Wafer Ash, Common Hoptree, Hop Tree

*Ptelea trifoliata*

**Unique Characteristics**

This small, aromatic, slow growing tree has distinctive fruit with wafer-like winged seeds. It is one of the northernmost American species in the Citrus family and is not a true Ash. Host plant for the giant swallowtail butterfly.

**Plant Type:** Tree  
**Native Range:** Eastern and central U.S.  
**Sun:** Part shade to full shade  
**Water:** Dry to medium  
**Soil:** Moist, well drained  
**pH:** 6.8-7.2  
**Height:** 15-20 feet  
**Spread:** 15-20 feet  
**Wildlife:** Larval host to giant swallowtail butterfly; Provides food and shelter for birds and mammals. Flowers provide nectar for butterflies.  
**Hardiness Zones:** 4-9  
**Bloom Time:** June  
**Bloom Color:** Greenish-white  
**Uses:** Hedge, flowering tree, winter interest, adaptable to wide range of growing conditions. Despite the name, this tree is not a true ash tree and is unaffected by the emerald ash borer.