

# Have you seen this tree?



Tree-of-heaven, *Ailanthus altissima*, is the primary reproductive host of the spotted lanternfly, *Lycorma delicatula*. Places where large amounts of tree-of-heaven grow are potential points of establishment for populations of SLF.





# Tree-of-heaven ID:

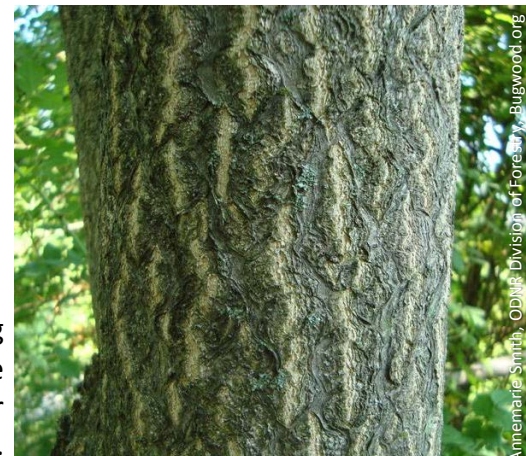
Tree-of-heaven (*Ailanthus altissima*) is fast-growing and 'opportunistic,' often found growing in disturbed soils or along edges of industrial areas, between railroad tracks, edges of greenhouses, etc. It has a strong unpleasant odor, sometimes described as burnt peanuts.

**Leaves:** Pinnately compound with 11-41 leaflets, alternate, large (1-3 feet long). Leaflet base uneven and toothed.

Note large 'bumps' on leaflet teeth. These are the scent glands that give tree-of-heaven its odor.



**Seeds:** Papery winged single samaras, red/orange or yellow, hanging in large clusters. Seeds may stay on tree through winter.



**Bark:** Smooth in young trees, mature trees have rough, pale gray bark similar to a cantaloupe skin.



**Leaf Scar:** Large, triangular or shield shaped. Does not enclose the lateral bud.



Compare sumac (*Rhus* sp.), with serrated leaflets and no scent glands. Leaf scars are C-shaped and encircle the lateral bud. Fruits are berry-like, growing in large panicles that turn bright red as they ripen.