Tree-of-Heaven  
*Ailanthus altissima*  
Quassia Family (Simaroubaceae)

**Key Characteristics**

**Vegetation** (Figures All)

- Plant: *tree* to 80 feet tall and 6 feet in diameter; emits strong (unpleasant) odor
- Stem/Branch: *branches light* to dark gray; *smooth* and glossy; *raised dots* becoming fissures with age; *twigs stout, chestnut brown* to reddish tan; *smooth* to velvety with light dots and large, heart-shaped leaf scars
- Leaves: 1-3 feet long with 10-41 leaflets each 2-7 inches long; leaflets dark green with light-green veins above and whitish green below

**Flowers** (Figures 1, 4)

- Flowers: *large clusters* to 20 inches long of small yellowish-green flowers with 5 petals; male and female flowers on separate trees
- Fruit/Seeds: green to tan; 1 inch wing shaped fruits with twisted tips on female trees

**Habitat and Distribution**
Rapidly growing, forms thickets and dense stands in open, disturbed areas; spreads by seeds and roots

**Similar Native Species:** There are no similar native species