

Pin Oak (*Quercus palustris*)

Origin: Native in most of Illinois, including our area.

Status in Park: Rare, primarily small trees.

Characteristics: Large tree, up to 100 feet tall and 3 feet in diameter; crown narrowly rounded or oblong, but with lower branches drooping; trunk straight, but with pin-like stubs developing rather low on the trunk; bark light or dark brown, scarcely furrowed; buds pointed, reddish brown or dark gray, smooth, up to 1/8 inch long; flowers are either male or female but both are present on the same tree, tiny and without petals; fruits are acorns, 1-4 in a bunch, hemispherical, up to 1/2 inch across, pale-brown, with cap covering less than 1/4 of the nut.

Leaves: Alternate, simple; up to 7 inches long; blades divided more than half way to the middle into 5 to 7 bristle-tipped lobes; dark green, shiny and more or less smooth on the upper surface, paler and with tufts of hairs along the veins on the undersurface.



Location of tagged tree:



Notes: Valuable timber species. High-quality lumber, used for furniture, cabinets, veneer, and paneling.