



P. tricuspidata - Boston Ivy

Vine
Deciduous

Native
Map #87

Virginiacreeper

(*Parthenocissus quinquefolia*)
Family: *Vitaceae*

Leaves: palmately compound, with 5 stalked, oblong leaflets, each 1 1/2 to 4" long coming to a sharp point, and coarsely serrate margins. The new growth is reddish in the spring changing to a lustrous dark green in summer; fall - a stunning deep scarlet and one of the first plants to color in fall.

Buds: Alternate, fat, pyramidal-shaped buds are grayish brown and often occur on the same side of the stem.

Stems: Light brown to grayish brown and knobby at the nodes, the glabrous stems have prominent raised elliptical gray lenticels, large rounded leaf scars on projections at the nodes, and tendrils occurring oppositely from the leaf scar. The tendrils have 5 to 8 branches, each ending in disk-like adhesive tips that provide an unmistakable suction-cup appearance. When stems are pulled from a surface, the adhesive tips remain attached.

Bark: Not significant.

Flowers: Not significant.

Fruits: blue on red stalks in clusters.

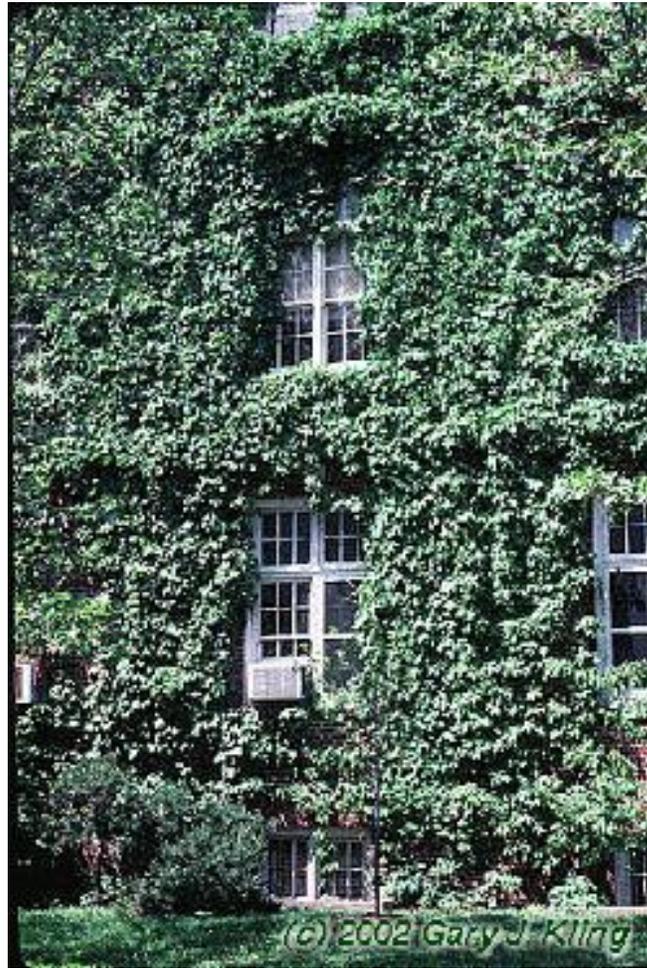
Habit: Climbs by means of holdfasts.

Culture: Very adaptable. Full sun to shade. A handsome and durable vine that once established will grow rapidly, and if allowed reach considerable size. The 5-parted leaves turn a brilliant red in September and then drop revealing small blue berries. Although able to climb masonry walls, its holdfasts are relatively weak and may be pulled from the wall by strong winds.

Cultivars: 'Engelmannii'

Miscellaneous: can be confused by some with poison ivy but careful inspection reveals the holdfasts and blue berries which are not found on poison ivy.

Related species: *P. cuspidata* - Boston Ivy - Alternate and simple and broad ovate to obovate, the 4-8" leaves are 3-lobed with coarse serrations. The new growth is bronzy purple, changing to a glossy dark green. Young plants will often produce 3-parted leaves with stalked leaflets before they begin producing simple leaves. On established plantings, only simple leaves are seen. The simple leaves readily distinguish this species from *Parthenocissus quinquefolia*. The leaves of this species are highly regularly displayed on a wall presenting a very uniform surface and finer texture from a distance than those of *Parthenocissus quinquefolia*.



Virginiacreeper - *P. quinquefolia*



Boston Ivy—*P. cuspidata*

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