

ID #: 508

Owner: USFW—Little River National Wildlife Refuge

Circumference: 45 inches

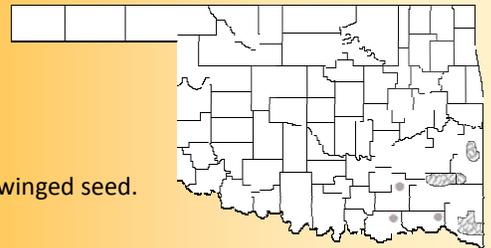
Height: 47 feet

Average Crown Spread: 34 feet

Total Points: 100.5



WATER-ELM (*PLANERA AQUATICA*)



Water-elm is closely related to the elm family but has a soft, prickly nut instead of a winged seed. As the name suggests, it is common on wet sites in or bordering standing water.

Small or medium sized tree 40 feet high and 1 1/2 feet in diameter, with brown crown of spreading branches. **Twigs** slender, brown or gray, hairy when young. **Buds** tiny, rounded, covered by many red brown scales, finely hairy; no end bud.

Leaves in 2 rows, ovate, 2—2 1/2 inches long, 3/4—1 inch wide, short-pointed, base short-pointed or rounded with sides unequal, coarsely wavy toothed with slightly unequal blunt gland-tipped teeth, many straight side veins, slightly thickened, above dull dark green and rough, beneath paler and becoming hairless.

Flowers few clustered at leaf base in early spring, mostly male and female, tiny, greenish yellow.

Fruits (drupes) short-stalked at leaf base, nutlike, elliptical, 3/8 inch long, warty or tubercled, dry, light brown, not opening, maturing in early spring. Seed 1, egg-shaped, shiny dark brown or blackish.

Bark light brown or gray, thin, shedding in large scales and exposing red brown inner layers.

Wood light brown with thick whitish sapwood, fine textured, light weight, soft. Scarce and not used locally.