Celastrus orbiculatus

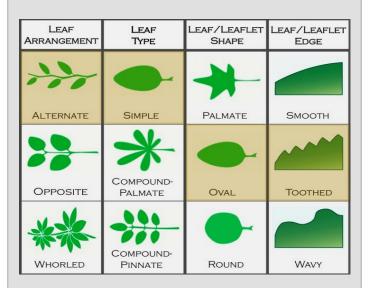
Invasive to Maine

Oriental Bittersweet, Asian Bittersweet Upland Forests, Fields, and Developed Areas

Leaves



Look for glossy leaves that are almost round. Some leaves have pointed tips while others do not. Each leaf is 5 to 13 cm long and its edges are finely toothed.



Seasonal Change



From June to August look for clusters of small green flowers all along the vines. After August look for bright red fruit with thin yellow skins.

Plant



Look for a woody vine growing up to 18.5 m long and climbing on living (trees, shrubs) or non-living (buildings, telephone poles) support.

Stem



Look for a vine that is smooth and green when it is young. The older vines are woody, round, and bumpy. The roots of the vine are bright orange!

Similar Species

Oriental bittersweet and American bittersweet are very similar species. While berries and flowers are dispersed all over the vine of Oriental bittersweet, they are clustered at the tip of American bittersweet.

Did You Know?

Oriental bittersweet is spread by birds that eat the berries, and by people who use the vines and berries to decorate. It also spreads quickly using special roots called stolons.





Researched and created by:Nicole Stephens (Updated by Jeffrey Rubel) Help us improve this species card! Contact us with your updates.