

Callery pear

Pyrus calleryana

Description

Introduced to North America as an ornamental.

Habit

Deciduous, grows from 30-50 ft in height and 20-30 ft in width, overall shape of the tree is often described as a tear-drop with the trunk frequently splitting into many smaller branches.

Leaves

Alternate, simple, shiny with a wavy, slightly-toothed margin. Leaves turn yellow, orange and red in late autumn.

Stems

Reddish-brown to gray in color, stout; relatively large, fuzzy light tan-gray terminal buds on the spur shoots and branch tips.

Flowers

5 petaled, white in color, occur early in the spring before leaves appear.

Fruits and Seeds





Fruits are small, 0.5 in in length, round and green to brown in color and appear during late spring and summer.

Habitat

Native to China, Japan, Korea, Taiwan and Vietnam; grows well in full sun and partial shade and a variety of soil types and conditions including occasional wet soils or drought. Withstands the rigors of urban living, such as pollution and poor soil.

Reproduction

Vegetatively and by seeds that are dispersed to new locations by birds that eat the fruit.

Similar

Osage orange (*Maclura pomifera*) and varieties of crabapple (*Malus* spp.).

Monitoring and Rapid Response

Seedlings and shallow-rooted plants can be pulled when soil is moist. Dig small trees up or pull out, ensuring removal of the root system. If cutting is not possible, trees can be girdled during the spring and summer, by cutting through the bark all around the trunk, about 6 in above the ground. Large trees should be cut down and stumps treated with an appropriate systemic herbicide such as glyphosate or triclopyr.

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