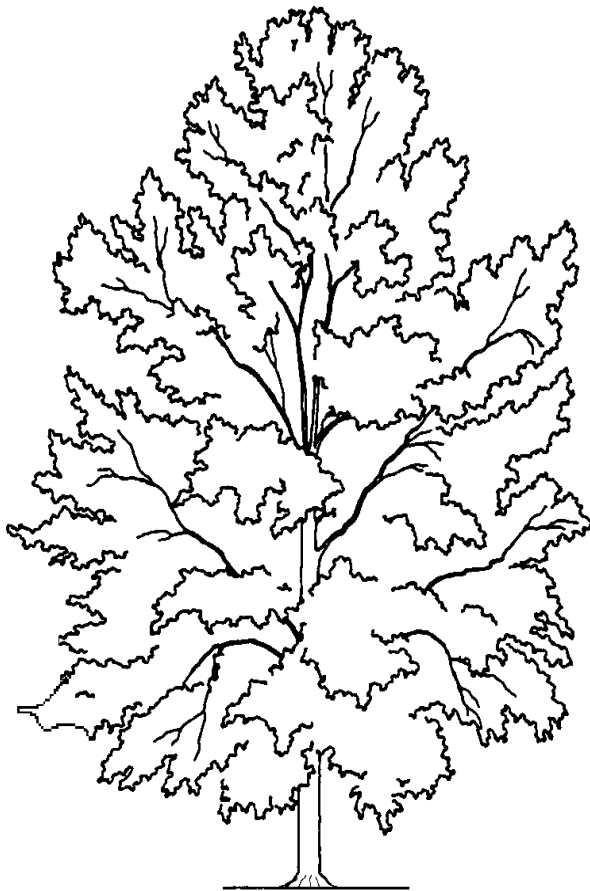




# Green Ash

Green ash (*Fraxinus pennsylvanica*) is a hardy, large growing shade tree which performs well in urban areas. It transplants easily and grows rapidly when young. Leaves are shiny dark green changing to yellow in the fall.

Ash grows best in full sun but is tolerant of light shade. They have great tolerance of soil pH, growing well in the range of 5.0 to 8.0. Fastest growth is achieved on fertile, moist well drained soils. However, ash will grow in both drought conditions and in flooded areas with soil textures ranging from clay to sand. Mulch improves growth by building soil nutrients and promoting mycorrhizae.



Young varieties of green ash are very susceptible to several damaging insects. Oystershell scale (*Lepidosaphes ulmi*) often covers branches with a brownish gray appearance, causing dieback of the branch. Several borers including the ash borer (*Podosesia syringae*) attack the trunk, killing the entire tree when it is young.

Several diseases of ash foliage which may cause premature defoliation, thus weakening the tree. Ash anthracnose, *Gloeosporium aridum*, infects during wet springs and may partially defoliate the tree. Ash rust, *Puccinia sparganioides*, is a spectacular disease which occurs mainly near the coast. When severe, trees will have a scorched appearance with orange fungal fruiting structures on the leaves. Twigs may have small gall like cankers. Dead leaves drop in mid to late summer.

Ash yellows is a serious disease of young and mature ash trees. White ash is most susceptible. This is a vascular disease which causes a reduction in growth, dieback, occasional witches brooms and eventual death of the tree. In its early stages, infected trees leaf out later in the spring and drop their leaves earlier in the fall. While ash yellows is caused by a mycoplasma-like organism (MLO) a very similar problem named ash decline is thought to be caused by environmental stress factors. These factors may include low soil fertility, drought, lack of mycorrhizae or other soil problems.

### **Recommended Monitoring of Green Ash**

<b>Timing</b>	<b>Treatment</b>
Winter	Inspect for deadwood and structural problems. Prune as needed.
Late Winter insect	Apply horticultural oil to reduce populations of overwintering pests. Collect soil sample for soil nutrient and pH analysis.
Early Spring	Apply preventative treatment for Anthracnose and rust starting at
Late Spring oyster-	Repeat Anthracnose and rust treatments. Monitor and treat shell scale and clearwing borer traps.
Early Summer	Repeat Anthracnose and rust treatments. Check and adjust mulch
Mid Summer irrigate	Monitor and treat oystershell scale. Monitor soil moisture, as needed.
Late Summer Continue	Repeat monitoring and preventative treatment for borers. monitoring soil moisture levels.
Fall	Fertilize and add mulch as needed.

