

TREE OF HEAVEN

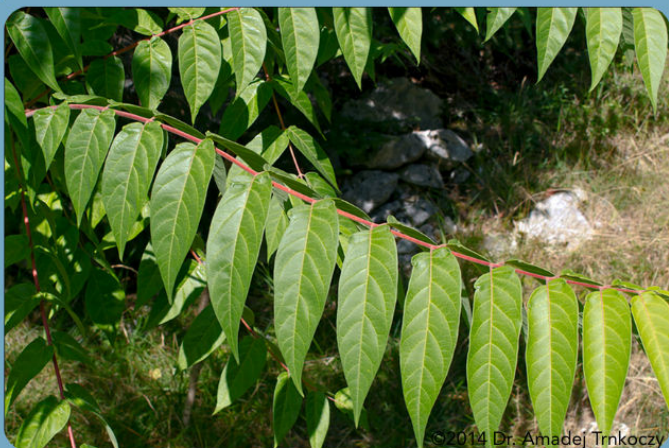
Tree of Heaven (*Ailanthus altissima*) is an invasive species found growing along roadsides, railways, and in areas impacted by human development. It establishes well in riparian areas and poses concerns for biodiversity and wildfire safety.

IDENTIFICATION

- Tree of Heaven is a relatively small deciduous tree growing up to 80 feet in height and 6 feet in diameter.
 - **Bark** - Smooth, light gray or brown, and can resemble the skin of cantaloupe melon.
 - **Leaves** - Compound, consisting of many leaflets that are lance-shaped and have 1 - 2 bumps at the base.
 - Leaves smell like rancid peanut butter when crushed.
- Tree of Heaven leaves can be confused with California black walnut tree leaves.



Tree of Heaven



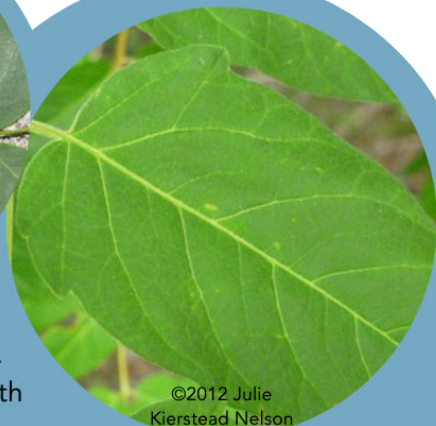
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Tree of Heaven leaves are compound with red petioles and smooth leaflet edges. They are typically longer than California black walnut leaves which have small teeth along edges. "Teeth" at the base of leaflets is a distinguishing mark of Tree of Heaven leaves.



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California black walnut leaf.



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Tree of Heaven leaf with "teeth" at base.

CONCERNS

- Tree of Heaven displaces native species by growing in dense thickets and producing chemicals that prevent other plants from thriving.
- If **injured, cut, or burned**, the tree re-sprouts **up to 50 feet away** from the main trunk. Due to its re-sprouting properties, Tree of Heaven poses as a wildfire risk by adding to fuel loads and acting as ladder fuels.
- Tree of Heaven is a host plant for the spotted lanternfly and the brown marmorated stinkbug, two non-native species that can cause damage to several types of crops.



Spotted Lantern Fly on Tree of Heaven bark.

MANAGEMENT OPTIONS

- It is important to properly identify and manage Tree of Heaven to limit its spread. It is recommended to consult with a herbicide applicator to establish an appropriate treatment plan for Tree of Heaven on your property.
- Chemical and herbicide treatments of Tree of Heaven are the most effective. Methods include:
 - Foliar spraying of saplings and re-sprouts
 - Bark treatments, such as 'hack and squirt', stump painting, and EZ-ject herbicide shells.
- Read more in the UC Davis Weed Report at the link below:
 - <https://bit.ly/TOHweedreport>

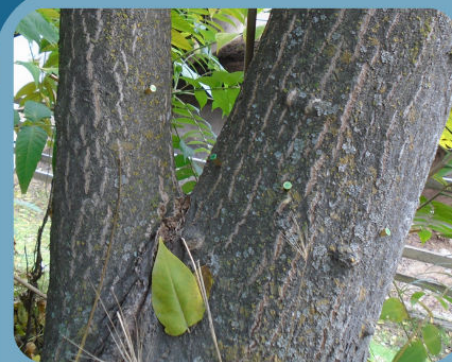
WANT TO LEARN MORE?

Watch the Tree of Heaven webinar linked below.

<https://bit.ly/videoTOH>

QUESTIONS?

Contact Forestry@NapaRCD.org



Imazapyr herbicide shells injected into Tree of Heaven bark by the EZ-ject lance.