



## STRIPED MAPLE *Acer pensylvanicum* L.



*The striped maple is a shade-loving tree that is usually found growing with other hardwoods.*

**S**triped 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. 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 fall they turn light yellow.





*The white and green-striped bark of the striped maple distinguishes it from any other native tree.*



The **flowers** are bright yellow in slender drooping racemes that open 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 spring when the cambium layer is active, it is easy to make a whistle from the smaller branch sections.



MAINE REGISTER OF BIG TREES 2008  
Striped Maple\*  
Circumference: 30"/31" Height: 45'/50'  
Crown Spread: 21'/20'  
Location: Harpswell /Monhegan Island \*Tie

