

## AMERICAN SYCAMORE

<b>Genus/species</b>	<i>Platanus occidentalis</i>	
<b>Synonyms</b>	Sycamore, American/Eastern	
<b>Family</b>	Platanaceae	
<b>Distribution</b>	Eastern US	Central Texas eastward to N Florida N Florida up the Atlantic Coast to S New Hampshire S New Hampshire westward to SW Wisconsin and E Nebraska
<b>Comments</b>	American Sycamore is a common tree in flood plains along rivers but occasionally grows in drier areas in disturbed soil. It is easily recognized by its light-colored bark that comes off in large flakes as the tree matures. The leaves look much like oversized maple leaves but they have a distinct scent and a brownish “fuzz” that is easily rubbed off. Male and female flowers are produced in separate round clusters. The male flower heads produce substantial quantities of wind-borne pollen before falling from the tree, and the female flower heads enlarge to become seed balls over an inch in diameter that eventually disintegrate and scatter the seeds.	

