

# Green Ash

(*Fraxinus pennsylvanica* Marsh.)

Also called “Red Ash”



**Location:** The green ash is found throughout North Carolina. This tree is common along rivers and low grounds in the North Carolina Piedmont and lower mountains.

**Bark:** The bark is a 1/2 inch or more thick. It is brown tinged with red and is slightly furrowed or ridged.

**Leaves:** The compound leaves, oppositely attached on the twigs, are 6 to 9 inches long and have 7 to 9 entire, or obscurely toothed, leaflets. They are green on top and lighter green on the bottom. Sometimes they are a yellow-green on both sides.

**Flowers:** The flowers are small, with the male and female flowers growing on different trees.

**Fruit:** The fruit is a long and very narrow samara, flat and winged, 1 to 2 1/2 inches long and 1/4 to 1/3 inch wide, with the wing portion extending well past the middle of the seed-bearing part.

**Wood Type:** Hardwood. The wood is heavy, hard, rather strong, brittle and coarse-grained. It is light-brown, with a rather broad layer of lighter sapwood.

**Mature Height:** 50 to 60 feet tall

**Mature Diameter:** 18 to 24 inches

**Uses:** Tool handles and baseball and softball bats.

**Reference:** Holmes, J. S., & Holmes, J. S. (2015). *Common forest trees of North Carolina: A pocket manual*. Raleigh, NC: North Carolina Forest Service.