



**Large Trees**

This sugar maple diagonally across from the Rock School on Route 183 has a circumference of 15 feet 10 inches.



**Scenic Trees**

Beyond Phelps meadow on the east side of Route 183 are stands of white pine.



**Variety Trees**

This black locust in the Town Center is one of 84 different native and non-native trees identified in our 2006 Colebrook survey.



**Historic Trees**

Named in 1787 for its 13 main branches representing the 13 original American colonies, the Colonial Pine in North Colebrook has seven branches remaining today and a circumference of 16 feet 3 inches, a limb spread of 47 feet and a height of 120 feet.

**LEGEND**

- Scenic trees
- Historic trees
- Large trees
- Variety trees
- Views

**ROADS**

- With power lines
- No power lines
- Private roads
- Peaks



**Colebrook's Notable Trees**

- Scenic Trees**
- 1 Row of large hemlocks across Sandy Brook.
  - 2 "Happy's Pines" in the Kitchel Wilderness.
  - 3 Full canopy of trees on roads without power lines or where trees provide a canopy atop power lines: (a) the top of Deer Hill Road, (b) Rockwell Road from the Center to the Lily Pond, (c) Bunnell Street from Phelps Road north about two-tenths of a mile, (d) parts of Sandy Brook Road, (e) Phelps Flat Road, (f) Pisgah Mountain Road, (g) Beech Hill Road from Sandy Brook Road to the next bridge, (h) Beech Hill Road down from Chapin Road to Route 8, and (j) Church Hill Road.
  - 4 Row of spruce trees on Route 8 in Robertsville.
  - 5 Show of trees lining Sandy Brook and Still River as seen from the bridges in Robertsville.
  - 6 Oak trees along Gaylord Road.

- 7 Row of Japanese dogwood trees just west of the intersection of Smith Hill and Deer Hill roads.
- 8 Japanese maple at the intersection of Smith Hill and Deer Hill roads.
- 9 White willow at the corner of Smith Hill and Bricklemaier roads.
- 10 Two very tall white pines on the ridge, looking north across the first vista on Smith Hill Road up from Deer Hill Road.
- 11 Sugar maples on the west side of Smith Hill Road.
- 12 Sugar maples in the fields on the east side of Smith Hill Road.
- 13 Two spruce trees on the east side of the Colebrook Church and one beside the Colebrook Store.
- 14 Flowering crabapples on the road to the recreation area.
- 15 Sugar maples on Center Brook Road and the lone larch on the island in Center Brook.

- Historic Trees**
- 1 "Colonial Pine" in North Colebrook, named in 1787 for its 13 main branches, representing the 13 original colonies.
  - 2 On Eno Hill, an Asian-American chestnut whose relative, the American chestnut, so versatile historically, was virtually eradicated by a blight in the early decades of the 20th century.

- Large Trees**
- 1 Sugar maple diagonally across from the Rock School on Route 183 with a circumference of 15 feet 10 inches, a branch spread of 54 feet and an estimated height of 55 feet.
  - 2 White pine on Sandy Brook Road, just east of the Town Garage, with a 12-foot 2-inch circumference, a limb spread of 58 feet and stands 135 feet tall.

- 3 In front of the Colebrook Historical Society, an oak grown from a second-generation acorn of the famed Charter Oak in Hartford.
- 4 In the Town Center, many fine old sugar maples planted soon after the Civil War.
- 5 In the Hale forest, sugar maples and white birch of great age.
- 6 On Phelps Road, a black walnut reputed to be the oldest such tree in Colebrook with a circumference of 9 feet 10 inches, a branch spread of 85 feet and an estimated height of 70 feet.
- 3 Smooth bark hickory on Moses Road with a circumference of 4 feet 6 1/2 inches, a branch spread of 32 feet and an estimated height of 70 feet.
- 4 Horse chestnut on Chapin Road planted in 1937.
- 5 Black tupelo growing on the north side of the sphagnum swamp in the Algonquin State Forest with a circumference of 6 feet 3 1/2 inches, an estimated branch spread of 30-35 feet and an estimated height of 55 feet.
- 6 Off of Deer Hill Road, tulip-tree with a circumference of 9 feet 7 inches and a grove of tulip-trees whose circumferences all exceed 8 1/2 feet.
- 7 Two ash trees on Millbrook Road have circumferences of 16 feet 4 inches and 15 feet 7 inches.
- 8 Striped maple near Rockwell Road with a circumference of 24 inches, a height of 35 feet and a limb spread of 20 feet.

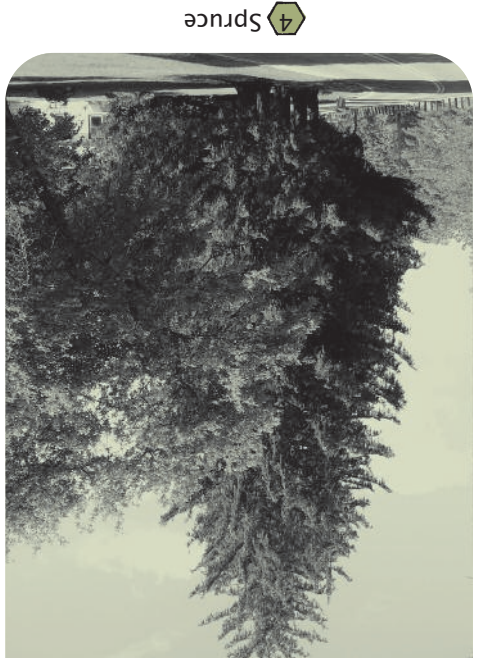
- Variety Trees**
- 1 Sycamore (buttonball) (*Platanus occidentalis*), Route 8 in Robertsville.
  - 2 Norway maple (*Acer platanoides*), intersection of Old Creamery and Old Forge roads.
  - 3 American elm (*Ulmus americana*), corner of Robertsville and Old Creamery roads.
  - 4 Pin oak (*Quercus palustris*), Robertsville Road.
  - 5 Black locust (*Robinia pseudo-acacia*), Colebrook Road.
  - 6 European linden (*Tilia europaea*), Pinney Street.
  - 7 Ironwood (hop hornbeam) (*Ostrya virginiana*), Route 183, near the Church in the Wildwood.



4 Horse Chestnut  
— Woody Allen  
Embraceable you in spats.  
Of a moose singing  
with the possible exception  
the most remarkable,  
a tree in summer is perhaps  
Of all the wonders of nature,



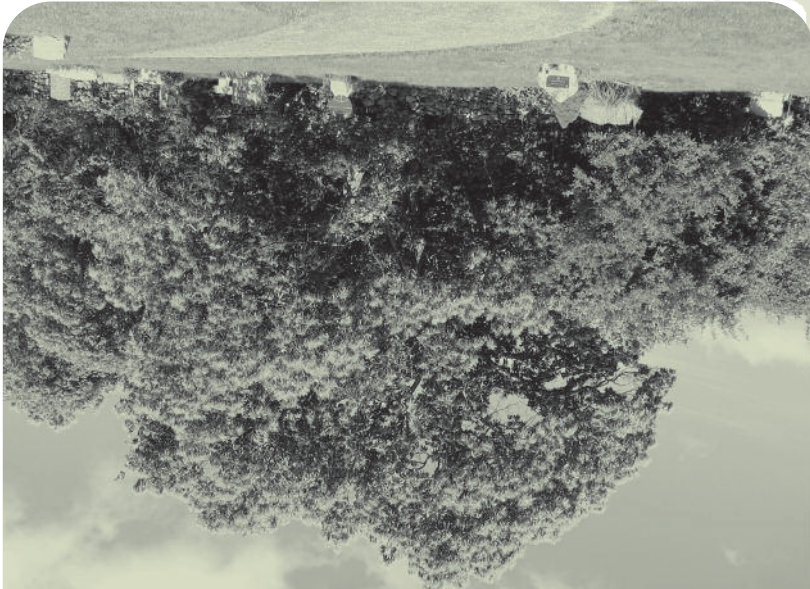
18 Weeping willows



7 Spruce



1 Sycamore



2 Asian-American chestnut



5 Black locust

Holy Mother  
Earth, the trees  
and all nature, are  
witnesses of your  
thoughts and  
deeds.  
— Anonymous:  
Native North American

Change in Forest  
Composition  
According to a survey  
done in 1760, there were  
19 varieties of trees in  
Colebrook. The majority  
of the forest (81%) was  
comprised of beech  
(45.5%), hemlock  
(24.75%) and maple  
(11.1%). Beech and  
hemlock grow well in  
shade, which indicates  
here at that time  
Colebrook is included in  
the Northwest Highlands  
of Connecticut, which  
differs from the rest of  
the area. Our native  
forest was clear-cut at  
least twice, resulting in  
a different mix from the  
original. A major change  
came in the early  
decades of the 1900s  
with the decline of the  
chestnuts. Today, it is  
comprised mostly of  
hardwoods and is  
changing to mainly  
maple and oak, which  
thrive in more light.  
This indicates a forest  
less dense than it was  
250 years ago.

I think that I shall never see  
A poem lovely as a tree.  
I think that I shall never see  
Indeed, unless the billboards fall  
I ll never see a tree at all.  
— Joyce Kilmer

# Colebrook's Notable Trees Map

The Colebrook  
Land Conservancy

Large · Historic · Variety · Scenic



 **The Colebrook  
Land Conservancy**

P.O. Box 90, Colebrook, CT 06021

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Designed by Linda Goldsmith Design, Harwinton, CT

Cover, left to right: red oak, white pine,  
yellow birch, white ash, maple.

## A Wealth of Trees

Legendary frontiersman Johnny "Appleseed" Chapman probably said it best: *Nothing gives more yet asks less in return than a tree.* In Colebrook, trees contribute to our town's rural beauty. They offer places for relaxation and recreation. They provide food and shelter for wildlife. They improve our air and water quality, save on energy costs, and help reduce global warming.

With the goal of bringing attention to the importance of trees to our everyday life, the Colebrook Land Conservancy has identified, with the help of our members and friends, our town's special trees. We hope this survey serves as a basis for a tree maintenance and replacement program. We need to watch our trees, particularly those under threat, such as hemlocks, beeches, ashes, maples and birches, and be ready to intervene if they show signs of insect infestation or disease. The trees on town property should be regularly examined and provided with optimal conditions for health and growth. It's an effort requiring the cooperation of the people of Colebrook, but aren't our trees worth it?

The Colebrook Land Conservancy thanks those who participated in our survey and the State of Connecticut's Department of Environmental Protection that helped make this project possible with an America the Beautiful grant. Special thanks to Colebrook Land Conservancy Trustees Leelaine Picker and Robert Grigg, who is also Town Historian, for bringing this endeavor to life.

For a fuller discussion of our town's special trees, please see the Colebrook Land Conservancy's booklet, "Colebrook's Notable Trees."

The clearest way into the Universe is  
through a forest wilderness.

— John Muir



5 Old Forge Bridge Scene



2 Happy's Pines



5 Black tupelo

Tree at my window, window tree,  
My sash is lowered when night comes on,  
But let there never be curtain drawn  
Between you and me.  
— Robert Frost

