

# Invasive Carrotwood Tree

*Cupaniopsis anacardioides*



**Due to its prolific nature, carrotwood alters the forest canopy and the understory habitat.**

Carrotwood was introduced to Florida for use as an ornamental tree. It was widely planted in the home landscape and as a street tree. Birds feed on the abundant seeds helping spread them quickly to natural areas.

*This invasive tree is on the Florida Noxious Weed List and sale is prohibited.*



*Native to Australia and New Guinea*

## NEGATIVE IMPACTS

- **Can be a litter problem** due to an abundance of fruits dropping from the trees.
- **Reduces biodiversity** by crowding out native understory plants that wildlife depends on.
- **Invades native habitats**, including islands and beach dunes, mangrove and cypress swamps, pinelands, and scrub habitats.

For more information, call (727) 464-7503  
or visit [Pinellas.gov/invasive-plants](https://www.pinellas.gov/invasive-plants)



# INVASIVE PLANT SPECIES

## Carrotwood Tree



### DESCRIPTION

Carrotwood is an evergreen tree with a gray, smooth outer bark and bright orange inner bark. The leaves are a glossy dark green with bright yellow-green veins. Carrotwood has compound leaves that usually end in a pair of leaflets. In the spring, this tree has small lime-green flowers. Carrotwood trees produce many fruit clusters, which start green and turn bright yellow-orange when ripe. Each fruit holds three shiny black seeds.



*Carrotwood produces copious amount of fruits and seeds.*

### HOW YOU CAN HELP

#### ! Remove carrotwood trees in your yard.

Removal in Pinellas County may require a permit, depending on your municipality. Check [pinellas.gov/tree-removal-habitat-environmental-compliance](https://pinellas.gov/tree-removal-habitat-environmental-compliance).



#### ! Prevent regrowth with treatment and care.

Cut larger trees and treat stumps with herbicide to avoid resprouting. Small seedlings may be mowed or pulled by hand. Collect fruits from the ground to prevent new sprouts.

#### ! Replace it with a Florida-friendly or native tree.

Buttonwood, sand pine and dahoon or yaupon hollies are alternative native planting choices.