

Green Ash (*Fraxinus pennsylvanica*)

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Summary:

Foliage: Deciduous broadleaf Height: 60 feet
Spread: 50 feet Shape: Spreading
This large fast-growing tree is very tolerant of adverse conditions. Its fall foliage color is a yellow.

Plant Needs:

Zone: 3 to 9 Light: Full sun
Moisture: Wet, moist, or dry Soil Type: Sandy, loam, or clay pH Range: 3.7 to 8.2

Functions:

Suggested uses for this plant include shade, street tree, and specimen plant.

Planting Notes:

Transplants readily and is very adaptable.
Plant in full sun.
Tolerates wide range of soil conditions.
Once established, tolerates high pH, salt, drought, and sterile soils.
Select seedless varieties to avoid litter problem from fruit-bearing trees.

Care:

When required, prune in the fall.
Prune dead twigs and branches anytime.

Problems:

Problems include canker and dieback, which result in dead wood.
Borers can be a serious pest when plant is young. **The emerald ash borer (EAB) is a very serious threat to ash trees. If you have the EAB in your area, do not plant ash trees. The EAB has invaded northern Virginia and will most likely spread to other areas.**
Seedlings can become a problem in flower beds and other unwanted areas. Therefore, select male cultivars.

Alternatives:

Consult local garden centers, including historic or public gardens and arboreta regarding cultivars and related species that grow well in your area.
Cultivars of *Fraxinus pennsylvanica*:
'Marshall's Seedless' (same as 'Marshall') is a male clone which forms an upright, oval shape and has fewer pest problems than the species.
'Patmore' is a non-fruiting form that is relatively pest free.
'Summit' is a male tree with upright, pyramidal growth and excellent yellow fall foliage color.
White ash (*Fraxinus americana*) is similar to green ash but generally has a purple fall color.
There are several cultivars in the trade with various shape, fall foliage color, & non-fruiting aspects. **White ash is also susceptible to EAB.**

Comments:

Green ash is a vigorous tree while young and is a popular tree because of its adaptability and fall foliage color. **If the EAB is prevalent in your region, then do not plant ash trees.**

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