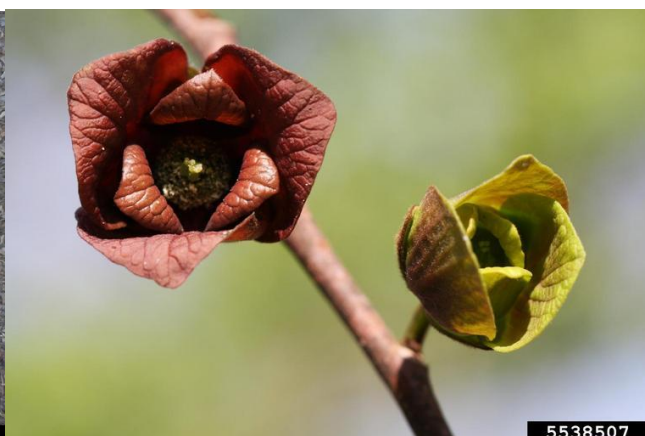


Pawpaw

Asimina triloba

Height: 15-30' | Spread: 15-25' | Light: ☀-☀ | Moisture-Medium-wet | Fruit: Edible

Known as the “forgotten fruit,” pawpaw it is the largest edible native fruit found in the US, and the only temperate member of a tropical family. Harvest pawpaws in early fall when fruit is just-soft and they are falling to the ground. The yellowish-green fruits are reminiscent of a mango, with a creamy inside that can be eaten raw or cooked, and include several large, dark-brown seeds. Not particularly showy, but interesting, purple, six-petaled flowers appear before leaf emergence. This is a good understory tree. No serious disease or insect problems. The fruit can create a mess on sidewalks and patios, but this can be minimized by planting only one tree; pawpaws seldom set much fruit without cross pollination.



Photos courtesy Bugwood.org: T. Davis Sydnor, The Ohio State University, Joseph LaForest, University of Georgia; Rebekah D. Wallace, University of Georgia; Steven Katovich.