



Photos: Arthur Haines

AMERICAN HORNBEAM

Carpinus caroliniana

Small, attractive tree or large shrub with attractive foliage and flowers, and very unique “muscled” trunk.

Growing Information

Sunlight Part shade
Soil Type Moist, acidic
Height 15–25'
Flowering calendar September

Benefits for Wildlife

Leaves Yes
Flowers Yes
Fruit Yes
Seeds Yes

Host to 72 caterpillar species, including:
(common names) Walnut Sphinx; Red-spotted
Admiral; Eastern Tiger Swallowtail; Funerary
Dagger Moth; Blinded Sphinx; Luna Moth;
Imperial Moth; Polyphemus Moth

Benefits for People

Interesting small tree or large shrub, often
multi-trunked, that grows slowly and
attracts many wildlife species.

Natural Habitat

Understory species in low hardwood
forests

