# Celastrus orbiculatus

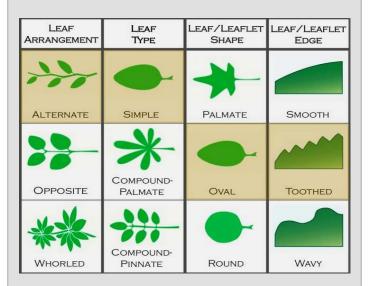
**Invasive to Maine** 

Oriental Bittersweet, Asian Bittersweet Upland Forests, Fields, and Developed Areas

#### Leaves



Look for glossy leaves that are almost round with long pointed tips. Each leaf is 5 to 13 cm long and its edges are finely toothed.



## **Seasonal Change**



From June to August look for clusters of small green flowers. After August look for bright red fruit with thin yellow skins.

#### **Plant**



Look for a woody vine growing up to 18.5 m long and climbing on living (trees, shrubs) or non-living (buildings, telephone poles) support.

#### **Stem**



Look for a vine that is smooth and green when it is young. The older vines are woody, round, and bumpy. The roots of the vine are bright orange!

### **Similar Species**

Oriental Bittersweet and American Bittersweet are very similar. There are, however, a few great ways to tell them apart. Oriental Bittersweet has rounder leaves and bright red berries with yellow skins. American Bittersweet has darker berries with orange skins and oval leaves.

#### **Fun Fact**

Oriental Bittersweet is spread by birds that eat the berries, and by people who use the vines and berries to decorate. It also spreads quickly using special roots called stolons.



