

# CELEBRATION OF TREES



**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

**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:

<http://www.missouribotanicalgarden.org/PlantFinder/PlantFinderDetails.aspx?kempercode=b500>



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**FAYETTEVILLE**  
ARKANSAS