Black Ash
Community Action Network

Invasive Species Centre

Identification

Leaves: Black Stays Stacked





Opposite, compound leaves with 7–11 stalkless, hairless leaflets attached directly to the rachis; dense rusty hairs at leaflet bases

Bark: Black Flakes Fast





When young: Soft and corky bark with raised lenticels
When mature: bark becomes flaky and rubs off easily, revealing a pale orange underside.

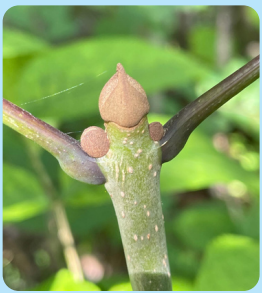
Remember: Strong black ash ID requires multiple features. Confirm opposite branching and opposite compound leaves, then look for black ash-specific traits: stalkless leaflets, flaky/corky bark, bud gap, seed shape, and wet lowland habitat.

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Twigs and Buds: Black Buds Slack





Brown to black, sharply pointed (chocolate chip appearance); clear gap between terminal bud and first pair of opposite lateral buds.

Seeds: Black Wings Cling





Samaras 2.5–4 cm long with a flat, thin wing extending to the seed base, giving a blunt or rounded appearance at both ends.

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