LITTLELEAF LINDEN

Tilia cordata

This species, native to Europe, is popular as a shade tree for streets, parking lots, and spacious lawns. It has a tolerance to heat and compacted soil. Its name is misleading with some thinking it is a small tree, but it is not. Its height is 60°-80° with widths of 35°-55°. Its crown is conical in youth, changing to ovate with dense branching with maturity. Its leaves are heart shaped, dark shiny green in summer and yellow-green or yellow in fall. Its flower is yellowish, pendulous clusters, very fragrant and attractive to bees. Its fruit is globose nutlets with bracts.

One Littleleaf Linden, wearing a bird's nest, was planted in the corner of the triangular section of land closest to the carriage house (Section 5) at the corner of Valley Rd. and West Lake Dr. in 2003, as part of the Arbor Day tree replacement program. A second Littleleaf Linden was planted on Arbor Day 2012 to replace the American Basswood that had toppled over because of a blocked drain. It was planted on the corner of Mt. Laurel Ave. and West Lake Dr.; however, shortly thereafter, someone broke the baby tree in half. A replacement was planted on Arbor Day 2013. This one is surviving rather well. The bottom left picture shows the baby in the foreground, with the 2011 Littleleaf in the back-





ground to the left, and a American Basswood bush to the right of the baby where the mature one had fallen. A small, but mature Littleleaf Linden is at the northeast section of the Maplewood Ave. loop, slightly behind a large Sugar Maple.







