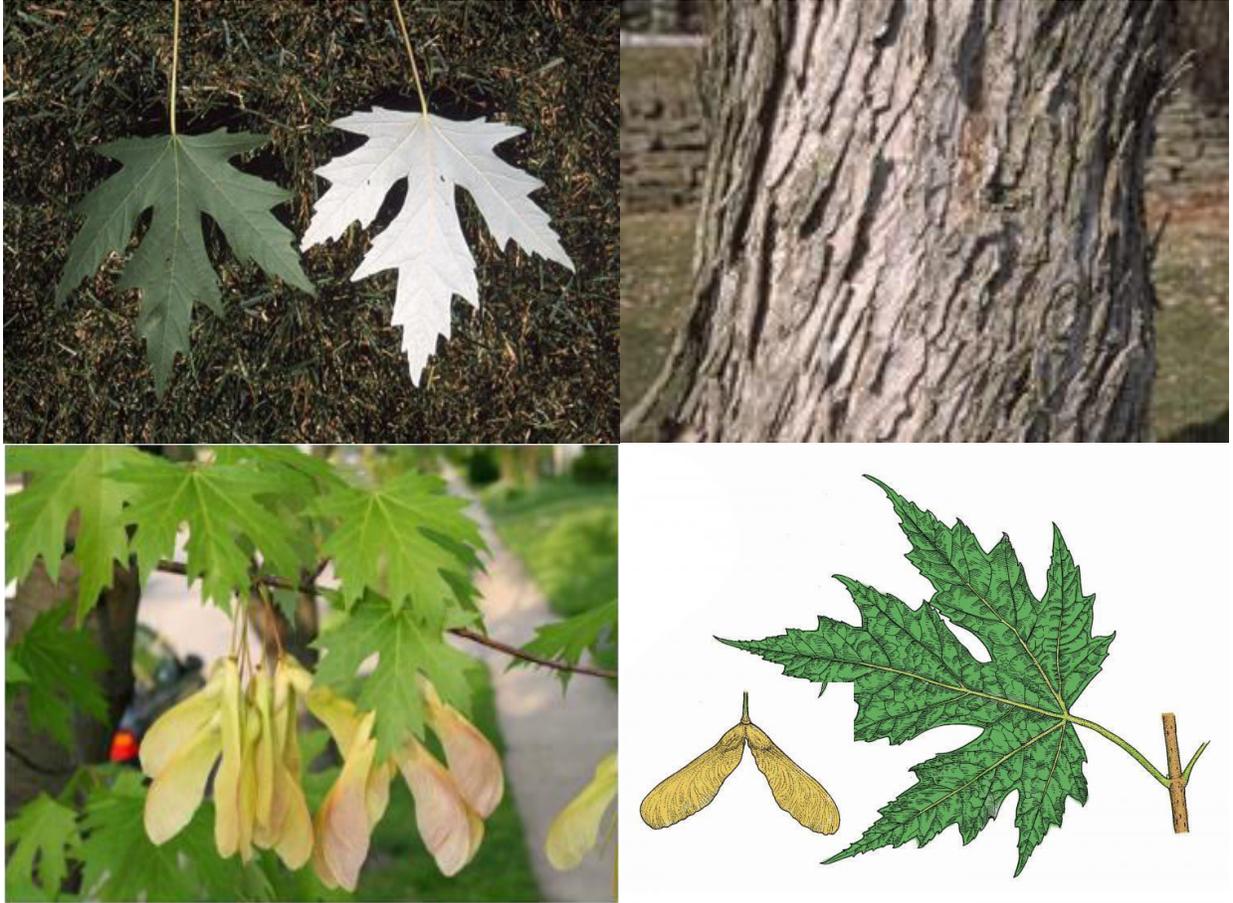


Silver Maple

Acer saccharinum



Description: Large tree (up to 100 feet tall, 4'+ feet in diam.) with large spreading, round-topped open crown. Leaves opposite, simple. Fruits are large, paired double "propellers" that spiral to ground in wind

Leaves: Opposite on twig, simple, borne on leafstalk 3-4 inches long. Lobes are hand-like, deeply 5-lobed with narrow notches that are sharp-angled, edges sharply toothed. Blades are often 4-8 inches long; light green, smooth above, silvery white below giving it the name silver maple. Turn pale yellow in autumn

Bark: Light gray and smooth on young stems and upper branches; becomes scaly, then shaggy with age

Flowers: Flowers are dense clusters, without petals, small, greenish-yellow to red; male and female flowers separate but on same tree. Very early flowering in the spring

Fruits: Fruits are large (1 ½ - 3 inches), paired propellers, their veined wings spreading at an angle of about 90 degrees; mature in spring; wind easily scatters seeds

Habitat/Range: Wet and poorly drained lowlands, floodplains, stream and river bottoms, and along pond and lake edges. Range, throughout Indiana