

American Elm Planting Project Ottawa National Forest

2011 Accomplishments

The Northern Research Station started an American Elm restoration project in 2003. Researchers screened elms for resistance or tolerance to the introduced Dutch Elm Disease (DED), a fungal pathogen that wiped out most of these trees in past years.

The Eastern Region purchased 84 DED-tolerant elms and distributed them to ten National Forests in 2010. The Princeton line was selected for planting at two administrative sites on the Ottawa National Forest: the Kenton and Ontonagon Ranger District offices. Twelve 5-gallon container stock trees were received in late May 2011 and were planted soon after.

A year later, all 12 trees are still alive, some thriving more than others. Little height growth has occurred yet. One tree at Kenton had a branch broken off, but is recovering.

Interpretive panels about American elm were produced for the Region. Signs were installed at both Ranger Districts in 2011.



Figure 1. DED-tolerant American elm saplings at Kenton Ranger District, one year after planting



Figure 2. American elm sapling and interpretive sign, Kenton Ranger District

Year Awarded: 2010 (funds were awarded to Region 9 for this multi-forest project)

Project completion: 2010 for planting; signs placed in 2011

Report number: 2

Expenditures: in-kind, Ottawa NF staff time for sign installation, tree watering; Kenton District tree care was included in native garden maintenance contract

Partners/Contractors/Cooperators: Northern Research Station; Botany Shop Garden Center (MO); Genesis Graphics (MI).

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