

Cottonwood
Populus deltoides



Description: large tree to 110 feet tall, 6 feet diameter with a spreading crown of large branches, some drooping. Leaves are triangular, coarsely tooth, and have flattened stems. Bud large, pointed, sticky

Leaves: alternate on the twig, simple, born on long to 4 in, slender, flattened, smooth, yellow Leaf stocks. Blades thick, broad, triangular to 6 in Long, almost as broad, edges coarsely tooth dark glossy green above, paler below. Noisily flutter in breezes. Turn yellow-gray or pale Brown and fall.

Bark: smooth and yellow-green when young. Thick, dark gray and deeply furrowed when mature.

Flowers: unisexual on separate trees before he leaves unfold. Flowers crowded and long to 3 in, thick, drooping clusters catkins male clusters red, female yellow-green.

Fruits: in long clusters of capsules, which contains numerous seeds with cottony hairs attached hence the common name of the tree. Seeds wind or water scattered in spring, sometimes covering the ground with cottony fibers

Habit/Range: bottomland woods along streams occasionally in swamp forests; found throughout Indiana.