

# Shagbark Hickory

*Carya ovata*

-Shagbark Hickory is a medium-sized to large tree. It can grow to heights of 60 feet tall and have a diameter of 2 feet.

-There are many reasons why Shagbark Hickory should be on your shoreline restoration list. Some of the great qualities of this tree are that it is very long-lived, relatively shade tolerant, relatively free of insect and disease pests, produces wonderful nuts for wildlife, and you can prune the smaller branches to smoke fish and other meats.

-The leaves of Shagbark Hickory are egg-shaped.

-Although Shagbark Hickory cannot grow in areas right on the shore, it can grow well on a steep slope or farther inland. The tap root of the Shagbark Hickory can grow extremely fast. It can grow over 3 feet in its first year. Such vigorous tap roots can help prevent soil erosion on steep slopes by helping hold the soil together.

-If you decide that you would like to smoke some fish with the branches of Shagbark Hickory, I would be more than happy to help you with the leftovers.



**As the poet said, 'Only God can make a tree'...probably because it's so hard to figure out how to get the bark on.**

**-Woody Allen (1935-)**