

Downy Hawthorn (*Crataegus mollis*)

Origin: Native.

Status in Park: Not known in the park until nursery trees were planted along the McGraw Tree Trail.

Characteristics: Small tree, up to 25 feet tall and 14 inches in diameter, crown widely spreading; twigs stout, gray or brown, often with spines; flowers appearing in April, white, 5-petaled, up to 1 inch in size, several in a cluster; fruit an apple-like pome, spherical, up to 1 inch in diameter, red, with 4-5 seeds inside, edible but dry.

Leaves: Alternate, simple; blades ovate, broader near the base, short-pointed at the tip, rounded at the base, up to 4 inches long; yellow-green and hairless on the upper surface, paler and hairy on the under surface; leaves usually have a pair of leafy stipules at the base of the petiole (stalk).



Location of tagged trees:



Notes: The flowers of this small, showy tree attract many different kinds of bees, flies, beetles and other insects. The fruits are edible, but seedy.

Mostly used as an ornamental.