

AMERICAN HAZELNUT

Corylus americana

Aka American Filbert



Description: A deciduous shrub with a spread slightly larger than its height. Yellow brown catkins (male flowers) hang down in early spring. Displays crisp green foliage in summer and edible nuts in distinctive, notched husks in autumn.

Natural Habitat: Along streams, hedgerows, meadows, woodlands, roadsides, and forest margins.

Conservation Status: none

Size: 8 – 15 ft.

Growth Rate: Fast

Light: Sun to partial shade

Planting and Care: Prefers well-drained, loamy soil.

Ornamental Value: Copper red fall color.

Landscape Usage: Use in naturalized gardens, as a barrier and in difficult dry sites.

Commercial/Traditional Uses: Nuts used by Native Americans to flavor soups. It is commercially cultivated for nut production. The sweet nuts may be eaten raw or ground and made into a cake like bread.

Wildlife Benefits: Leaves, twigs, and catkins are browsed by deer. The nuts are eaten by small mammals, ruffed grouse and other large birds. Beaver eat the bark.