

# Sugar Maple

*Acer saccharum*

-The Sugar Maple is Wisconsin's State Tree. It can grow in extreme shade and is very long lived. If you plan to keep your shoreland property in the family for generations, why not plant a tree that has the ability to be around for a long time. Plant with some Red Oaks and Canadian Hemlock on slightly acidic soils, or with Basswood and Yellow Birch on neutral sites, for a wonderful canopy of valuable wildlife food that will around for hundreds and hundreds of years. The Sugar Maple can grow to heights of 75 feet and have a diameter of 2 feet.

-The fall colors of the Sugar Maple are absolutely breath taking; far prettier than its cousin, the Red Maple.

-Why not try your hand at making some homemade maple syrup.

-Do you have a hard time telling a Sugar Maple from a Red Maple, then try this little trick? Look at the sinuses of the leaves. This is the most inward part of the leaf margin. If the margin looks like a "V", then it is a Red Maple. If it looks like a "U", then it is a Sugar Maple. Well, that's all nice and good, but how do you remember it. Well, just remember, "Sugar is sweet and so are 'U'".



**A sense of history should be the most precious gift of science and of the arts...**

**-Aldo Leopold**