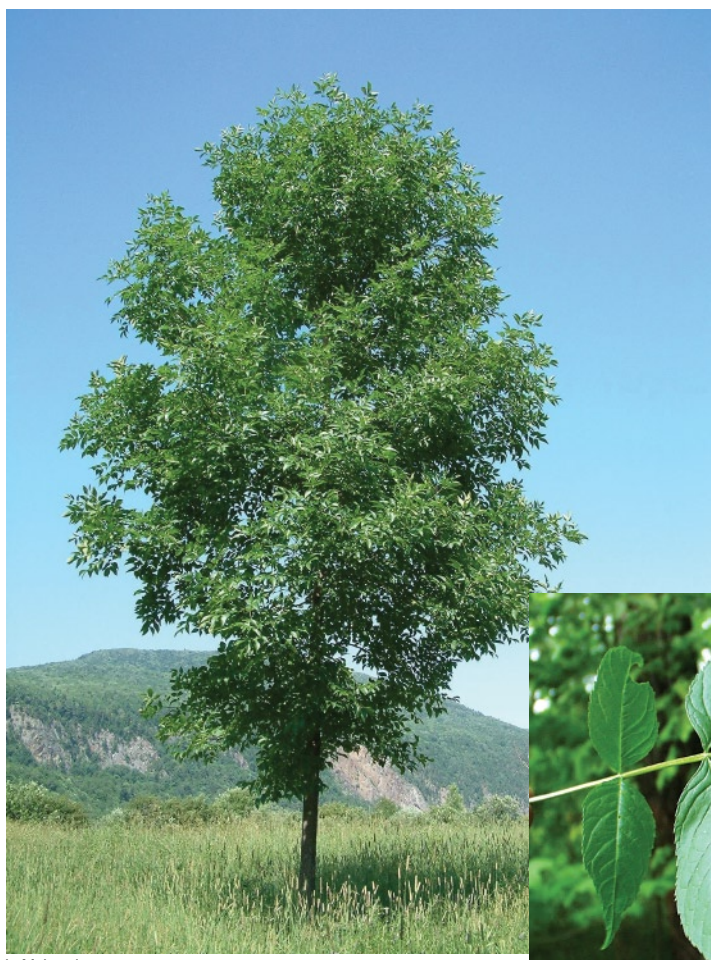


# Help Save America's Ash Trees for Future Generations

America is losing its ash trees to the emerald ash borer at an alarming rate. Millions of ash trees have already been destroyed. You can help prevent the ash tree from being lost forever. Go to [www.ashseed.org](http://www.ashseed.org) to learn how you can collect ash seed for genetic preservation.

Below are four common species of ash tree. The USDA is interested in preserving seed from all species of ash trees native to North America.

## BLACK ASH



L. M. Landry

**Habitat:** Poorly drained sites such as swamps, streams and riverbanks.

**Features:** 40 to 50 feet in height, smaller than either white or green ash. The terminal buds (the buds at the tips of the twigs) are more black rather than brown as in green and white ash.



Paul Wray, Bugwood



## WHITE ASH



John Seiler, The Virginia Tech Department of Forestry

**Habitat:** Upland sites. Has little tolerance for wet areas.

**Features:** The leaf scar (area where leaf was attached to the branch) on white ash looks more like a grin than those of other ashes.



Paul Wray, Bugwood



## BLUE ASH



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**Habitat:** Dry upland limestone sites.

**Features:** Twigs that appear to be square. The wings that grow on the twigs give the tree its square twig identifying characteristic.



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## GREEN ASH



USDA Forest Service

**Habitat:** Poorly drained soils along streams, in bottomlands and through wet woods.

**Features:** The leaf scar resembles a semicircle with a flat line across the top. Compare with white ash (above).



Paul Wray, Bugwood



The National Ash Tree Seed Collection Initiative is a partnership of the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, the USDA Agricultural Research Service, the USDA Forest Service, and other federal, state and local agencies. For more information, including collection forms and tree identification aids, visit [www.ashseed.org](http://www.ashseed.org) or contact Rose Lake Plant Materials Center, 7472 Stoll Road, East Lansing, MI 48823; telephone: 517-641-6300.

*The USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.*

