



# BIG TREE CHAMPIONS CONTEST

In honor of Arbor Day, the Homer Glen Environment Committee is looking for the biggest trees in the Village of Homer Glen. Nominations for every species of living tree that exists are encouraged to be submitted. Verification of measurement will be made by the Environment Committee. The largest tree of each species (such as maple, oak, pine, etc.) will receive recognition. Residents and stakeholders are encouraged to search in forests, parks, and private property with permission of the property owner in the Village of Homer Glen.

## RULES and GUIDELINES

If any tree is larger than those listed on the current Illinois Big Tree Register, the tree will be submitted for nomination.

- A maximum of five nominations may be submitted by an individual.
- If the tree identification is not known, the tree measurement and location may be submitted.
- Guidelines for measuring trees must be followed.
- Photographs are encouraged but are not necessary.
- Applications must be submitted by May 1, 2026.

## MEASUREMENT INSTRUCTIONS

Trees are to be measured using a flexible tape measure. The circumference of the tree is to be measured at four and one half (4 ½) feet from ground level. If the tree forks at or below 4 ½ feet, record the smallest trunk circumference below the lowest fork. Record the height at which the measurement was taken.

### CURRENT BIG TREE CHAMPIONS as of 2025 *(circumference measurement in inches)*

American Linden - 74"	Hedge Apple – 133 ¾"	Shingle Oak – 81.5"
Ash - 91"	Hop Hornbeam - 30.5"	Silver Maple - 166"
Bald Cypress - 70"	Jack Pine - 60"	Slippery Elm - 69"
Black Maple - 102.96"	Japanese Maple - 35"	Sugar Maple - 159"
Black Walnut - 146.5"	Locust – 129"	Swamp White Oak - 182"
Blue Spruce – 55.25"	Musclewood - 11"	Sweet Gum - 57"
Burr Oak - 173"	Norway Maple – 69"	Sycamore – 112"
Catalpa – 119"	Norway Spruce – 100"	Tulip Tree - 94.5"
Common Buckeye - 50"	Pin Oak – 130"	Weeping Willow – 167.5"
Crab Apple - 35"	Red Maple - 65"	Mulberry – 127"
Eastern Cottonwood - 138"	Red Oak - 143"	White Oak – 151"
Gray Poplar - 141.5"	River Birch - 46"	White Pine - 67.5"
Hard Maple - 99"	Shagbark Hickory - 65.5"	Wild Black Cherry - 102"



# Big Tree Champions 2026 Application

Submission Deadline May 1, 2026

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

TREE SUBMITTED SPECIES \_\_\_\_\_

LOCATION \_\_\_\_\_

MEASURED AT 4 ½ FEET FROM GROUND    YES            NO

MEASURED BELOW FORK (See Instructions)    YES            NO

Circumference Measured \_\_\_\_\_

PHOTOGRAPH SUBMITTED    YES            NO

Use another sheet of paper if more information is to be shared.

A separate application should be submitted for each tree.

Submit Application to Dana Kahn at [dkahn@homerglenil.org](mailto:dkahn@homerglenil.org)

Or drop off/mail to: **Village of Homer Glen, 14240 West 151<sup>st</sup> Street, Homer Glen, IL 60491**

For more information call 708-301-0632

