



# North Carolina Champion Big Tree Program

SEND TO:  
NC Forest Service  
Attn: Big Tree Coordinator  
1616 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, NC 27699-1616

Nomination and Measurement Record (refer to instructions on back for Nomination and Measurement procedures)

Common Name: \_\_\_\_\_

tree code \_\_\_\_\_

Scientific Name: \_\_\_\_\_

tree ID \_\_\_\_\_

### 1. MEASUREMENTS:

Circumference at 4 1/2': \_\_\_\_\_ (inches)

Total Height: \_\_\_\_\_ (feet)

Avg. Crown Spread: \_\_\_\_\_ (feet)

### For Coordinator's Use Only:

Date received: \_\_\_\_\_ Total Points \_\_\_\_\_

Status/date: Champion \_\_\_\_\_

Co-champ \_\_\_\_\_

Not champ \_\_\_\_\_

Detroned \_\_\_\_\_

2. DATE Measured: \_\_\_\_\_ Measurement instruments used: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Month Day Year)

3. MEASURED BY: \_\_\_\_\_ (Name) \_\_\_\_\_ (phone number)  
\_\_\_\_\_ (Address) \_\_\_\_\_ (email address)

4. NOMINATED BY: \_\_\_\_\_ (Name) \_\_\_\_\_ (phone number)  
\_\_\_\_\_ (Address) \_\_\_\_\_ (email address)

5. LOCATION of Tree: \_\_\_\_\_ County and Nearest Town  
Latitude \_\_\_\_\_ North Longitude \_\_\_\_\_ West

6. DIRECTIONS to reach the tree site: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Make available to public? Yes No

7. CONDITION of tree: \_\_\_\_\_

8. OWNER of tree: \_\_\_\_\_ (Name) \_\_\_\_\_ (phone number)  
\_\_\_\_\_ (Address) \_\_\_\_\_ (email address)

9. REMARKS (about nominated tree): \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

10. PHOTOGRAPH Notes (i.e. photo 1 – overall view, photo 2 – top of tree) \_\_\_\_\_

By submitting a photograph you state that you are either the owner of the photograph, or have obtained permission from the owner, and are granting full-time rights to NC Forest Service to use these photographs in any NC Forest Service publication and on its Website without any fees.



## HOW DO I NOMINATE A BIG TREE?

To nominate a tree for the North Carolina Champion Big Tree Program, contact your local County Ranger. Each tree needs a separate nomination form and all nominations will be accepted with a complete nomination form that includes the following information:

- The common name and correct scientific genus and species names for the tree
1. These three measurements:
    - Circumference of the trunk, in inches, measured at 4 ½' above the ground
    - Total vertical height to the nearest foot
    - Average crown spread diameter to the nearest foot
  2. Date measured
  3. Name, phone number, address and, if available, email address of person who measured the tree
  4. Name, phone number, address and, if available, email address of person who nominated the tree
  5. Location of tree – County and town (or nearest town). Include latitude and longitude, if known
  6. Directions to find tree, detailed enough so someone unfamiliar with the site can easily find the tree. Circle YES or NO if the general public would be allowed to visit the tree site.
  7. Description of tree's physical condition
  8. Name, phone number, address and, if available, email address of person or entity who owns the tree
  9. Remarks about tree, if any, such as historical significance, known distinctions, hurricane survivor, etc.
  10. Notes about any photographs taken and submitted. Photos can be on CD, DVD, or sent via email to [Alan.Moore@ncagr.gov](mailto:Alan.Moore@ncagr.gov).

## HOW DO I MEASURE A BIG TREE?

Three measurements are required when you submit your nomination for a Champion Big Tree.

1. Trunk circumference, in inches, measured at 4 ½' above the ground (must be at least 9 ½ inches)
2. Vertical height to the nearest foot (must be at least 13 feet)
3. Average crown spread to the nearest foot (no minimum)

### Trunk Circumference:

The circumference of the tree is measured in inches at 4 ½' above the center of the base of the tree. If at 4 ½' there is an abnormal growth or an existing branch on the trunk, the circumference is measured at the narrowest point below the growth or branch. If the ground is not level at the base of the trunk, the circumference is measured at 4 ½' on the uphill side of the tree. Instructions for measuring multi-stem trees or trees with other irregularities can be found at this Web address:

<http://ncforestservice.gov/Urban/pdf/Howtomeasureeachchampiontree.pdf>. Use a string if your tape measure is not long enough to encompass the tree.

### Vertical Height:

The total height of the tree is considered to be the distance between the base of the tree's trunk and the topmost twig of the tree, measured to the nearest foot. The most reliable measurement of a tree's height is made with a standard measuring tool such as an Abney hand level, clinometer or transit.

### Average Crown Spread:

The crown spread should be measured in two directions, perpendicular to each other, at the widest portion and the narrowest. The average of the two measurements is taken as the average crown spread:  $(A+B)/2 = \text{Average Crown Spread}$ . Measure the crown spread by putting a marker under the opposite outer edges of the tree's crown and measure the distance between the two markers.

