

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

Sassafras albidum

Sassafras



A beautiful small tree, with picturesque horizontal branching pattern and spectacular fall color - oranges, reds and purples. Small yellow flowers in May before the leaves emerge. Twigs and leaves are fragrant when crushed. Forms colonies by suckering along lateral roots. Fast-growing, somewhat weak-wooded. Difficult to transplant, as it forms a taproot. Move young, balled and burlapped, in spring.

Suggested companions: oaks (Quercus sp.), flowering dogwood (Cornus florida), hop-hornbeam (Ostrya virginiana), heart-leaved aster (Aster cordifolius), blue-stemmed goldenrod (Solidago caesia), virginia creeper (Parthenocissus quinquefolia)

Photo Credit: Sally Elmiger

Plant Type: Tree
Size: 35-50' H
35-50' W

Water Tolerant: No

Habitat:
Woodland Margin
Forested Upland

Soil: Average Garden Soil
Rich Moist
Clay
Sandy/ Gravelly

Exposure: sun
filtered

Flower Color:
Yellow

Plant in: Spring

Groundcover: No

Bloom Time:
April
May

Other Attributes:
Fragrant
Bird attracting
Fall color