
Green Ash *Fraxinus pennsylvanicus*

PLANTING: Green ash is widely adapted to soils, moisture conditions and pH found east of the Rocky Mountains. The species will tolerate seasonal flooding, but is intolerant of shading from surrounding trees. Green ash is a fairly early successional tree on most sites. Deer will browse green ash seedlings so protective netting may be required where pressure is heavy.

FORM: Green ash is a deciduous, medium-sized tree with an open, irregular crown reaching about 50 feet in height. Roots are shallow, wide-spreading. Green ash is not as rapid growing as red maple or elm, so it tends to be crowded out over time by its faster growing cohorts. Management to retain green ash includes control of competition. Green ash is extensively planted as a shade and ornamental tree.

LEAVES: Deciduous. Leaves are opposite, pinnately compound, 4 to 6 inches long, 7 to 9 leaflets, narrowly elliptical, long-pointed, entire, bright green above, paler below

FLOWER: Flowers are inconspicuous, without petals, borne in dense clusters (panicles) near the ends of the twigs, male and female flowers on separate trees.

BARK: Stem straight, bark thin with network of interlacing ridges, brown to dark gray, twigs smooth.

FRUIT: Fruits are straw-colored, one-seeded, winged (samaras), 1 to 2 1/2 inches long, borne in dense branching clusters

WILDLIFE VALUE: Green ash is of moderate importance to wildlife. The winged seeds (samaras) are eaten by a number of birds and mammals including wild turkey and rodents. Whitetail and mule deer browse the twigs and foliage.

NATIVE HABITAT: Native to eastern North America, Green ash is fairly common west to Wyoming and Colorado along plains watercourses at elevations below 6,000 feet. The tree is fast growing on moist bottomlands, and is extremely hardy to climatic extremes once established.



Robert H. Mohlenbrock
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