

American Hackberry Tree



Used for furniture, athletic goods, boxes and crates, and plywood. The common name apparently was derived from "hagberry," meaning "marsh berry," a name used in Scotland for a cherry. Many birds, including quail, pheasants, woodpeckers, and cedar waxwings, consume the sweetish fruits.

Celtis occidentalis

- **Use:** Hackberry is a native and a sturdy, tolerant shade tree for parkways, parks, and other large areas.
- **Exposure/Soil:** Prefers full sun. Can adapt to a variety of sites, including soils that are wet or dry, clay or rocky, rich or poor. It is also very pollution tolerant, as it thrives in the smog and dirty water runoff of cities. It makes it a good candidate for areas in need of erosion control or shade. Habitats include moist to mesic floodplain woodlands, mesic upland woodlands, disturbed open woodlands, moist to mesic savannas, riverbanks, and fence rows.
- **Growth:** At maturity, this tree is typically 40-80' tall, forming a straight central trunk and an ovoid crown.
- **Hardiness:** Zones 3-9, Tree
- **Foliage:** Deciduous; Foliage is dull-green and rough.
- **Flower:** Its fleshy, purple-brown berries ripen in late summer and persist through winter. The persistent fruits attract many birds that also find the tree to be a suitable nesting site.

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