



photo: Arthur Haines

# BLACK WILLOW

*Salix nigra*

Fast-growing, medium to large sized water-loving tree, great for erosion control and flood prevention. Bark and twigs are commonly browsed by wildlife.

## Benefits for Wildlife

- Early spring pollen and nectar for native bees
- Beavers browse foliage in the summer and bark in the winter
- Roots prevent soil erosion along stream banks

Host to 434 caterpillar species, including:  
(*common names*) Mourning Cloak; Locust Underwing; Hourglass Furcula; White Furcula; Green Comma; Clymene Moth; Viceroy; Definite Tussock Moth; Small-eyed Sphinx Interrupted Dagger Moth

## Benefits for People

- Wood and twigs can be used for furniture, construction materials, and basket weaving
- Lightweight and durable wood was once used for prosthetics

## Growing Information

<i>Sunlight</i>	Sun to shade
<i>Soil Type</i>	Moist to wet
<i>Height</i>	30-60'
<i>Width</i>	30-60'
<i>Flowering calendar</i>	March to April

## Natural Habitat

- Stream banks, floodplains, low areas

