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Quaking Aspen

Populus tremuloides

Growing Information

- Plant Type: Tree
- Sunlight: Sun to Part Shade
- Soils: Dry to Moist
- Bloom Time: Small catkins in spring
- Size: 40-80ft in height and 10-20ft spread

Quaking aspen has many stunning ornamental features, such as bright yellow/golden fall foliage, and distinctive white bark with grayish black “eyes.” Like other aspens, the leaves rustle wildly in the wind. This is because the leaves of aspen trees feature a flattened petiole, the stem that attaches leaves to twigs. This petiole allows the leaf to flex more easily with the wind, preventing wind damage during intense storms.

Garden Companions

Teaberry (*Gaultheria procumbens*), Golden Groundsel (*Packera aurea*)

Nature Benefits

- Larval host to the great ash sphinx moth (*Sphinx chersis*), eastern tiger swallowtail butterfly (*Papilio glaucus*) and viceroy butterfly (*Limenitis archippus*).

Natural Habitat

Forest edges, shrublands and thickets.