

TREE IDENTIFICATION KEY

Tree has needles use.....use CONIFEROUS TREE KEY

Tree has broad leavesuse DECIDUOUS TREE KEY

CONIFEROUS TREE KEY

1. Needles in bundles or groups (2)

1. Needles single or flattened and scaly (3)

2. Needles in clusters of more than 5 needles.....Tamarack (*Larix laricina*)

2. Needles 2 to 5 per bundle: Pine species (see a-c below)

a. Five needles per bundleWhite Pine (*Pinus strobus*)

b. Needles in pairs, 3 to 4 inches long.....Red Pine (*Pinus resinosa*)

c. Needles in pairs, under 2 inches long, bark dark gray...Jack Pine (*Pinus banksiana*)

3. Needles scaly and flattened (4)

3. Needles single (5)

4. Has cones, scales flat, branches fan-like.....Northern White Cedar (*Thuja occidentalis*)

4. Has berries, may have scaly and prickly needles on same tree, scales rounded

.....Eastern Red Cedar (*Juniperus virginiana*)

5. Needles flat (6)

5. Needles square, 4-sided, stiff, sharp: Spruce species (see a-b below)

a. Needles 1/3 to 3/4 inch long, twigs hairless.....White Spruce

(*Picea glauca*)

b. Needles 1/3 to 3/4 inch long, twigs have hair, grows in wet areas....Black Spruce

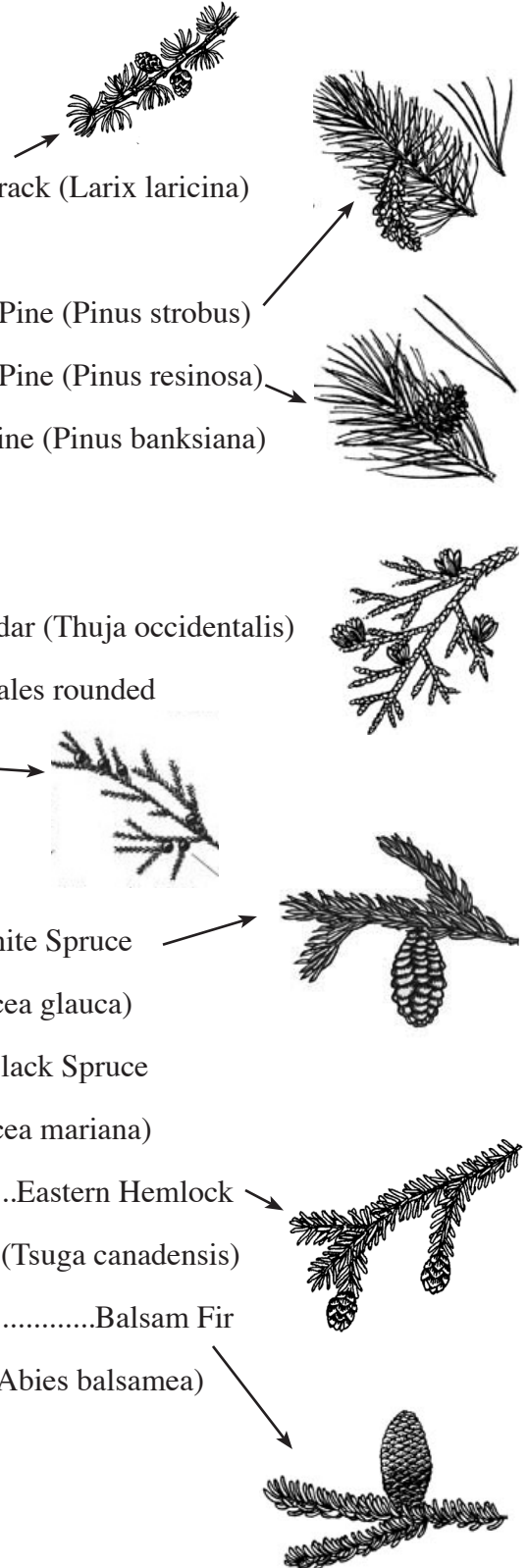
(*Picea mariana*)

6. Needles 1/2 inch long with short petioleEastern Hemlock

(*Tsuga canadensis*)

6. Needles 3/4 inch to 1 1/4 inches long, no petiole, bubbles in bark.....Balsam Fir

(*Abies balsamea*)



DECIDUOUS TREE KEY

1. Opposite branching (2)

1. Alternate branching (4)

2. Compound leaves (3)

2. Simple leaves: Maple species (see a-c below)



a. Leaf margins smooth, 5 lobesSugar Maple (*Acer saccharum*)

b. Leaf margins double-toothed, 3 to 5 lobes.....Red Maple (*Acer rubrum*)



c. Leaf margins single-toothed, 3 to 5 lobes, lobes separated by deep, angular openings....Silver Maple (*Acer saccharinum*)

3. 3 (rarely 5) leaflets.....Box Elder (*Acer negundo*)

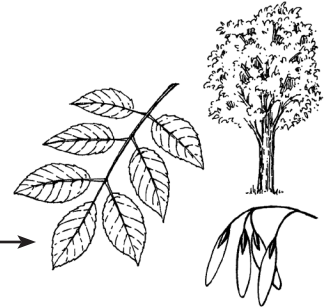
3. 5 to 11 leaflets: Ash species (see a-c below)

a. 9 to 11 leaflets, leaflets do not have petiole.....Black Ash (*Fraxinus nigra*)

b. 5 to 9 leaflets, leaflets have petiole, smile-shaped leaf scar extending up sides of new bud.....White Ash (*Fraxinus americana*)

c. 7 to 9 leaflets, leaflets have petiole, leaf scar ends at base of new bud.....

Green Ash (*Fraxinus pennsylvanica*)



4. Compound leaves (5)

4. Simple leaves (8)

5. 7 or fewer (usually 5) leaflets, egg-shaped nut.....Shagbark Hickory (*Carya ovata*)

5. 7 or more leaflets (6)

6. Leaflets roundedBlack Locust (*Robinia pseudonacacia*)

6. Leaflets pointed (7)

7. Leaf 6 to 8 inches longMountain Ash (*Sorbus americana*)

7. Leaf 8 to 24 inches long Butternut (*Juglans cinerea*).

8. Leaves not lobed (9) or Black Walnut (*Juglans nigra*)

8. Leaves lobed: Oak species (see a-f below)



a. Rounded lobes, 5 to 9 deep even lobes and sinuses, leaves hairless.....

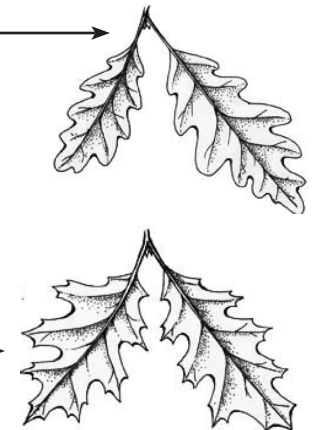
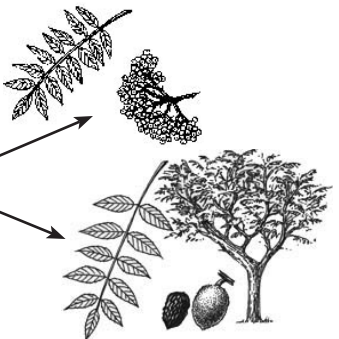
White Oak (*Quercus alba*)

b. Rounded lobes, pair of deep sinuses near middle of leaf, hairy underside of leavesBur Oak (*Quercus macrocarpa*)

c. Rounded lobes, leaf narrow at base and broad near middle, hairy underside of leavesSwamp White Oak (*Quercus bicolor*)

d. Pointed lobes, sinuses extend halfway to mid-vein, leaves hairless, dull greenRed Oak (*Quercus rubra*)

e. Pointed lobes, deep sinuses extend 3/4 of the way to mid-vein, leaves hairless, bright green and shiny....Northern Pin Oak (*Quercus ellipsoidalis*)



f. Pointed lobes, deep sinues, young leaves hairy underneath, dark green and shiny, leathery.....Black Oak (*Quercus velutina*)

9. Bark not papery (10)

9. Bark papery: Birch species (see a-c below)

a. Leaves single-toothed, white peeling bark....Paper Birch (*Betula papyrifera*)

b. Leaves double-toothed, dull green leaves, yellow or bronzed bark.....

.....Yellow Birch (*Betula alleghaniensis*)

c. Leaves double-toothed, shiny green leaves, reddish-brown to silvery-gray bark

.....River Birch (*Betula nigra*)

10. Leaf petioles flat (11)

10. Leaf petiole round (12)

11. Leaf triangular-shaped with coarse teeth...Eastern Cottonwood (*Populus deltoides*)

11. Leaf oval: Aspen species (see a-b below)

a. Leaves have small, fine teeth less than 1/16 inch.....Quaking Aspen

(*Populus tremuloides*)

b. Leaves have large teeth.....Big-toothed Aspen (*Populus grandidentata*)

12. Leaves nearly as wide as long (13)

12. Leaves longer than wide (14)

13. Leaves finely toothedBalsam Poplar (*Populus balsamifera*)

13. Leaves coarsely toothed.....Basswood (*Tilia americana*)

14. Leaf less than 3 times as long as wide (15)

14. Leaf at least 3 times as long as wide.....Willow species

15. Leaf veins thin and branch often (16)

15. Leaf veins thick and run from center to edge of leaf without branching (17)

16. Fine blunt teeth, leaves 2 to 6 inches long, bark dark.....Black Cherry (*Prunus serotina*)

16. Sharp pointed teeth, leaves 2 to 4 inches long and hairy....Hackberry (*Celtis occidentalis*)

17. Leaf shiny and leathery (thick), coarse sharp teeth.....Beech (*Fagus grandifolia*)

17. Leaf dull and rough (18)

18. Most leaf bases even, rough, reddish, scaled bark.....Ironwood (*Ostrya virginiana*)

18. Most leaf bases even, smooth, muscular, blue-gray bark: Musclewood (*Carpinus caroliniana*)

18. Leaf base uneven, seeds flat and papery.....Elm species (including American Elm,

Rock Elm, and Slippery Elm)

