



Tree Identification Series— American Elm (*Ulmus americana*)

The American elm is native to Saskatchewan and has become a common urban shade tree that typically grows in a vase or fan shape. It is the main tree in Saskatchewan affected by Dutch elm disease (DED).

Shape: A very tall 23 to 30m (75 to 100 feet), vase or umbrella shaped tree.



Leaves: Leaves are unequal at the base and have double toothed edges. The leaves are oblong, 5 to 7 cm (2 to 3 in) wide and 8 to 13 cm (4 to 6 in) long. Leaves are dark green on top and light green underneath.



Flowers: Produced on short droopy stalks in cluster of 3 to 4. Each flower is comprised of both male and female parts.

Fruit: One seed in the centre of an papery thin oval, notched at one end and smaller than the Siberian elm fruit.

Twigs: Alternate bud arrangement. Buds are smooth, pointed and reddish-brown in colour.



Bark: The bark is dark gray-brown and deeply furrowed. The broad ridges often form a diamond shaped pattern.

Notes:

- An excellent shade tree.
- Fall colour is yellow.
- Is still planted in some areas, but planting is limited because of the threat of DED.
- Prefers rich, moist, well-drained soil, but will adapt to many soil types.
- Grows best in full sun to partial shade.
- The Baltimore Oriole prefers this tree for nesting.
- A fast growing tree that was once widely used for furniture manufacturing.
- Pruning is recommended in the fall and not allowed during the pruning ban from April 1 to August 31.



Saskatchewan Dutch Elm Disease Association
102—1061 Central Ave, Prince Albert, Saskatchewan, S6V 4V4
Telephone: (306) 953-3455 Fax: (306) 953-2360
Web Site: www.sdeda.ca



Tree Identification Series— Green Ash (*Fraxinus pennsylvanica*)

Green ash is a hardy, fast growing tree, that is resistant to drought. The Green Ash is native to Saskatchewan.

Shape: Broad, irregular or rounded crown, tall slender trunk.

Leaves: The leaves are compound and opposite 25 to 30 cm (10 to 12 in) long. Each leaf has 5 to 9 leaflets that are oval shaped. The leaves are dark green and glossy on top. From the middle of the leaf to the end of the leaf the edges are toothed. The leaves drop off early in the fall.



Flowers: Male and female flowers are borne on separate trees. Flowers are produced in large dense clusters.

Fruit: Narrow, paddle-shaped fruit, 2.5 to 5 cm (1 to 2 in) long. Many are produced each year.



Twigs: Buds are rounded, reddish-brown in colour, the arrangement is opposite.

Bark: Narrow ridges are diamond-shaped. The bark is thin and gray-brown in colour.



Notes:

- Grows to a height of 15 to 18m (50 to 60 feet).
- Good shade tree with a long life span.
- Fall colour is a very showy yellow.
- Requires full sun for growing.
- Adapts to most soil conditions.
- Prune in spring or fall.
- Ashes are noted for the high quality of their wood which is tough, hard, straight-grained and valuable for many purposes.
- Black ash (*Fraxinus nigra*) is also grown in Saskatchewan although it is not native to the province and is less drought tolerant. It is similar in size with buds that are brown to nearly black. Each leaf has seven to eleven elongated oval leaflets. The tree itself has a slender, sometimes leaning trunk with a narrow, open crown.

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Tree Identification Series— Siberian Elm (*Ulmus pumila*)

The Siberian elm (also called Manchurian elm) is a fast growing, hardy tree. The branches are brittle and tend to break easily. It is native to southern Siberia and northern China.

Shape: The crown is open with several large branches

Leaves: Narrow, single toothed and unequal at the base. Dark green in colour, 2 to 7 cm (3/4 to 3 in) long and .8 to 2.5 cm (1/3 to 1 in) wide.



Flowers: Flowers are greenish, lack petals and are produced on short droopy stalks in cluster of 2 to 5 each flower is comprised of both male and female parts.

Fruit: One seed in the centre of an papery thin oval, notched at one end and larger than the American elm fruit. A prolific seed producer.

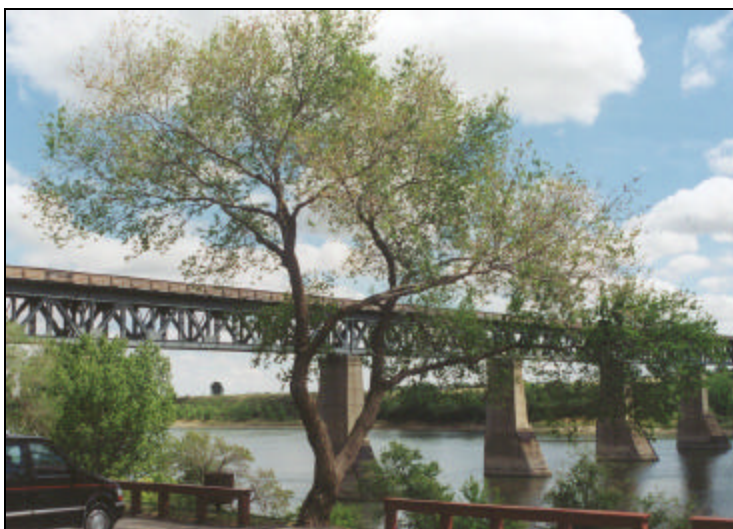


Twigs: Buds are blackish-brown and the arrangement is alternate.

Bark: Rough and furrowed, light-gray to gray-brown.

Notes:

- Used as hedges and shelterbelts.
- Grows to a height of 15 to 21m (25 to 50 feet)
- Resistant to drought and will grow in most soil conditions.
- Fall colour is yellowish-brown.
- Pruning ban of April 1 to August 31 also affects this tree



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Tree Identification Series— Manitoba Maple (*Acer negundo*)

The Manitoba maple is native to Saskatchewan. It is also known as the “Box Elder”.

Shape: Open spreading crown that divides at or near the ground, giving it the appearance of a multi-stemmed tree. Height 9 to 18m (30 to 60 feet)

Leaves: The leaves are compound and opposite 15 to 38 cm (6 to 15 in) long. Each leaf has 3 to 7 leaflets. Edges are quite jagged. The leaves are light green on top and pale green underneath.



Flowers: Male and female flowers occur on separate trees. Males flowers are in small bundles, females flowers are on drooping stalk-like clusters.



Fruit: Produced in pairs that remain on the tree well into the fall. Fruits are long and wrinkled with a papery wing. Female trees produce lots of seeds so male trees are preferred.

Twigs: Colouring is light-green to purplish or brownish. Polished and quite often covered with a white bloom that comes off easily. Buds are opposite and gray in colour.

Bark: Young bark is smooth and light gray. With age the bark furrows into narrow ridges and darkens.

Notes:

- The Manitoba maple is a fast growing tree with an irregular form and a short life span.
- Fall colour is yellow.
- Prefers full to partial sun, but will tolerate shade.
- The Manitoba maple is drought tolerant, but grows best in well-drained, moist soil.
- The wood was often used for making boxes and for other rough construction, hence the name “Box Elder”.



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