



SOUTH NATION  
**CONSERVATION**  
DE LA NATION SUD

## Eastern White Cedar (*Thuja occidentalis*) G+1.5

### Type

Coniferous tree

### Size and Shape

Small tree, typically up to **15 m. tall** and **30 cm. in diameter**. **The tree should be planted at a minimal distance of 4 m. from utility wires.**

Open grown trees: crown long, narrow, dense, conical, almost columnar, reaching up to a **spread of 4 m. in diameter**.

Forest grown trees: trunk visible through the open irregular crown; stubs of dead branches on the lower part. Root system is shallow and wide-spreading.

This evergreen produces male and female cones (male cones are 1-2 mm long, female cones are 7-12 mm long at branch tips).

### Edible Species?

No

### Distribution and Habitat

General and abundant distribution in Ontario. Found in marshy environments, organic soils, rocky cliffs and limestone terrain.

### Wildlife

Important shelter for wildlife, providing cool habitat in summer and warmer in winter. Cones are an important food source for birds and mammals, especially in winter. Tender leaves often browsed by white-tailed deer.



*Eastern White Cedar in open environment*

### Light Exposure

Full sun (6 hrs direct light daily),  
Partial sun/shade (4-6 hrs light daily),  
Full shade (4 hrs or less of light daily)

### Soil Preference

Very variable from coarse to fine soils.

### Drought Conditions

Tolerant

### Poor Drainage

Tolerant

### Salt Spray

Low tolerance

### Disease, Pests and Problems

Few pathological and entomological problems.

### Rural uses

Reforestation, timber plantations, and wildlife plantings for browse and cover. Slow growing. Grows well with White Pine, Balsam Fir, and Sugar Maple.

### Urban Uses

Common hedges and windbreaks. Shade. Easily pruned.