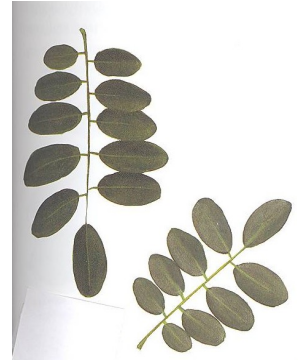


BLACK LOCUST

Robinia pseudoacacia

Deciduous. Medium to large tree often 40-60' tall. Relatively tall and narrow with upper trunk and branches curved and contorted; often suckers to form pure stands. The leaves are compound 11" with 7-19 leaflets each 1-1½".

Leaves rounded at edges and are blue or gray-green with a minimal yellow to gray-green fall color. The flowers are showy, pea-like, white, in hanging racemes (clusters) of 6". The flowers appear after leaves in late spring of May-July, and are fragrant. The fruit pods are 3". Flattened dark brown, ripening in fall and some may persist into winter. Some open to show whitish interior. The twigs are brittle with ½" thorns (spines), and are paired by most buds. The shoot is ribbed. The bark on mature trunks is extremely rugged with deep furrows and interlacing ridges. The young trunks have scaly ridges. Black Locust is common in old fields, on roadsides, and disturbed woods. Commonly cultivated. Invasive beyond native range.



The Black Locust at Charles Baber Cemetery are small peripheral trees growing on the side banks of the property. There is one Black Locust at the hillside of the northern tip of Maplewood Ave. loop. There were two small scrubby Locust on the side back of the chapel leading down to the lower level. In 2013, a large tree on the side bank fell and snapped one of the Locust. Subsequently the Locust got cut down when the large tree was cut; however, the thorn on the twigs made it difficult to gather up the cut tree pieces. There may be a few others on the side banks of the property by the Lenge Middle School or among other invasive trees on the chapel hillside.

