

Pinus strobus

Eastern White Pine

Tried and True
Native Plant Selections
for the Mid-Atlantic

Eastern White Pine is the largest conifer of forests in the eastern and upper midwestern United States.* It is common in the Virginia mountains and is native to NoVA except to Arlington. It neither abides air pollution of urban and populated areas nor salt spray, but given the right environment and enough room to grow, this conifer will become a magnificent specimen.



Tree	Trees, Mature Bark, Foliage and Fruit
Height: 50–80 feet	
Spread: 30–50 feet	
Bloom Color: Yellow and red to purplish	
Characteristics	
Evergreen conifer with conical to irregular shape	 
Tufts of blue-green needles borne in feathery clusters of five at the ends of twigs	
Small yellow pollen & pink seed cones May-July	
Seed cones mature to brown 4–8” long Aug-Oct	
Central trunk; mature bark ridged and furrowed; tiered, horizontal branches—1 row added per year	
Attributes	
Sensitive to drought, intense heat, strong winds, salt, air pollution, heavy snow/ice, and some pests & diseases; deer seldom-to-frequently severely damage (saplings vulnerable if deer are overpopulated)	
Fast growing when young; can live a long time	
Winter interest	
Needles, rich in Vitamin C, make a good tisane	
Food/cover for wildlife; host to Eastern Pine Elfin	
Growing and Maintenance Tips	Excellent Replacement for
Soil Requirements: Moist, well-drained soil	<i>Cedrus atlantica</i> - Atlas Cedar
Light Requirements: Sun, Partial Shade	<i>Larix decidua</i> - European Larch
Water Requirements: Dry, Moist	<i>Picea abies</i> - Norway Spruce
Mature trees prefer full sun	<i>Pinus nigra</i> - Austrian Pine
Transplants well; easy to maintain	<i>Pinus sylvestris</i> - Scots Pine
Use as ornamental lawn tree for large landscapes	*It is native to DC; to MD's northern counties and those surrounding DC; and throughout PA. It is adventive in DE. In VA, it is infrequent in the Piedmont and rare in the Coastal Plain.
Hardiness: USDA Zones 3–8	

developed by Master Gardeners of Northern Virginia, serving Arlington and Alexandria

Images by Elaine Mills (top), U.S. National Arboretum and by Mary Free (bottom), Arlington