

Birch, River

Betula nigra

- **Deciduous**
- **Medium sized tree, 50' to 70'**
- **Rounded to irregular crown**
- **Many are multi-stemmed**
- **Medium to fast growth rate**
- **Requires full sun, moist soil**
- **Makes best growth on moist river bottom soil, but has proven to be adaptable to dried sites**

- **Leaves are lustrous medium or dark green**
- **Somewhat diamond-shaped**
- **Yellow leaves drop quickly in the fall**

- **Bark develops creamy orange that exfoliates in large thin sheets; bark is showy**
- **On very old trunks and branches bark turns brown and develops ridges and furrows**

- **Shade is light and allows turf to grow**

- **Useful along streams, in naturalistic areas**
- **Good for showy bark, especially during dormant season**



