

Quaking Aspen *Populus tremuloides*



Aspen is the most widely distributed tree in North America. In our area it grows at altitudes between 6500 ft and 11,500 ft. It especially thrives in well drained soil with abundant moisture and full sun. Shallow roots send up many sucker shoots, forming huge clones. The leaves tremble in the slightest breeze because of the ribbon shaped leaf stems. Under the protective white layer of bark, it performs photosynthesis even in the winter, when all the leaves have fallen. This bark is an important food for elk, beaver and other animals.

