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# Tree Nut Collection Kickoff

**September 9, 2024**





## Agenda

- Overview of TNC
- Restoration Projects
- Planting Events
- Nut Collection
- Tree ID
- Questions



## **Our Mission:**

Conserve the lands and waters on which all life depends.

## **Our Vision:**

A world where the diversity of life thrives, and people act to conserve nature for its own sake and its ability to fulfill our needs and enrich our lives.





# Global Impact

**1M+** Members

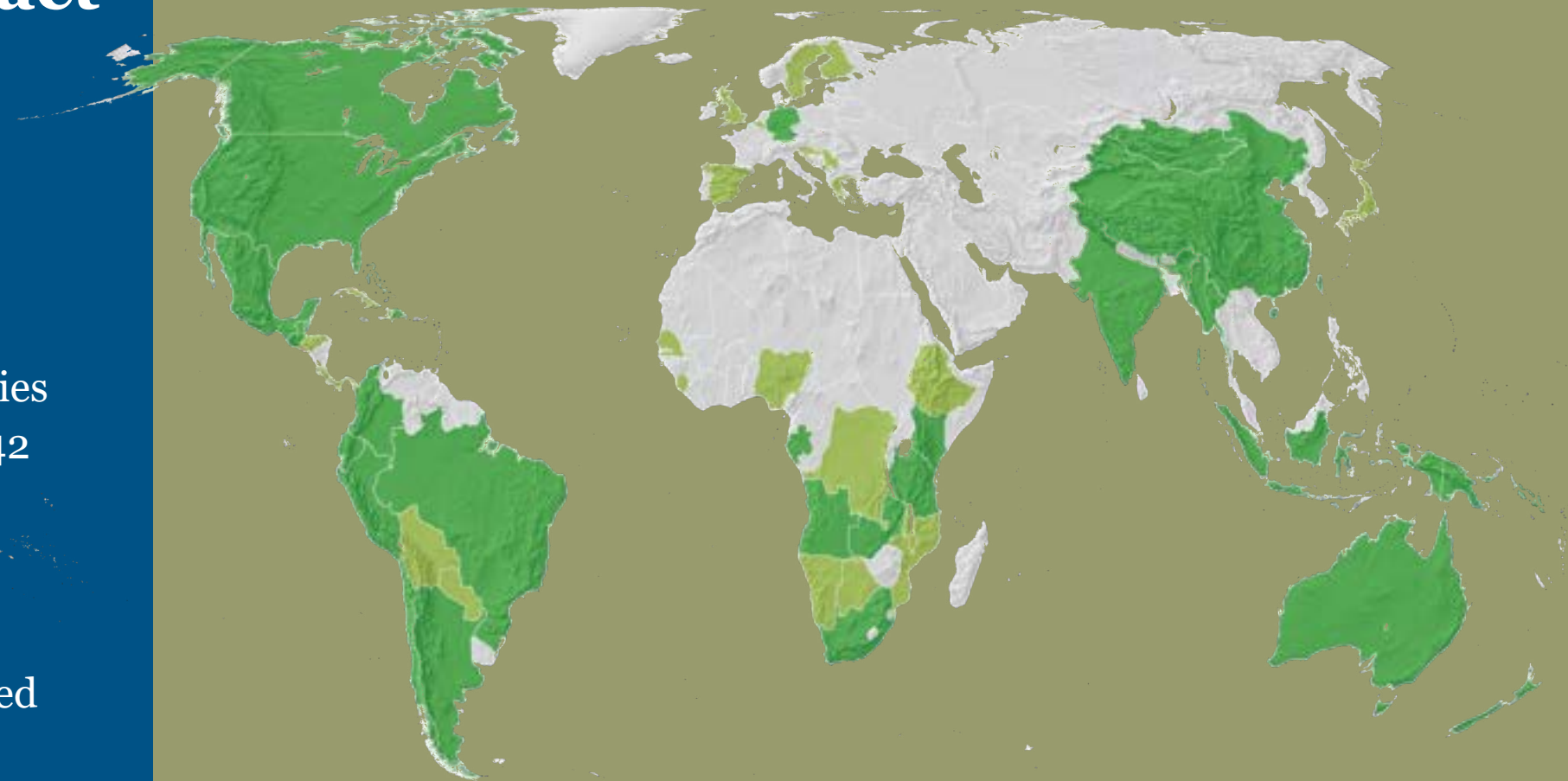
**70+** Years

**79** Countries & Territories  
(37 by direct impact and 42 through partners)

**400+** Scientists

**125M** Acres Conserved

**100+** Marine  
Conservation Projects

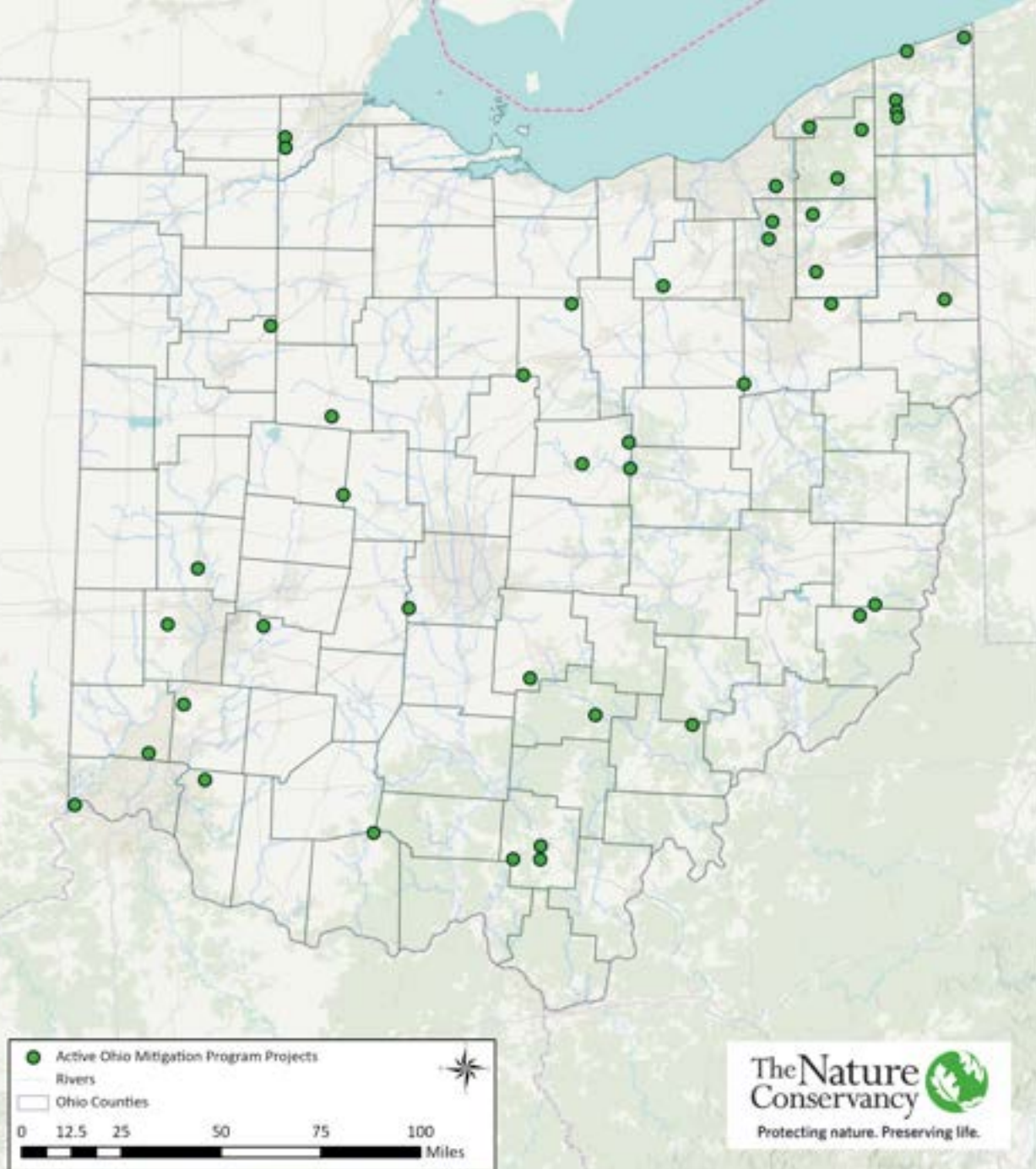


**Science-based • Collaborative • Non-partisan**  
**Innovative • Market-based**  
**Solution-focused • Tangible Lasting Results**



# Ohio Restoration Projects

- The Ohio Mitigation Program has over 40 stream and wetland restoration sites across the state of Ohio, in varying degrees of completion.





Strait Creek Restoration 2019



Strait Creek Restoration 2024



## **We need trees!**

- Shade streams
- Provide habitat
- Forested wetlands
- Connect fragmented forests
- Create migration corridors
- Sequester carbon





## 2023 Recap

- Thousands of nuts collected
- Distributed by staff to over 5 restoration sites
- Lots of new saplings discovered this spring!





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## How can you participate this year?

1. Collect nuts throughout the Fall
2. Store nuts using recommended methods
3. Bring nuts to tree planting or drop off site



# Northwest Ohio

- Saturday, Oct. 26<sup>th</sup>, 10am-1pm
- Ottawa Hills Restoration Site
- Site tour and nut planting
- Contact: Ashlee Decker

# Northeast Ohio

- Saturday, Oct. 26<sup>th</sup>, 10am-2pm
- Cuyahoga Headwaters Restoration Site – Montville, Ohio
- Site tour and nut planting
- Contact: Liss Whiting,  
Clarissa.whiting@tnc.org

# Southwest Ohio

- Saturday, Nov. 9<sup>th</sup>, 10am-2pm
- Sycamore State Park Restoration Site – Dayton, Ohio
- Site tour and nut planting
- Contact: Liss Whiting,  
Clarissa.whiting@tnc.org

# Central Ohio

- Monday, Oct. 21<sup>st</sup>, 8:30am-5:30pm
- Dublin Office - 6375 Riverside Dr #100, Dublin, OH 43017
- Nut drop off only
- Contact: Liss Whiting,  
Clarissa.whiting@tnc.org





## Planting Event/Drop-Off Sign Up

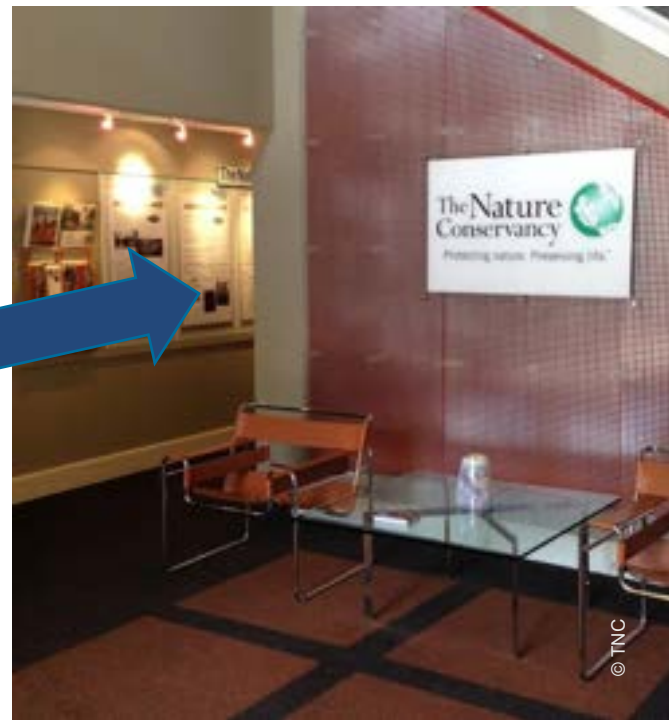
- You must RSVP using this link to participate in a tree nut planting:  
<https://forms.office.com/r/krGwh1d2GD>
- If you RSVP you will receive a reminder email the week before the event with details about where to park, what to bring and what to expect.





## Central Ohio Nut Drop Off

- The Nature Conservancy office in Dublin: 6375 Riverside Dr #100, Dublin, OH 43017
- Monday Oct 21<sup>st</sup> 8:30am-5:30pm





## Where to collect

- Backyard
- Parks
- Parking lots
- Do not collect from protected natural areas and preserves
- Be sure you have permission to collect!







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## Nut Collection

- Do not collect nuts that are hollow, have holes, or are chewed on
- Record species, county, location, date, contact information. Write on bag or slip of paper stapled to bag



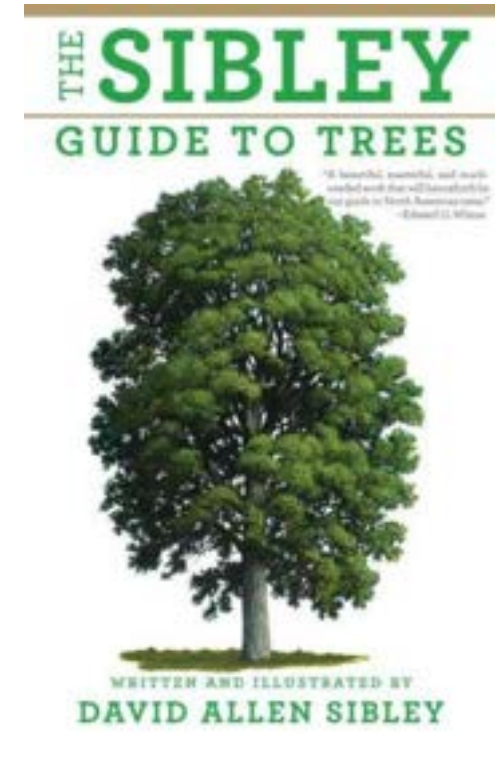
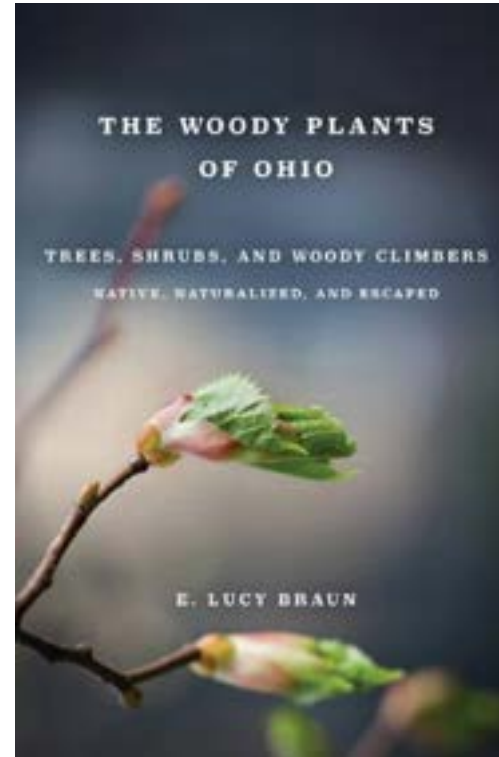
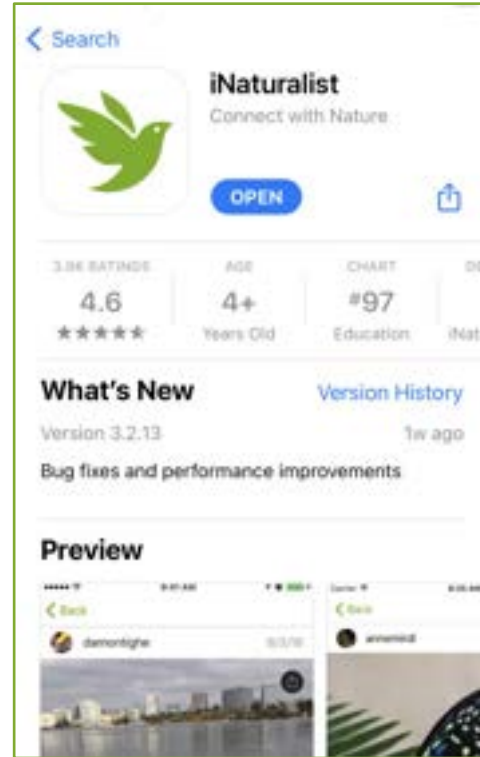
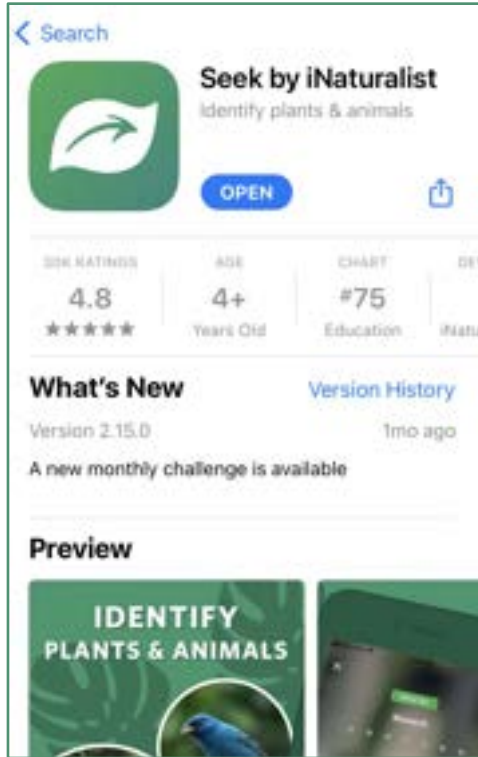
# Storage and Handling

	Prep	Store	Where	Notes
Black walnut	N/A	Store in paper bag, yard waste bag, or 5 gallon bucket	Outside (in shade and out of rain) or in fridge	Include a few leaves in bag
Hackberry				
Ohio buckeye	Remove husk	Store in plastic sealable bag. Include a moist paper towel to prevent the nuts from drying. Add moisture if no condensation.	Fridge	Include a husk as well as leaf sample inside the bag to help confirm ID
Pin oak	Soak in water for 1-24 hours; remove cap if possible	Store in plastic bag. Include a moist paper towel to prevent the nuts from drying. Add moisture if no condensation. Open bag occasionally to give them fresh air.	Fridge	Include a cap and few leaves in bag to help confirm ID. <i>Optional: after 4 hours of soaking, throw out nuts that float</i>
Red oak				
Shingle oak				
Bur oak				
Chinkapin oak				
Swamp white oak				
White oak				
Boxelder	N/A			Include a few leaves in bag to help confirm ID
Bitternut hickory	N/A	Store in plastic or paper bag.	Fridge	Include a husk and few leaves in bag to help confirm ID
Shagbark hickory	Remove husk if possible			
Shellbark hickory	Remove husk if possible			

**On all bags write species, county where collected, date, and your contact information**



# Tree ID



There are lots of helpful identification apps and books out there. Check your local library!



## **Black walnut** *Juglans nigra*

- Large compound leaves, 13-23 leaflets
- Leaves and nuts strongly aromatic when crushed
- Stout twigs with white, pubescent buds





# Pin oak

## *Quercus palustris*

- Simple, lobed leaves with deep U-shaped sinuses
- Open-grown trees have strongly excurrent growth form and persistent dead branches on lower trunk
- Very small acorns <1.5 cm diameter





## Red oak *Quercus rubra*

- Simple, lobed leaves with rounded sinuses, not as deep as pin oak
- Large tree with broad, round crown
- Large acorns up to 2 cm wide and 3 cm long, cup usually enclosing only the base of the nut



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## Shingle oak *Quercus imbricaria*

- Simple leaves without lobes; crinkled appearance
- Small acorns up to ~1.5 cm long, deep cup enclosing a third to half of the nut
- Bark resembles that of red oak



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## Bur Oak

*Quercus macrocarpa*

- Simple, deeply-lobed leaves, often with a wider lobe toward the middle of the leaf
- Large, "mossy cup" acorns
- Twigs/branches often exhibit corky bark



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## Chinkapin oak *Quercus muehlenbergii*

- Simple leaves with shallow lobes; dark green above and pale grayish green below
- Mature acorns are ovoid in shape and brown to black in color
- Bark is light gray, faintly yellow





# Swamp white oak

## *Quercus bicolor*

- Simple leaves widest just above the middle; upper surface dark green, lower surface grayish and densely hairy
- Large acorns with caps covered with coarsely fringed scales, 1/3 of the length of the fruit
- Bark is deeply furrowed on mature trees



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# White oak

## *Quercus alba*

- Simple leaves with rounded lobes
- Acorns typically longer than wide, the cap about 1/3 the length of the nut
- Susceptible to "smooth patch disease", leaving characteristic patches of smoother bark on mature trees





## **Bitternut hickory** *Carya cordiformis*

- Compound leaves with 7-9 narrow leaflets
- Sulfur yellow buds



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## Shagbark hickory *Carya ovata*

- Distinct "shaggy" bark
- Leaves compound, usually 5 leaflets (sometimes 7)
- Terminal buds up to 2 cm long
- Nuts 2-4 cm long; wider than long





## Shellbark hickory *Carya laciniosa*

- Bark similar to shagbark hickory
- Leaves compound, usually 7 leaflets (sometimes 9)
- Terminal buds 2-3 cm long
- Nuts 4.5-7 cm long; longer than wide
- Typically found on wetter sites





# Hackberry

*Celtis occidentalis*

- Bark appears corky/warty/like candlewax





# Ohio buckeye

## *Aesculus glabra*

- Compound, opposite leaves with 5 leaflets
- Stout twigs with large, scaly terminal buds
- Avoid nonnative lookalikes: horsechestnut & red buckeye
- Nuts easily separate from capsule; include at least part of capsule to aid with ID.
- Nuts cannot be allowed to dry



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# Boxelder

*Acer negundo*

- Compound, opposite leaves with 3 (sometimes 5) leaflets; leaves sometimes confused with poison ivy
- Young twigs often green to glaucous
- Fruit is a samara, or a pair of winged seeds



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Please reach out with any  
questions!

Liss Whiting

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380-206-2190



**Thank you**

The Nature  
Conservancy



Protecting nature. Preserving life.