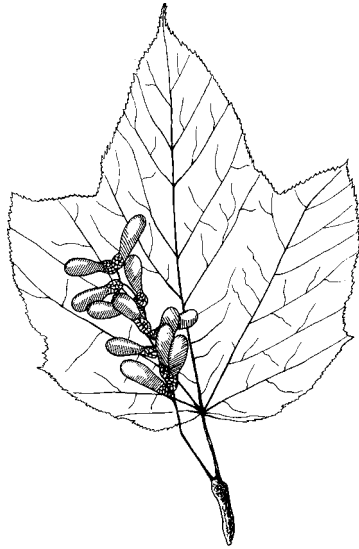


STRIPED MAPLE

Acer pensylvanicum L.

Striped maple or moosewood is common throughout the state. It is a shade-loving tree that is found growing with other hardwoods or occasionally with conifers on rich, moist soils or rocky slopes. It is of little value except for its beauty. It rarely exceeds a height of 25 feet and a diameter of 8 inches. The branches are slender and upright and the top narrow and often short.

The **bark** on the trunk is reddish brown or dark green and marked by whitish lines running lengthwise which turn brown after a time. The leaves are three-lobed toward the apex, resembling a goose foot, opposite, finely toothed, pale green, 5-6 inches long and about as broad. In the fall they become light yellow in color.



The **flowers** are bright yellow in slender drooping racemes opening the end of May or early June when the leaves are fully grown. The **fruit** is paired, with wings moderately divergent, fully grown in late summer. It has a smooth, oval depression in the seed body. The **twigs** are smooth, reddish or greenish; the buds are valve-like, stout, stalked, and without hairs.



The **wood** is close-grained, light and soft. During the spring when the cambium layer is active, it is easy to make a whistle from the smaller branch sections.