

CALLERY PEAR

Pyrus calleryana

This Chinese species was first introduced for use in breeding or as an understock for fruit production. USDA scientists recognized its ornamental value, and released 'Bradford', but its branches break easily from snow weight and so 'Cleveland Select' came out followed by many other landscape cultivars. The Callery Pear's height is 30-50 feet and its width is 20-35 feet. Its crown is conical to broadly ovate. Its foliage is 2"-3" in length, glossy green in spring and summer and yellow, bronze, or red in the fall. Its flower is white, abundant, and malodorous. It is valued for its attractive foliage and flowers, tolerance of city conditions, and medium size.

The 'Cleveland Select' sub-species of the Callery Pear is a favorite planting of Pottsville's Shade Tree Commission and they can be found along Market Street around the Garfield Square. The Baber Cemetery has three Callery Pear trees. Two are to the east of the Carriage House and one is on Elm Ave. by the stone bench. One tree (farthest east of the carriage house) was planted in 2008, one (by the bench) in 2009, and one (closest to the carriage house) in 2010. All three trees were given to the cemetery through the Shade Tree Commission and through Pottsville's Tree Replacement Program. The 2010 tree had been planted elsewhere in Pottsville and was not doing well, so it was transplanted in the cemetery to see if it would fare better. It is tiny, but appears to be holding its own.

