

Big Leaf Maple

Fall colors



Spring buds and flowers



Leaves opposite, palmate, 5 lobed, 8-12 inches long



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Acer macrophyllum

PNW Native Plant

Large deciduous multi-stemmed tree at low to mid elevation

Mossy branches

Cultural Uses: A light soft wood used in making furniture. First nations used it for paddles and various other instruments giving it the name "paddle tree." Sap can be used to make maple syrup.



Shade tolerant

Ecology: Dry to moist sites, often disturbed, mixed with western Washington trees

Restoration and Landscape Uses:

This is a medium sized tree, growing to about 60-80 ft. tall. It needs plenty of room but offers year round interest providing beautiful fall colors and spring flowers that attract bees and birds. The branches carry a heavy load of moss and other plants such as licorice fern and can be completely obscured. They are considered a strong competitor to conifer seedlings. The seeds are v-shaped and carried by the wind to repopulate.