



BIGTOOTH ASPEN *Populus grandidentata* Michx.



Bigtooth aspen, poplar or popple occurs statewide and commonly grows with quaking aspen. It is a rapid grower in various soils and in different situations. It grows best in a rich, sandy and fairly moist soil. It is more shade-tolerant, and therefore more competitive, than quaking aspen and grows with other species in either scattered or small groves. Bigtooth aspen tends to have better form than quaking aspen. It attains a height of 60–80 feet and a diameter of 10–20 inches.

When first emerging in spring, the bigtooth aspen leaf is a distinctive silvery-green.





The **bark** is smooth, and olive to gray-green. At the base of old trees, it is dark and divided into broad, irregular, flat ridges.

The **leaves** are alternate, 3–4 inches long, broadly egg-shaped in outline, and have a dark green upper surface. When first emerging in spring, they are a distinctive silvery-green. The edges are coarsely and irregularly toothed. The petiole, or leaf stalk, is flat.

The **flowers** are in catkins, and appear before the leaves.

The **fruit** ripens in May about the time the leaves begin to come out. The seeds are small, light and are carried long distances by the wind. The **buds** are dull gray, slightly hairy and not sticky.

The **wood** is like that of the quaking aspen and is used for the same purposes, as well as rails for apple-picking ladders.



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Bigtooth Aspen Circumference: 151"
Height: 76' Crown Spread: 45' Location: Appleton

