

Water Locust

(*Gleditsia aquatica*)

About me: I'm a tree native to the southeastern U.S. I have thorns on my bark and stems, just like my relative the Honey Locust, but I live in river swamps and I'm becoming increasingly uncommon in Kentucky.

Why I'm rare: Wetland destruction in Kentucky threatens my survival in the state. Changes in moisture in the wetlands, diminishing habitat, and increased erosion makes it more difficult for me to survive.

My story: I live in bayous and sloughs, and my wide, spreading root system helps stabilize soil and control erosion. I also have really strong, hard wood that is used for fence posts.

How you can help: Conserving wetlands with proper water and soil conditions will ensure that I have a place to live.



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