



NORWAY MAPLE *Acer platanoides* L.



Norway maple is not native to Maine. Because of its aggressive nature, it is considered to be a serious potential threat to our native flora and further planting of it is discouraged.

Native to continental Europe, Norway maple thrives in a wide variety of conditions, grows rapidly and casts a deep shade. Because of its aesthetic appeal and ease of propagation, it has been planted across Maine as a street and shade tree. It has escaped into the wild around many of our cities and towns, particularly in the southern half of the state. Because of its aggressive nature, Norway maple is considered to be a serious potential threat to our native flora and further planting of it is discouraged.

The **bark** of young trees is gray and smooth. Bark of older trees is gray-brown to almost black, and broken into long, interlacing vertical furrows.

Norway maple drawing by Anna Anisko, used with the permission of the Pennsylvania Flora Project, Morris Arboretum of the University of Pennsylvania.





The **leaves** are opposite, with 5–7 lobes, and very dark green. The leaf blade is usually broader than it is long. Early in summer, the petiole will exude a white milky sap when broken. This characteristic is not shared by any of our native maples.

The **flowers** are bright yellow-green and appear in spring before the leaves.

The **fruits** are paired and diverge at a wide angle from each other. Each fruit has a leathery wing attached. The fruit and wing are about 2 inches long, flattened, light brown and mature in the fall.

The **twigs** are stout and brownish. The buds are large and green to purple with large bud scales.

The **wood** is occasionally used for firewood.



Norway maple fruit has a flattened seed body and a leathery, 2 inch wing.

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Norway Maple Circumference: 166" Height: 70' Crown Spread: 86' Location: South Berwick

