

# Glossary

WORD	DEFINITION
acidic	pH below 7
adsorption	process by which molecules become attached to the surface
annual ring	visible circle in x-section of tree produced by one year's growth
apex	the tip, furthest part of something; strictly the pointed or angular summit as in shoot or root apex
azimuth	compass direction, i.e., 120 degrees is southeast
bare root	a tree without soil on its roots when transplanted
basic	pH between 7 and 14
bedrock	consolidated rock
biltmore	stick used to measure tree diameter and height
board foot	a standard unit of measure for lumber, (1"x1'x1') before surfacing or finishing
bole	a tree trunk
branch	a larger outgrowing stem that grows from the trunk
broadleaf	trees that have wide, flat leaves
buds	structures at the end and side stem that develops into a flower, leaf, twig or shoot
cambium	living cells that divide to form phloem and xylem
canopy	upper part of the forest, consisting of the crown of trees
chain	a tool used to determine horizontal distances
chlorophyll	the green pigments in plants that absorb the energy of sunlight for use in the manufacture of sugars from carbon dioxide and water
climatic range	geographic limits of growth for a particular type of tree
clinometer	a tool used to determine height of tree at given distance

commercial forest	trees grown for the production of lumber
compass	a tool used to determine direction
compost	a mixture of decomposing organic matter used as a fertilizer, mulch, or soil conditioner
conifer	trees that bear seeds in cones and have long needle-like leaves
cord	stack of wood 4'x4'x8' or the equivalent
crown	the upper branches and foliage of a tree
crown class	method of classifying a trees' position in the canopy
cruising	process of estimating the pulpwood or lumber in a stand of trees
DBH	diameter breast height; diameter of a tree trunk in inches 4.5 ft above ground
deciduous	plants that shed all of their leaves at the end of the growing season
defoliators	insects that remove leaves from trees
dendrochronology	the study of the age of trees by counting the rings of xylem growth
dendrology	the study of trees
desiccation	the process of drying out
diameter tape	used to directly measure the diameter of a tree
drought	extended period of time when a significant lack of moisture persists
evergreen	plants that retain their green foliage throughout the year
feeder roots	hair-like roots through which the tree obtains water and nutrients
flower	the reproductive unit of a seed-bearing plant
forest	a large tract of land covered with trees and underbrush
forest harvest	periodic removal of trees for lumber
forest pathology	study of diseases in forest trees
forest tract	a particular set of trees

forestry	the science of managing trees, shrubs and animals
fruit	product of plant consisting of ripened seeds with a tissue around it
fungus	a large group of plants lacking chlorophyll like molds, mildews, rusts, mushrooms and smuts, subsisting upon dead or living organic matter
groundwater	subsurface water occupying the zone of saturation, the gravitational water below the water table
growth rate	how fast a tree will grow on an average site
heartwood	hard central wood consisting of dead cells that give strength to the tree (usually darker in color)
herbarium	an organized collection of dried or preserved plant specimens
humus	black or brown layer of composted organic matter
increment borer	auger-like tool used to extract cores from the tree trunk to find age
insulation	a barrier of dead air space to reduce change in temperature
lateral roots	grow horizontally and help keep the tree upright
leaf	single unit of foliage; usually the site of food manufacture by photosynthesis
lumber grades	system for determining potential uses of lumber
mulch	a covering such as wood-chips, straw, leaves, etc., spread on the ground around plants to prevent excess evaporation and to enrich the soil
NIMBY	Not In My Backyard
nutrients	mineral elements and compounds which a plant uses for tissue growth
outer bark	external covering which helps to protect a tree from injury
pace	number of steps for a specific distance (ie. 100ft)
percolation	the absorption of water into the soil; usually expressed as a rate
pH	a term used to indicate the degree of acidity or alkalinity
phloem	produced by the cambium and carries food from leaves to twigs, branches, trunk, and roots

photosynthesis	process of making carbohydrate from water, carbon dioxide, chlorophyll and light
plant press	device for drying plant parts for preservation
BAF prism	device used to determine groups of trees of specific size
pruning	the selective cutting of branches from trees to remove old stems, dead wood, or give it better shape
psychrometer	tool with two thermometers used to find humidity
root ball	ball of soil containing the roots of a tree
root hairs	a hair-like tubular outgrowth from near the tip of a rootlet, functions in water and mineral absorption
root	underground part of a plant that extracts water, oxygen, and nutrients from the soil
sap	the liquid that moves through the tissues of plants
seeds	small body made by flowering plants which is capable of growing into a new plant
shade leaf	larger leaves found in the shade, capable of photosynthesis with indirect sunlight
silviculture	the art of producing and caring for a forest
site	spot where a tree will grow - consider soil, light and moisture
soil classification	system to describe the characteristics of a given soil
soil density	how much one cubic centimeter of soil weighs (weight per unit volume)
soil drainage	the speed and extent of water movement over and through the soil
soil horizon	layers of mature soils
soil profile	a diagram of the vertical section of soil noting the horizon layers i.e., A,B,C
subsoil	soil below the usual depth of cultivation, brown or reddish colored soil with more clay than surface soils
sun leaf	smaller leaves found growing exposed to full sunlight
tap roots	grow vertically downward and anchor the tree
topsoil	surface layer of mature soil, containing large amounts of organic material

transect	a straight line that bisects a given unit or area
transpiration	the release of water vapor by the leaves into the air
tree	a woody plant usually over 20 feet high at maturity
tree form	tree shape usually one of 8 types or habits
tree tolerance	the ability of trees to endure shade, salt, insects, weather, etc.
trunk	the main stem of the tree that transports nutrients
twigs	smaller stems that come from the branches
vasculum	field container for collecting plant parts
watershed	the land that drains into a given stream or pond
wind meter	device used to determine speed of wind
windbreak	vegetation planted across the prevailing wind direction to reduce windspeed
xylem	complex tissue in higher plants that carries sap from roots to leaves

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