
Habitat: This tree has escaped into waste areas, vacant lots, non-cultivated fields, and nurseries. A prolific seeder, Tree of Heaven grows vigorously, establishing dense stands that displace native plants.

General Description: Originating from Central China, this rapidly growing, deciduous tree can reach 80 feet or more in height. After being cut down, the plant can spread by suckers, sprouting as far as 3.5m from main stem.

Distinctive Characteristics: Clusters of samaras (3-4cm) persist on trees long into winter. The twigs are stout with a large brown pith and large v-shaped leaf scars.

Growth Habit: Tree

Distribution: Widely distributed across the U.S. from Maine to Florida and west to California.

Tree-of-heaven *Ailanthus altissima*



NPS Photo



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Family: Simaroubaceae (Quassia Family)