

Tuliptree (*Liriodendron tulipifera*)

Origin: Native to eastern and southern Illinois. Not found naturally in our area but survives well in our climate and is frequently planted in yards.

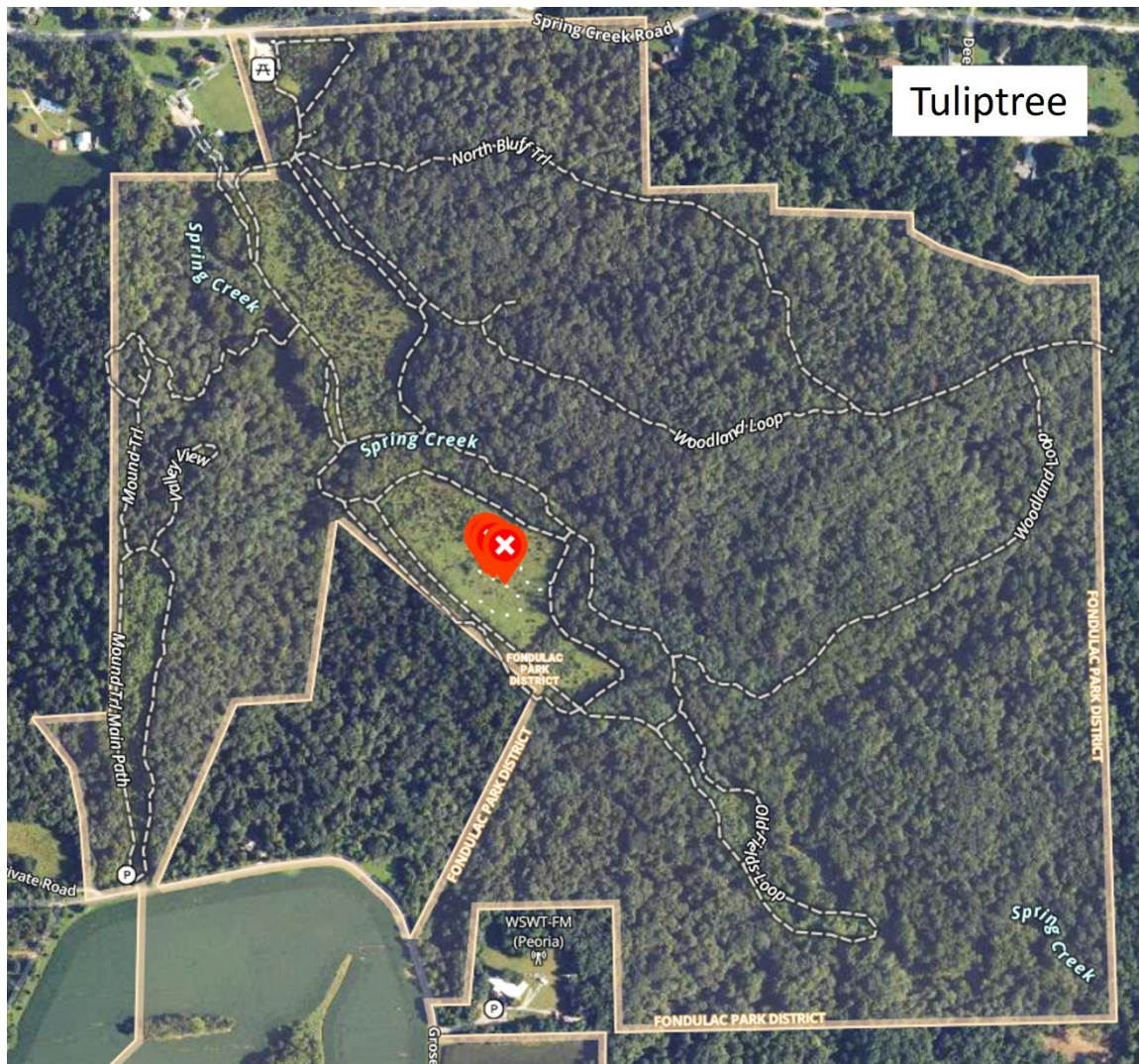
Status in Park: Rare. Several are known in the park but are far from trails. They probably grew from seeds that came from neighboring properties.

Characteristics: Large tree, up to 120 feet tall and 4 feet in diameter; crown oblong, from a long, columnar trunk; bark grayish, becoming deeply furrowed with age; twigs smooth, reddish brown; flowers are about 2 inches long, cup-shaped, with 6 yellow-green petals with orange bases, which surround a cone-shaped cluster of pistils, opening in May; fruit an aggregate of winged samaras, about 2 ½ inches long

Leaves: Alternate, simple; blades averaging 4 to 6 inches long and broad; blades divided into 4 broad lobes, the upper 2 lobes usually with a conspicuous notch between them; bright green and smooth, with smooth borders.



Location of tagged trees:



Notes: Wood soft, durable, yellowish green; a valuable timber species, used for lumber, veneer, plywood, cabinets, interior finishing.