

### ***Pinus strobus* (eastern white pine)**

*White pine* is the tallest native conifer in eastern North America. *Pinus strobus* is the **state tree** of Maine and Michigan and is the Ontario arboreal emblem. Unique identifying markers are the tree's branching rings which are added each year and the only five-needled eastern pine. Note in the picture below that needle bundles cluster in a brush-like formation.



### ***Pinus resinosa* (red pine, pitch pine)**

*Red pine* is the northern counterpart of the southern yellow pines. But unlike the southern pines, red pine has needles of only two per bundle. *P. resinosa* is one of the most extensively planted species in the northern United States and Canada. Red pine is confined to the Northern Forest region and the southern fringe of the Boreal Forest region.



### ***Abies balsamea* (balsam fir)**

*Balsam fir* is the most cold-hardy and aromatic of all firs. Needles grow from the branches all around the circumference, approx 1-1.5 inches long. *A. balsamea* normally grows to a height of 60 feet and can live at sea level to 6,000 feet. The tree is one of America's most popular Christmas trees.



### ***Tsuga Canadensis* (eastern hemlock)**

*Eastern hemlock* has a "nodding" form defined by its limbs and leaders and can be recognized at great distances. Some rank this tree among the "quality plants" to add to the landscape. Unlike most conifers, eastern hemlock has to have shade provided by hardwoods to regenerate. Unfortunately, stands of these trees are being damaged by the hemlock wooly adelgid.



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

*Eastern red cedar* is not a true cedar. It is a juniper and the most widely distributed native conifer in the Eastern United States. It is found in every state east of the 100th meridian. This hardy tree is often among the first trees to occupy cleared areas where its seeds are spread by cedar waxwings and other birds that enjoy the fleshy, bluish seed cones.



### ***Betula alleghaniensis* (yellow birch)**

*Yellow birch* is one of the largest U.S. hardwoods when growing in its native range. An immediate identifier of yellow birch is the mildly aromatic wintergreen smell of the inner bark and a yellow tint on paper-like bark. The bark of the birch is rich in oils and makes a good fire starter.



### ***Betula papyrifera* (paper birch)**

One of the most beautiful native trees, with narrow, open crown of slightly drooping to nearly horizontal branches; sometimes a shrub, or growing in clusters.



### ***Betula populifolia* (Gray Birch)**

Small, bushy tree with open, conical crown of short slender branches reaching nearly to the ground; more often a clump of several slightly leaning trunks from an old stump. Light colored bark, often mistaken for paper birch, but has horizontal dark lines in the bark.



### **Acer saccharum** (sugar maple)

*Sugar maple* is not just a northern U.S. tree. The leaf is memorialized on Canada's flag and sugar maple tree sap is the backbone of Vermont's syrup industry. The beautiful fall foliage of New England, which includes sugar maple, attracts millions of leaf "peepers" and their dollars into the northeast U.S. region.



### **Quercus alba** (white oak)

This oak is immediately recognized by rounded lobes plus the lobe tips never have bristles like red oak. Considered the most majestic tree of the eastern hardwoods, the tree is also touted as having the best all-purpose wood. The wood was valued in New England for making barrels to store liquid. The acorn of the white oak is a favored food of deer, turkey, and bears, and can be ground into flour to make acorn cake.



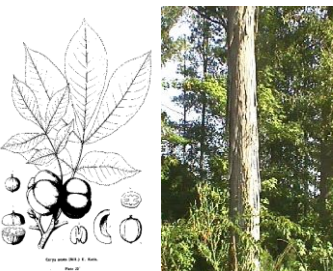
### **Quercus rubra** (northern red oak)

*Red oak* is more common in New England than the white oak. It has pointed lobes and bristles on the points. The acorn of the red oak is smaller than the white oak, and is more bitter due to higher tannic acid content. It can be eaten by humans after boiling in several changes of water to remove the bitter taste. The lumber of the red oak is valued for furniture making.



### **Carya ovata** (shagbark hickory)

*Shagbark hickory* has a "distinctive" hickory look because of its loose-plated bark. *C. ovata* is one of the most widespread hickories in North America. This tree is very hard to transplant because of the extended taproot.



### **Sassafras albidum** (Sassafras, mitten tree)

*Sassafras* was touted in Europe as America's herbal curative because of purported miraculous outcomes from the sick who drank sassafras tea. Those claims were exaggerated but the tree did prove to have attractive aromatic qualities and the "rootbeer" flavor of the root's tea (now considered a mild carcinogen) was enjoyed by Native Americans. *S. albidum* leaf shapes, along with the aromas, are definitive identifiers. Young sassafras seedlings are usually unlobed. Older trees add mitten-shaped leaves with two or three lobes.



### **Fagus grandifolia** (American beech)

*American beech* is a "strikingly handsome" tree with tight, smooth and skin-like light gray bark. This slick bark is so unique, it becomes a major identifier of the species. Also, look for the muscular roots which often remind one of creature legs and arms. Beech bark has suffered the carver's knife through the ages. From Virgil to Daniel Boone, men have marked territory and carved the tree's bark with their initials.



### **Salix nigra** (black willow)

*Black willow* is named for its dark gray-brown bark. The tree is the largest and most important New World willow and is one of the first trees to bud in the spring. The numerous uses of the wood of this and other willows is furniture doors, millwork, barrels and boxes. The inner bark (cambium) of the willow is rich in salicylic acid, a form of aspirin, and can be brewed into a pain and fever reducing tea.

