

photo: D. Cameron

AMERICAN HOP-HORNBEAM

Ostrya virginiana

This slow-growing tree has a wider, round canopy, and is highly adaptable to light and soil conditions. It has beautiful yellow foliage in the fall, and nutlets that are enjoyed by songbirds and mammals. Also called Ironwood.

Growing Information

Sunlight Sun, part sun, shade

Soil Type Dry to moist, well-draining

Height 30-40'

Flowering calendar April

Benefits for Wildlife

Leaves Yes Flowers Yes Fruit Yes Seeds Yes

Host to 93 caterpillar species

(common names) including: Walnut Sphinx; Mourning Cloak; Variable Oakleaf Caterpillar; Interrupted Dagger Moth; Blinded Sphinx; Luna Moth; Imperial Moth; Polyphemus Moth

Benefits for People

Natural Habitat

Ravines and wooded slopes, woodland edges and bluffs

