

SHUBENACADIE CANAL'S PLANT OF THE WEEK

Trembling Aspen

Populus tremuloides

The Trembling Aspen is a species of hardwood found in Nova Scotian forests. Another common name for this tree is Quaking Aspen. They're known as the fastest growing native hardwood species in in the province. At maturity these trees are 40 to 60 feet tall and can live up to 100 years. As far as living conditions go, this is the most widely distributed tree in North America as it can be found from Alaska to Mexico and almost everywhere in between.



The trees themselves have smooth pale grey bark that develops darker grey ridges. They have simple leaves which are dark green in summer months and change to bright yellow for fall. The leaves are round and flat and, even have a flattened stem. The slightest breeze sends the them into a trembling flutter, which helped give the tree its names.

Theses trees are important to many wildlife species for food and shelter. The wood has limited uses by humans as fuelwood and matches



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