

CALLERY PEAR

Pyrus calleryana



Hoosier Heartland RC & D

Mature Height	Up to 60 feet	Soil Type	Most—prefers well drained
Mature Spread	Up to 30 feet	Flower Color	White
Mature Form	Rounded to conical	Foliage Color	Glossy Green
Growth Rate	Medium	Fall Color	Purple
Sun Exposure	Full		
Soil Moisture	Prefers moist		

A real love—hate relationship exists with this highly invasive tree. The popular Bradford Pear is a variety of the Callery Pear that came from Southeast Asia to serve as a root stock for grafted pears for eating and also became a very much used landscape tree. It has beautiful white blooms, glossy green summertime leaves that turn purple in the fall. Only problem is that birds and mammals spread the seed (pears) far and wide where they invade natural areas, open fields, roadsides and parks. They shade and crowd out natural plants that are much more important to the native ecosystem. The tree is also short lived because of wind and ice damage. This tree should not be planted and many are now being replaced. Good alternative small trees are serviceberry, hawthorns and crabapples. Cut stumps can be treated with a systemic herbicide like glyphosate for control.



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This fact sheet was developed by the West Central Indiana Cooperative Weed Management Area (CWMA) with funding by the Nina Mason Pulliam Charitable Trust. The consist of 27 western and central Indiana counties and strives to help land users identify and control invasive terrestrial plants through workshops, field days and other educational activities.

