

### **Alpena and Montmorency Conservation Districts welcome new USDA/NRCS District Conservationist: Ron Spiering**

Ron officially began his duties as District Conservationist for the Alpena field office on June 8, 2009. He was raised on his parents beef cow/calf operation in Hibbing, MN, then attended the University of Minnesota, earned a B.S. in Natural Resources Management with an emphasis in Water Quality, and also earned an A.S. in Water Quality Science/Watershed Science as well as a 2-year technical degree in carpentry.

Following college, he began his employment with NRCS serving as a Soil Conservationist in Ada, Morris and Goodhue Minnesota. He also served as the acting DC in Winona, MN and then as Acting Area Resource Conservationist in Duluth, MN before accepting the position as DC at the Alpena field office. Ron has recently become a homeowner in Alpena County and he and Jake, his golden retriever, are doing some home renovations.

**5th Annual Big Tree Contest** Once again this year, your friends at the Alpena Conservation District are looking for the biggest trees within the district. This year the District has chosen the White Birch, Large Toothed Aspen and Blue Spruce Trees as the species of choice. Log on to [www.alpenacd.org](http://www.alpenacd.org) for the rules and entry form, or contact the District for more information. The contest begins October 1<sup>st</sup> and ends September 30<sup>th</sup> of each year. A Big Thank you to the participants of last years contest.

### **Equipment Rental**

The District realized a local need for certain items to assist producers and landowners in planting crops and trees in a more efficient and cost effective way. The District houses items which are available for rent throughout the planting season. A lime spreader was purchased with District funds to be used by producers. The cost is based on a per ton scale which includes delivery. A No-Till grain drill is also available to plant crops in a more efficient and environmentally friendly manner. The drill is rated on a per acre scale. For those interested in planting a large quantity of trees, the District has made a tree planter available. The planter is used behind any tractor with a three-point hitch.

### **Topographical Maps**

You may purchase topographical maps for Alpena County in our office. The maps show contour lines and symbols that represent such features as streets, buildings, streams, swamps, elevations and woods. There are twenty two maps covering Alpena County.

**Cost Share Dollars** The USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service may have cost share dollars available for tree planting practices under the Wildlife Habitat Improvement Program. Please submit applications by February 19<sup>th</sup> or for more information please contact the office at (989) 356-3596.