

NINETEENTH ANNUAL CELEBRATION OF TREES 2017



Paw Paw
Asimina triloba

CHARACTERISTICS

Height: 15 – 30'

Width: 15 – 30'

Identification: Arkansas native understory tree which occurs in low bottom woods, wooded slopes, ravines and along streams. Medium green leaves retain green color well into fall before turning to a bright yellow. Cup-shaped, purple flowers appear in spring, and give way to edible, oblong, yellowish green fruits which mature in early autumn. Flavor and fleshy consistency of the sweet-flavored fruits resembles bananas.



GROWING CONDITIONS

Native Habitat: Southeastern United States; Zone 5 to 9

Water: Medium to wet

Sun Light: Full sun to part shade

BENEFITS

Wildlife (e.g., raccoons, squirrels and opossums) eagerly seek out the fruits and often beat humans to the harvest. Early Americans made a yellow dye from the pulp of the ripened fruit. Fruits are frequently eaten raw or used in ice creams or pies.



Sources: [Missouri Botanical Garden](#)



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