

***Carya aquatica* (Michx. f.) Nutt.**

<b>Common Name</b>	Water Hickory
<b>Botanical Name</b>	<i>Carya aquatica</i>
<b>Family</b>	Juglandaceae
<b>Form</b>	Tree
<b>Growth Habit</b>	A single-trunked species with a narrow form and slender branches growing to a height of 70'-100' and with a diameter from 1 ½'-2 ½'.
<b>Bark</b>	Fissured bark that is light grayish-brown and flakey.
<b>Leaves</b>	Fern-like compound leaves each have 9-15 leaflets that are from 2"-6" and ½"-1 ½" wide, and are present alternately on stems. Bright green in color, hairy underneath, and usually with delicately toothed edges.
<b>Flowers</b>	Male and female flowers are greenish and appear in the spring. Male flowers are found in hanging, 3-stemmed clusters that are about 2 ½"-3 ¼" long while female flowers are in groups of 2-10 on short spikes at the end of the same twigs upon which appear the male flowers.
<b>Fruit</b>	Globe-shaped nuts about 1"-1 ½" across that come to a point at the bottom and are a dark reddish-brown in color. The seed covering is divided into 4 compartments and splits open to the base to release the flat seeds.
<b>Soil conditions</b>	Rich, wetland soils.
<b>Water</b>	This species of hickory has the highest soil moisture requirement and should be located in consistently moist areas.
<b>Light Requirement</b>	Sun to partial shade.
<b>Native Growth Zone</b>	8-9
<b>Propagation</b>	Seed
<b>Habitat</b>	Found in moist locations such as in river swamps, on stream banks, and in floodplains.
<b>Remarks</b>	The Water Hickory serves as a good specimen for bank stabilization and erosion control along river courses. Its nuts are a food source for wildlife, such as ducks, although they are bitter and inedible for humans.
<b>Works Consulted</b>	