



Champion Tree Contest

Celebrate Arbor Day (April 28th, 2017) by entering the East Amwell Ag Advisory Committee's Champion Tree Contest

Who: Any resident of East Amwell may participate in the contest.

What: Nominate trees with the potential to become Champions or Runner's Up based on their size or trees with historical or significance other than size.

When: Nominations must be received no later than July 31st, 2017 and will be submitted to the New Jersey Champion Tree registry for evaluation.

Where: Identify potential Champions on East Amwell Township municipal park lands, in the Hunterdon County Preserve within the boundaries of East Amwell Township, on private property within East Amwell Township*.

** Do not trespass on private property, always get permission first!*

How: Find more information including how to measure a potential Champion Tree on the East Amwell Township website (eastamwelltownship.com), under the Events section on East Amwell's Community Facebook page or contact the East Amwell Ag Advisory Committee Secretary at sbrighthaupt@eastamwelltownship.com.

East Amwell Agricultural Advisory Committee Champion Tree Project

- Nominate trees with the potential to become the next champions by measuring the tree and checking the New Jersey Big Tree registry to see if your tree may be a contender.
- Trees of special interest:

<u>Botanical Name</u>	<u>Common Name</u>
<i>Acer Saccharinum</i>	Silver Maple
<i>Acer Saccharum</i>	Sugar Maple
<i>Carpinus Caroliniana</i>	Ironwood
<i>Cornus Florida</i>	Eastern Dogwood
<i>Fagus Grandiflora</i>	American Beech
<i>Platanus Occidentalis</i>	American Sycamore
<i>Quercus Alba</i>	White Oak

- Find the list of current Champion Trees at:
http://www.state.nj.us/dep/parksandforests/forest/community/bigtree_registry.html
- Historic trees can be nominated that not necessarily have the size but have distinct historical facts.
- No trespassing on private property. Get permission from landowners before entering private land.

Resources for identifying trees

- <http://www.oplin.org/tree/leaf/byleaf.html>
- <https://www.arboday.org/trees/whatTree/whatTree.cfm?ItemID=E6A>
- <http://leafsnap.com/> mobile app

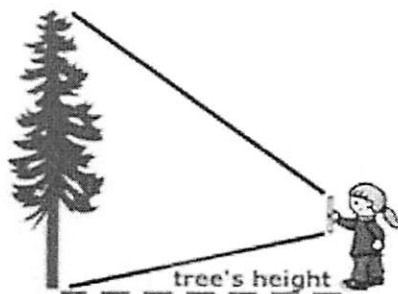
How to measure Big Trees

- Champion candidate trees are evaluated by Total Points
- Total Points = Circumference of trunk (inches) + tree height (feet) + 1/4 average crown spread (feet)

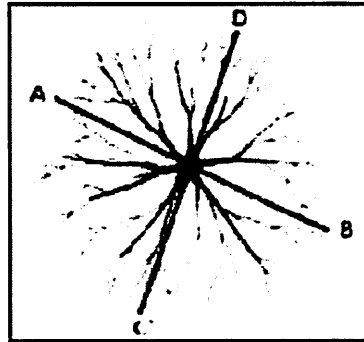
How to measure the circumference: Measure the circumference of the tree at 4 1/2 feet off the ground in inches, or if the tree sits on a slope, 4 1/2 feet from the uphill side.

How to measure tree height:

1. Hold a stick or ruler at its base vertically, making certain that the length of the stick above your hand equals the distance from your hand to your eye.
2. Move away from the tree keeping the base of the trunk above your hand.
3. Stop when the top of the stick is level with the top of the tree.
4. You should be looking over your hand at the base of the tree and, moving only your eyes, looking over the top of your stick at the top of your tree.
5. Measure how far you are from the tree measurement - in feet - is the tree's height.



How to measure crown spread: Pace off the approximate distance in feet at its widest and narrowest. Add the two measurements together and divide by two to find the average crown spread in feet.



Find more information on how to measure at:

http://www.state.nj.us/dep/parksandforests/forest/community/how_to_measure.htm

How to submit a nomination

The following criteria needs to be submitted along with a picture of the tree:

- Common and scientific name of tree
- Circumference in inches
- Height in feet
- Crown spread in feet
- Nominator of tree and date submitted
- Location of tree (include map, if possible)
- Landowner's name, address and telephone number (if possible)
- Nominator's name, address and telephone number

Submit entries no later than July 13st, 2017 to:

East Amwell Ag Advisory Committee
Champion Tree Contest
1070 Route 202/31
Ringoes, NJ 08551

Qualifying nominators will be contacted in September when the nominations are submitted to the State of New Jersey for evaluation.