

EASTERN WHITE PINE

Pinus strobus

Eastern White Pine is the largest of the northeastern conifers. From the beginning of logging in this country, it has been a most valuable species. White Pine grows from 80-100 feet in height and 2-3 feet in diameter. The largest recorded tree was 220' tall by 6' in diameter. Small trees have broadly conical crowns. As the tree matures, the crowns are composed of several nearly horizontal or ascending branches, gracefully plum-like in outline and very distinctive in comparison with other associated conifers. The long graceful horizontal branches are irregular in outline. Eastern White Pine grows on many different sites from dry rocky ridges to wet sphagnum bogs. Eastern White Pines have reached ages of over 500 years and are found in old growth forests in northern Pennsylvania.

The cones are large in size from 4-8 inches in length, slender, with thin scales, and often dotted with sap. The trees start to produce cones at an early age, but good seed production occurs when the trees are 20-30 years old. The 4" long needles are straight, slender, and form triangular clusters angled toward branch tips.



The mature bark is dark gray, often tinged with purple and slightly to conspicuously furrowed.



Four mature Eastern White Pine grow along the western side of Trinity Ave. close to the Market St. wall, and a line of seven mature Eastern White Pine grow on the eastern side of Trinity Ave. from 14th Street east toward 12th Street. As part of the Arbor Day plantings of 2012, six Eastern White Pine were planted to the east of the chapel on Mt. Laurel Avenue about where 13th St. would intersect the property.

