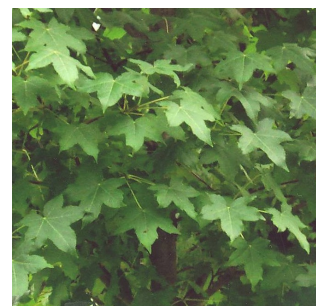


AMERICAN SWEETGUM

[Sweetgum can be one word or two depending on the field guide used.]

Liquidambar styraciflua

Deciduous. Native to the eastern United States, American sweetgum is a medium to large tree often 60-75 feet tall with a 45 foot spread; neatly conical or pyramidal becoming more rounded with age. One of the characteristic trees of the south. Easily recognized by dangling seed balls and glossy green star-shaped leaves with five or seven taper-pointed, finely toothed lobes that turn yellow-purple-red in the fall and stay on the tree quite late. The young trunks may be smooth silvery gray, but soon become rough with the mature bark a dull gray-brown and deeply furrowed with narrow ridges.



The American sweetgum, like the Dawn Redwood, are new additions to the cemetery. One was planted in 2006 at corner of Valley Rd. and Maplewood, and one in 2007 at the corner of Valley and Oak Roads. Both were excesses from Pottsville's tree plantings. Five from the Arbor Day plantings were planted in 2008. Four of the trees were planted opposite each other in the northeast section of the cemetery along Valley Road before the eastern side of the Maplewood loop, the fifth is on the eastern loop of Maplewood closer to Valley Rd. In 2010, one tree was planted at the intersection of Valley Road, Maplewood, and Oak Road.

