

## WACD PLANT MATERIALS CENTER

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### White Alder (*Alnus rhombifolia*)

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#### Distribution

White Alder is native to western North America, from British Columbia and Washington east to western Montana, southeast to the Sierra Nevada, south to California.

#### Growth Habit

It is a medium sized deciduous tree that can grow from 50-80 feet high with pale gray bark. Yellowish male catkins pollinate in early spring before its leaves emerge. Female catkins mature in the fall and superficially resemble a small conifer cone.

#### Adaptability

Tolerates infertile soils, but does best in moist to wet areas with full sun to partial shade.

#### Comments

- Fast growing tree that can grow 30 feet in first 5-6 years.
- Grows well along riparian areas and is sometimes found growing directly in flowing water.
- Nice looking fragrant shade tree.
- It is nitrogen fixing, meaning it is able to convert nitrogen from the atmosphere into a form available for plants in the soil.

