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# North Dakota Tree Selector

## General

**Scientific Name:** *Thuja occidentalis*

**Family:** Cupressaceae (Cypress)

**Hardiness:** Zone 3

**Leaves:** Evergreen

**Plant Type:** Tree

## Growth

**Rate:** Slow

**Mature Height:** 25'-45'

**Longevity:** Medium

**Power Line:** No

## Ornamental

**Flowers:** Inconspicuous

**Fruit:** Small tan cones

**Fall Color:** n/a

## American Arborvitae

### Description

A small to medium upright tree with a stout, buttressed trunk, native to Minnesota. Compact dwarf cultivars are widely used in landscapes. The tree is hardy in all zones but prefers a semi-moist site. Other common names are northern whitecedar and eastern arborvitae. An uncertain combination of winter conditions may cause infrequent winter injury in the Northern United States. The largest tree in North Dakota is 45 feet tall with a canopy spread of 30 feet. Compatibility with power lines depends on the variety that is planted.

### Preferences

**Light:** Full sun to partial shade.

**Water:** Grows in average, moist soils.

**Soil:** Neutral to alkaline soils.

### Comments

American Arborvitae does not do well on windy, exposed sites and may suffer damage during ice or heavy snow storms.

Over 120 cultivated varieties are available including dwarf, blue, yellow and compact varieties.

