

Shagbark Hickory



There are as many as 10 different Hickory trees listed in the ID books but the Shagbark Hickory is the most recognizable. The bark tends to curve off while remaining attached at the middle. This gives the tree its namesake look. Typically, hickory trees share the mature forest with oaks. They can live as long as three hundred years, wait 20 years to flower and as long as 40 years until yielding a heavy crop of nuts. Their name is derived from the Algonquin word, pohickory, which refers to a sweet milk concocted from pounded nuts boiled in water. The wood is used for smoking meats and is an excellent firewood.