



Wilson's Nursery



Container Trees, Shrubs, Perennials?... **B&B Trees fresh-dug from the field?...**

Whatever your plant material needs are this Fall, we've got it all!

Please shoot your orders over to orders@wilsonsnurseryinc.com or call us at 952-353-2762 and we will get them pulled and ready to go! Pickup or Delivery available!

Whether we are your tried and true source, or you are new to working with us, we will always strive to provide you with the best quality plant material and customer service experience we can. We appreciate your business and are excited to close out this season with all of you. Thank you for continuing to trust us with your plant needs!



October Sale Alert!

Elm & River Birch Blowout Extravaganza!

All Elm & River Birch B&B: 40% OFF!

In tribute to this week's 'Connie's Corner' article, Inventory Manager, Call, decided he would like to slash prices on all Elm B&B by 40%! Has he lost his mind? (maybe), but that's to your benefit!

We asked him, "*Are you certain?*"

His response, "*Yeah! Throw in all River Birch single stem and clump B&B too!*"

So, here we are, with a robust inventory of some wonderful tree varieties at a great discount. Call the office (not Call, please) and get your orders in today!

OFFER GOOD FOR THE REST OF OCTOBER



Connie's Corner

Elms for the Future

by Connie Kratzke

I remember watching the Elms disappear near Detroit Lakes where I grew up. On our family farmstead there weren't really too many. They were parted out like every other dead tree and stacked up in the basement for furnace food. Dad immediately set about planting Hackberries in their places. He explained that there was a disease wiping out all of the Elms and that Hackberries shared many of the same characteristics and ecological benefits. That stuck in my young mind. While the casualties on the farm didn't get my attention, the loss of all of the boulevard trees in Moorhead did. The effect was surreal, like driving through a ghost town or landing on a distant planet. Nothing looked the same.

Dutch Elm Disease (DED) is a fungal pathogen that is vectored by a beetle. Female Elm Bark Beetles lay their eggs in dead or dying Elms and their offspring hasten the demise of infected trees and spread the virus to new victims. The DED fungus also produces mycelium that invades the root systems of affected and adjacent trees. To say the least, it's a bummer. That said, the trees "they are a changin'!"

Since the disease was introduced to America in 1920, a great deal has been learned. Bea Schwartz and Christine Buisman were Dutch scientists who discovered the DED pathogen. They inoculated trees and observed their resistance. The disease most likely originated in Asia, where there are many resistant Elm species. American Elm survivors in the landscape are believed to be either less appealing to the beetles or more capable of containing fungi. I learned a lot of this stuff at a talk Chad Giblin did at Northern Green several years ago. You can bet I had to dig out my notes today! What it all comes down to, is there are some beetle resistant and/or disease tolerant trees out there worth planting.

Generally speaking, the Asian hybrids are considered resistant because they are less appealing to Elm Bark Beetles. 'Accolade', 'Triumph' and 'New Horizon' are all examples. 'Accolade' has been around for a long time and

'Triumph' has too. I have always really liked Triumph because it has that Broccoli shape that the Elms of my childhood had. 'Accolade' is vigorous and a little crazy. If you are looking for a fast-growing shade tree, look no further. 'New Horizon' has very good disease resistance, a compact form and a shape that mimics the late-great, iconic Elms of yore.

Most DED resistant American Elms are actually more tolerant than resistant. They get the disease and wall it off. These warrior trees produce tyloses and phenolics and scientific mumbo jumbo to help contain the spread of their infections. Such defensive responses can also produce the symptom of wilt, as vascular blockages prevent the movement of both fungi and water. That said, some cultivars multitask and live to tell about it.

'St. Croix' is a selection from Afton, MN that Mark Stennes introduced in 2008. 'Prairie Expedition®' (Ulmus americana 'Lewis & Clark' RFM-37) is another fairly recent release which hit the market in 2004 to commemorate the 200th anniversary of the Lewis & Clark Expedition. 'Valley Forge' was selected in Delaware, Ohio in 1995. 'New Harmony' hit the market at the same time. We think of these trees as being new, but they are just underutilized. The original 'Jefferson' Elm is a resident of the National Mall in Washington, DC, where it was planted in the '30's. 'Princeton' is an old survivor with roots in Chicago. A modest spreader, its canopy seldom exceeds 40 feet. 'Prairie Expedition®' and 'New Harmony' also stay slightly more compact, at sixty feet tall and wide. 'St. Croix' can achieve massive size in minimal time and is awesome at providing rapid shade. 'Valley Forge' and 'Jefferson' are both oblong, reaching higher than they stretch.

So, why should you plant Elms now? They can still get the virus and they may lose a limb or two over it. Still, these rugged clones shrug off their injuries and build new armor. (I can only recall one DED fatality of resistant trees in my 20+ years of paying attention. Those trees were planted in an area where there was an active infestation/epidemic.) Elms tolerate salt, alkalinity, wetness, dryness and compaction. They are host plants for dozens of butterflies and dwelling sites for Baltimore Orioles. We want them back because we remember what they gave us before. The ambiance that intertwining canopies created as we traveled through their tunnels into sunsets beyond exists in our memories. Massive arms around us in a comforting embrace as we made our daily ways. Future generations should feel that. We can make it so!



Triumph Elm 2" BB



New Horizon Elm 3.5" BB

Follow us on Social Media:

We would love if you gave us a follow on our Social Media pages. You will find carefully curated and wonderful photographs from around the farm. If they inspire the desire to come out and tour the farm, just let us know! We love having people out to see what we have going on.



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Summer Hours of Operation
Monday-Friday 7:30am-4:00pm
Open House (save the date!)
September 28th

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