

## Suggested Native Fall Color Plants

Acer negundo  
Acer rubrum  
Acer saccharinum  
Acer saccharum ssp. Floridanum  
Acer saccharum ssp. Leucoderme  
Betula nigra  
Carpinus caroliniana  
Carya glabra and C. tomentosa  
Celtis laevigata  
Cercis canadensis  
Cornus florida  
Cornus foemina  
Diospyros virginiana  
Fagus grandifolia  
Fraxinus americana  
Fraxinus pennsylvanica  
Halesia spp.  
Hamelis virginiana  
Hydrangea quercifolia  
Itea virginica  
Itea virginica cult. "Henry's Garnet"  
Liquidambar styraciflua  
Liriodendron tulipifera  
Morus rubra  
Nyssa sylvatica  
Ostrya virginiana  
Oxydendrum arboreum  
Parthenocissus quinquefolia  
Platanus occidentalis  
Prunus serotina  
Quercus alba  
Quercus falcata  
Quercus laevis  
Quercus lyrata  
Quercus michauxii  
Quercus phellos  
Quercus shumardi  
Quercus velutina  
Rhus copallina  
Sassafras albidum  
Taxodium spp.  
Ulmus spp.  
Viburnum dentatum  
Viburnum rufidulum

Box elder tree  
Red maple tree  
Silver maple  
Southern sugar maple  
Chalk maple  
River birch  
American hornbeam  
Pignut and Mockemut hickory  
Sugarberry tree  
Redbud  
Dogwood  
Swamp dogwood  
Persimmon  
American beech  
White ash  
Green ash  
Silverbell trees  
Witch hazel  
Oakleaf hydrangea  
Virginia sweetspire  
Henry's Garnet  
Sweetgum tree  
Tulip poplar  
Red mulberry  
Blackgum tupelo  
Eastern hophornbeam  
Sourwood tree  
Virginia creeper vine  
Sycamore  
Black cherry tree  
White oak  
Southern red oak  
Turkey oak  
Overcup oak  
Chestnut oak  
Willow oak  
Shumard oak  
Black oak  
Winged sumac  
Sassafras  
Bald and Pond cypress  
Winged, American, and Red elms  
Arrowwood  
Blackhaw viburnum



## Chinese Tallow (Popcorn Tree)



## Exotic Ornamental Gone Wild

Bay County Conservancy, Inc.

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# Chinese Tallow (Popcorn Tree)



The tallow-tree or popcorn-tree, a native of eastern Asia (the same latitudes as the Southeastern U.S.), has long been a popular landscaping choice in this region for its brilliant fall color, distinctive seed capsules, and easy care as a landscape ornamental. It has been used extensively throughout North and Central Florida.

Unfortunately, the Chinese tallow didn't stay in the areas where it was planted. It can be found in natural areas of 42 counties. This is primarily due to seeds that are readily eaten and dispersed by birds. They also float and can be carried easily by rivers, streams, and stormwater runoff to new destinations. Next time you're in one of Florida's state parks or recreation areas in the northern and central part of the state, ask park personnel if they have experienced problems with Chinese tallow; you can bet the answer will be YES!

Some exotic plants, like Chinese tallow, have escaped cultivation and disrupted native ecosystems. They are referred to as "invasive" exotic plants. Invasive exotic plants all share several common characteristics: they grow quickly, propagate easily, resist native pests, grow in a wide range of soils, can invade undisturbed habitats, and have traits considered attractive enough to encourage the further distribution by people. Not all exotic plants are invasive.

**Environmentally aware Florida landowners should NOT purchase or distribute Chinese tallow-trees or seeds (as well as other invasive exotics). Florida residents with Chinese tallow are encouraged to remove them. Please take the time to revisit the sites to pull up seedlings as they germinate.**

## Management of Chinese Tallow

Attempts at managing Chinese tallow suggest that herbicidal methods are the most effective option for control at this time. Tests of simply cutting down tallow trees resulted in extensive root and stump sprouting. Biological control is being pursued, but requires lengthy field research in the native range of Chinese tallow to find insects, or pathogens, that are host-specific.

Before using any herbicide, know and understand what the herbicide label says. Misuse of a herbicide not only is a violation of federal and state law, but also may cause unwanted results such as damage to nontarget vegetation. Before applying a herbicide, read the label!!

### Basal Bark Application

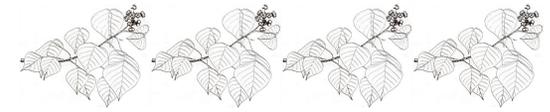
Basal bark applications are made by applying herbicide directly to the bark around the circumference of the tree up to 15 inches (38 cm) above the ground. TRICLOPYR (Garlon 4) and a mineral or vegetable oil addition, are effective but are usually not available to homeowners in small quantities.

### Cut Stump Treatment

The easiest method of control for most homeowners is to cut the tree and apply herbicide to the freshly-cut stump. To control resprouting, a 20% solution of Triclopyr will usually work.

Spray the root collar area, sides of the stump, and the outer portion of the cut surface including the cambium until thoroughly wet, but not to the point of runoff. No more than 1/2 hour should elapse between cutting and applying herbicide.

Two commonly available products that contain Triclopyr are Brush-B-Gon and Brush Killer. These products are labeled for cut-stump or foliar treatments only.



The best times to initiate herbicidal control measures on Chinese tallow are late spring and early summer after the sap has risen and the canopy has developed mature leaves.

During a normal weather year, trees begin producing seed in late August or early September. If trees are cut at a time when seeds are attached, make sure that the material is disposed of in such a way that seeds will not be dispersed to new areas where they can germinate and produce new trees. Seedlings should be continually pulled by hand before they reach seed-bearing maturity.

Space left in a landscape after removal of Chinese tallow can be used to plant a new native or noninvasive non-native tree for shade, or some other landscape purpose.

For more information contact:

**The Bay County Conservancy, Inc.**

**P.O. Box 1122**

**Panama City, FL 32402**

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*Mention of a trade name or a proprietary product does not constitute a guarantee or warranty of the product by the Bay County Conservancy and does not imply its approval to the exclusion of other products that may also be suitable. Always read carefully and follow all herbicide label directions. It is unlawful to use a pesticide in a manner that is inconsistent with or not specified on the label.*

Information included herein is derived from educational publications created for the public by the Department of Environmental Protection, the Exotic Pest Plant Council, and the University of Florida, Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences, Document SS-AGR-45.