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Search Launched for "Great American Tree"

Fall is the perfect time to appreciate trees, and The American Grove website has launched a competition to find 2016's "Great American Tree." Trees that have extraordinary color, a unique flower, feature or story are being sought for nomination, due no later than November 30.

The competition for national stand-out trees is in its second year at www.AmericanGrove.org. Submissions must include a photograph, a description of why the tree is special, its location, species, and size, including height and/or diameter. Nominations will be shared via social media, including Facebook (The Grove), Twitter (@plantyourlegacy; #greatamericantree), and Instagram (american_grove). Nominations may also be submitted as an email attachment to sgranbery@gfc.state.ga.us.

From December 1 - 9, after the submission period has ended, online American Grove members will be allowed one vote for a favorite entry per person. The top five vote winning trees will be placed in the national competition. An "all star" urban forestry panel will determine the winner of the 2016 Great American Tree, which will be announced on December 22, 2016. The first place winner will receive \$500, second place is \$250 and third place is \$100. The winning tree will earn a feature on The American Grove homepage. The 2015 Great American Tree was 'That Tree' located in Platteville, Wisconsin.

The American Grove is an online community for sharing experiences and knowledge about trees and the benefits they provide to communities throughout the nation. It is managed by the Georgia Urban Forest Council, a nonprofit organization whose mission is to sustain Georgia's green legacy by helping communities grow healthy trees. Assistance is also given by the Georgia Forestry Commission, which provides leadership, service and education in the protection and conservation of Georgia's forest resources. Learn more at GaTrees.org.

#greatamericantree #GATC16

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www.AmericanGrove.org