



# VILLAGE OF MEDINA

## MUNICIPAL TREE BOARD

600 MAIN STREET MEDINA, NEW YORK 14103

*Roots in the past, planting for the future."*

# One More Great Tree...

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One last note about great trees. It is worthy to note that by virtue of a Congressional bill, the United States has designated the oak as our national tree. Congress passed legislation so designating the oak in November 2004. The official recognition of oak as America's National Tree reflects a vote hosted by The National Arbor Day Foundation at its website, [arborday.org](http://arborday.org), in which Americans of all ages and from all walks of life helped choose the country's newest national symbol.

Advocates of the oak praised its diversity, with more than 60 species growing in the United States, making oaks America's most widespread hardwoods. Throughout America's history, oaks have been a part of many important events. In the annals of military history, "Old Ironsides," the USS Constitution, took its nickname from the strength of its live oak hull, famous for repelling British cannonballs.

In Medina, we have planted several varieties of oak, including Bur Oak, English Oak, Red Oak, Chinkapin Oak, and one of our favorites, the White Swamp Oak.

### ***Quercus bicolor* White Swamp Oak**

The Latin name *bicolor* refers to the distinctive two-colored appearance of the leaves: green on the upper surface, and whitish on the under surface. Also, unlike other oaks, the dark brown bark of branches peels away in ragged curls exposing the lighter colored bark beneath. It is a beautiful native tree with lustrous, heavy textured leaves with wavy margins. This rugged oak grows well in either upland, swampy areas, or poorly drained sites. The Swamp White Oak is a rapidly growing tree and may reach 300 to 350 years in age. It is hardy to zone 4 and can grow to 50' x 50'. It is a tremendous tree!



*Quercus bicolor* **White Swamp Oak**

Ohio Dept. Of Natural Resources

American Beauties Native Plants



*Quercus Rubra* **Northern Red Oak**

Oregon State Univ.





*Quercus muehlenbergii* **Chinkapin Oak**  
Oregon State Univ.



*Quercus robur* **English Oak**  
Oregon State Univ.