American Elm, White Elm - *Ulmus americana*

**Habitat:**
- native to eastern North America, from Florida to Newfoundland
- zone 3
- generally found in wetlands

**Habit and Form:**
- large, deciduous tree
- Three distinct habits:
  - vase-shaped (most common)
  - "oak-like" - broad and wide spreading, rounded
  - narrow with numerous branches covering trunk, columnar
- 60' to 90' tall
- width depends on habit of specimen
- medium texture
- medium growth rate

**Summer Foliage:**
- alternate leaf arrangement
- simple leaves with doubly serrated leaf margins
- leave size varies from 3" to 6" long
- oblique leaf base
- serrate leaf margins
- leaves have pubescent underside
- there are approx. 15 pairs on veins on each leaf
- leaf surface is rough
- short petiole
- dark green leaf color
- no terminal bud

**Autumn Foliage:**
- turns yellowish-brown
- not ornamentally important

**Flowers:** not of any ornamental value

**Fruit:**
- rounded samaras
- notched at top
- 0.5" in diameter
- greenish yellow in color
- ripens May through June
- not noticeable

**Bark:**
- dark gray color with deep ridges
- can be scaly when young
- ridges criss cross, showing different layers of bark color
- pubescent stems, reddish
- leaf scar appears to look like a "cat-face"

**Culture:**
- easily transplanted
- pH adaptable
- prefers moist, fertile soil
• prune in September to October
• soil salt tolerant

Landscape Use:
• for beautiful habit
• street tree
• lawn tree

Liabilities:
• Dutch Elm Disease, has nearly wiped out species in North America
• Wetwood
• cankers
• leaf curl
• leaf spot
• powdery mildew
• aphids
• elm leaf minor
• elm leaf beetle

ID Features:
• deeply ridged bark with criss cross pattern
• samaras in spring
• no terminal buds
• rough textured leaves with many paired veins
• alternate leaf arrangement
• oblique leaf base
• doubly, serrate leaf margins
• pubescent stems
• deciduous, generally vase-shaped