American Elm

Ulmus americana

-I believe that the American Elm is one of the trees that can give you the biggest bang for your buck due to the fact that it is fast growing and very long lived. A single American Elm can reach heights of 85 feet and have a diameter of 3 ½ feet

-Contrary to popular thought, the American Elm is still growing in North Central Wisconsin. It was certainly decimated by Dutch Elm Disease in the later part of the 20th Century, but it is making a nice rebound and is not in threat of extinction.

-The American Elm is very much at home in the floodplains of Wisconsin. It is a very versatile tree. It can grow in well or poorly drained sites.

-If you have an area that is frequently flooded in the spring, the American Elm would be a winner to plant there.

-Before Dutch Elm Disease was introduced, the American Elm was considered the ideal street tree. In fact it was one of the most prominent street trees of Wisconsin, Michigan, and Minnesota. There is a simple reason for this. Not only does it provide a wonderful amount of shade, but also the graceful habit of the tree is such that it does not grow outwards to block a cherished view or get in the way.

-In a mixed planting with full sun, elms combine well with Hackberry and Silver Maple.

-Recently disease-resistant selections of American Elm (and interspecies crosses) are being made and they would be good choices for shoreland restoration plantings.

A thing is right when it tends to preserve the integrity, stability, and beauty of the biotic community, and it is wrong when it tends otherwise.

-Aldo Leopold