

# Native Trees and Shrubs



**Common Hoptree**  
*Ptelea trifoliata*

Average Height: 20-30 ft  
Commonly known as stinking ash, this mid-sized tree is actually more closely related to citrus trees. It's an important host tree for swallowtail butterflies.

**Hercules' Club**  
*Zanthoxylum clavaherculis*



Average Height: 30-40 ft  
This tree gets its name from the unique large spines covering the trunk. Also called the toothache tree, the fruits and leaves cause a numbing sensation.

**Gum Bumelia**

*Sideroxylon lanuginosum*  
Average Height: 12-40 ft  
This plant can grow as a tall multi-stem shrub or a small tree. True to its name, it produces a gummy sap from its trunk. The fruit is eaten by birds and small animals.



**Stretchberry**

*Forestiera pubescens*  
Average Height: 6-12 ft  
Also called desert olive, this small tree or shrub is common along fencerows or forest edges. It is an important source of nectar for butterflies in the early spring.



# Invasive Trees and Shrubs



**Chinaberry Tree**  
*Melia azedarach*

Average Height: 20-40 ft  
This invasive tree is originally from Asia. It can be confused with the native Soapberry. The leaves and berries from this tree are toxic but still eaten by birds.

**Wax-Leaf Privet**  
*Ligustrum lucidum*

Average Height: 15-30 ft  
Ligustrum are some of the most invasive shrubs in Texas. Some here at WMNM were originally planted for erosion control before becoming invasive. Birds love the berries.



**Red Tip Photinia**

*Photinia x fraseri*  
Average Height: 15 ft  
This plant is actually a hybrid of two wild plants native to Asia. Like privet it was brought to Texas as an ornamental plant before becoming a widespread invasive.



**Heavenly Bamboo**

*Nandina domestica*  
Average Height: 5-7 ft  
This small shrub is not actually a species of bamboo. It's similar to native sumac bushes but every part of this plant can be poisonous when eaten by birds and small mammals.



# Waco Mammoth National Monument



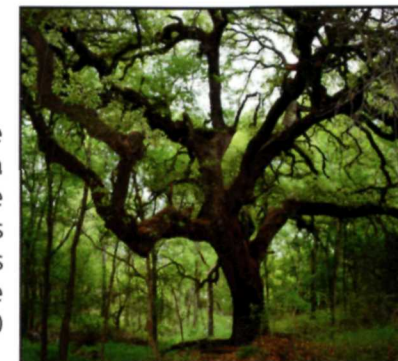
## Trees and Shrubs

Waco Mammoth National Monument lies at the crossroads of the Eastern forests and the Western Prairies. While the local Blackland Prairies have largely been converted to agricultural land, many of the unique plants persist.

**Remember: Collecting plants is not permitted.**

**Hybrid Live Oak**

*Quercus fusiformis x virginiana*  
Average Height: 50 ft  
in Central Texas the Texas and Southern live oaks form a stable hybrid zone. Live oaks at WMNM share traits of both species. One tree on site is over 150 years old.



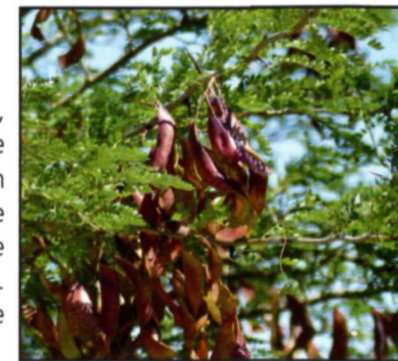
**Honey Mesquite**

*Prosopis glandulosa*  
Average Height: 30 ft  
This relative of peas is known for its thorns and quick growth. Its sweet beans are eaten by a variety of animals and the wood is used for barbecue.



**Honey Locust**

*Gleditsia triacanthos*  
Average Height: 30-75 ft  
A relative of mesquite, this tree has more spines and larger bean pods. Animals eat the sweet pulp from the large maroon beans. This tree has become invasive in Australia.



# Native Trees



## Bois D'Arc

*Maclura pomifera*

Average Height: 40-60 ft

"Bowdark" or Osage Orange was favored by Native peoples for bow making. It has been suggested the fruit evolved to be spread by extinct megafauna.

# Native Trees



## Western Soapberry

*Sapindus drummondii*

Average Height: 40-50 ft

This tree is resistant to pests and disease because of the toxic alkaloid saponin. Some people historically used the berries to make soap, hence the name.

# Native Trees



## Buckley's Oak

*Quercus buckleyi*

Average Height: 50 ft

Also called the Texas Red Oak, this tree is a close relative of the Shumard Oak, and is sometimes considered the same species. This tree is rare at WMNM.

## Cedar Elm

*Ulmus crassifolia*

Average Height: 50-70 ft

Texas' most common species of elm. It can be identified by its small leaves with a rough texture. Often grows in low, flat areas with native "cedars."



## Box Elder

*Acer negundo*

Average Height: 50 ft

This tree is actually a fast-growing species of maple. The wood has been popular for carving for thousands of years. Small saplings are similar to poison ivy.



## White Ash

*Fraxinus americanum*

Average Height: 70-120 ft

These tall, fast-growing trees were once common in suburban neighborhoods. Their populations have been decimated by the Emerald Ash Borer.



## Sugar Hackberry

*Celtis laevigata*

Average Height: 60-80 ft

Also called Sugarberry, this tree is common in low-lying areas across Central Texas. The red berries are eaten by songbirds and other wildlife. Some of these trees can exceed 90ft.



## Eastern Red Cedar

*Juniperus virginiana*

Average Height: 20-50 ft

This juniper species is the most common conifer in the Eastern United States. More "christmas tree" or cone shaped than Ashe Juniper. The wood was used to make pencils.



## Texas Ash

*Fraxinus albicans*

Average height: 30 ft

Smaller and rounder-leaved than its eastern cousin, this tree prefers drier habitats. So far, the Texas Ash has not been hit by the Emerald Ash Borer, which is restricted to East Texas.



## Eastern Cottonwood

*Populus deltoides*

Average Height: 100 ft

This tree is common along rivers and creeks, and named for its cotton-like seeds. The Alamo in San Antonio is named for these trees called alamo in Spanish.



## Ashe Juniper

*Juniperus ashei*

Average Height: 30 ft

Often called "mountain cedar," it is found in huge stands in Central Texas. Young trees are shrubby. The bark is used for nests by the endangered Golden-cheeked warbler.



Photos by: Rob Bradfield and iNaturalist Users-Ron Stephens, bbk-htx, Beck Evans, Linda Jo Conn, socialjeffwarrior, fiddleman, jhamby, Eugenia Mendiola Gonzalez, sageagainststhemachine, Espeth Shipton, Rebecca Cowser, Mike Farley, Clay S, Nicholas Cowley, and Ranger\_Rachel

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