**News Release: Feb. 28, 2014**

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**Whatever the need, Clements State Tree Nursery has the tree**

WEST COLUMBIA,W.Va. – Trees are like people - they all have special talents. Some trees are tall and have valuable wood. Others produce vivid fall foliage or wildlife-friendly fruits or nuts, while some species work hard to keep soil out of streams and stream banks in place.

The sugar maple, West Virginia’s official state tree, is slow growing and can attain a height of 100 feet or more. Also known as hard maple, this tree is used extensively by the lumber industry in flooring and furniture. Maple syrup and maple sugar are produced from the sap of this tree, and each fall, the leaves turn brilliant shades of red, yellow and orange.

Red maple, on the other hand, is known as soft maple. It is one of the most common trees in the state and can reach heights of up to 100 feet. In spring, red maple buds are a food source for squirrels, and, in fall, the tree’s leaves turn brilliant red. The red maple is a popular ornamental tree and is able to withstand harsh urban conditions. This hardy tree is adaptable to a wide range of soils, from rocky uplands to bottomlands and swamps.

Oaks are versatile trees used for everything from wood products like lumber and tannin to shade for people and food for animals. Although it is slow growing, white oak is one of the most valuable timber trees in the state. White oak wood is used in lumber and veneer, and its acorns make excellent mast for livestock and wildlife.

Another valuable forest tree is the black walnut. Black walnut wood is free from warping, able to take high polish and very durable. Lumber from the black walnut tree is used for furniture, cabinets, gunstocks and veneer.

A black walnut tree can make a great addition to a landscaping project for several reasons. Black walnuts grow quickly and are good for filling empty spaces. These trees grow tall – often 70 to 100 feet – and must be planted in areas where they do not compete with overhead utility lines. In September, the leaves turn yellow, letting everyone know that autumn is fast approaching.

The minimum seed-bearing age for the black walnut is 12 years. After that time, it can become an excellent source of edible nuts for both humans and wildlife. Squirrels especially enjoy black walnuts and often gather them up before the tree’s owners can.

Black locust and European black alder aren’t the tallest or prettiest trees in the forest, but they are very important to the environment. These hardworking trees help keep stream banks in place and soil out of streams. Both trees are excellent for planting in areas where the surface has been disturbed through mining or other practices.

Clements State Tree Nursery sells these species and a variety of others. All trees are bare-root seedlings and are 1 to 2 years old. Seedlings are sold in bundles of 25, and can be mailed directly to the customer or picked up at the nursery. Clements State Tree Nursery is located in West Columbia, W.Va., on W.Va. Rt. 62 just 11 miles north of Point Pleasant.

Prices depend on the number of seedlings ordered, and there is a 30 percent discount offered on orders of 5,000 or more. When ordering, please specify requested delivery date and nursery staff will do their best to meet that date.

Order online at [www.wvcommerce.org/ClementsNursery](http://www.wvcommerce.org/ClementsNursery) or call 304-675-1820. Order forms can be printed from the website and mailed to Clements State Tree Nursery, 624 Forestry Drive, West Columbia, WV 25287.

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