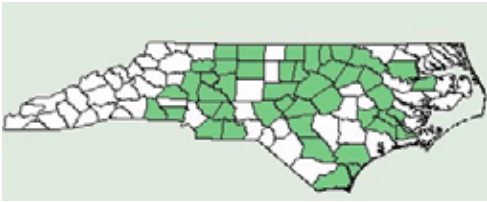


GREEN ASH

Fraxinus pennsylvanica

A medium-sized shade tree that grows easily in most soils. Purple flowers in the spring and yellow leaves in the fall provide a dash of color to the yard.



Description: Medium-sized deciduous tree. Clusters of purplish male and female flowers appear on separate trees in April-May after the foliage emerges. Fertilized female flowers give way to drooping clusters of winged samaras that ripen in fall and may persist

throughout winter.

Natural Habitat: This lowland species has the widest range of all the native ashes, extending from Nova Scotia south to Florida and Texas. In NC, found in low woods, floodplains and along streams.

Conservation Status: Abundant throughout its range.

Size: 50'-60' high, 25'-30' spread.

Growth Rate: Fast.

Light: Full sun.

Planting and Care: Prefers consistently moist loams, but this is a very adaptable tree that transplants well, grows in a variety of locations and soils and tolerates drought, wind, and salt. Brittle branches are susceptible to damage from high winds and snow/ice.

Ornamental Value: Purple flowers in the spring and yellow leaves in the fall.

Landscape Usage: Street, shade, lawn tree. Male trees are generally preferred over female trees.

Commercial/Traditional Uses: Europeans pickle ash fruits when they are young to make a pleasant condiment. Native Americans used ash as food and for drugs, and the wood for snowshoe frames, canoes, and furniture.

Wildlife Benefits: Seeds used by game birds, wood ducks and songbirds; staple deer browse; wood used by beaver.