Trees of Kocher Park

By Girl Scout Troop 30185

Key Terms

- Leaf Type- simple or compound
  - Simple- a leaf with only one blade; it is never divided all the way to the leaf stalk
  - Compound- a leaf with two or more leaflets branching off a single stalk
- Leaf Arrangement- where leaves grow on the stem compared to each other, across from each other (opposite) or alternating on each side of the stem (alternate)
- Terminal Bud- the bud at the end of a branch
- Pith- the soft tissue in the center of a stem
- Petiole- the stalk which attaches the leaf to the stem
- Stipule- either of a pair of small leaf like parts at the base of some leaf petioles

Sugar Maple (*Acer saccharum*)

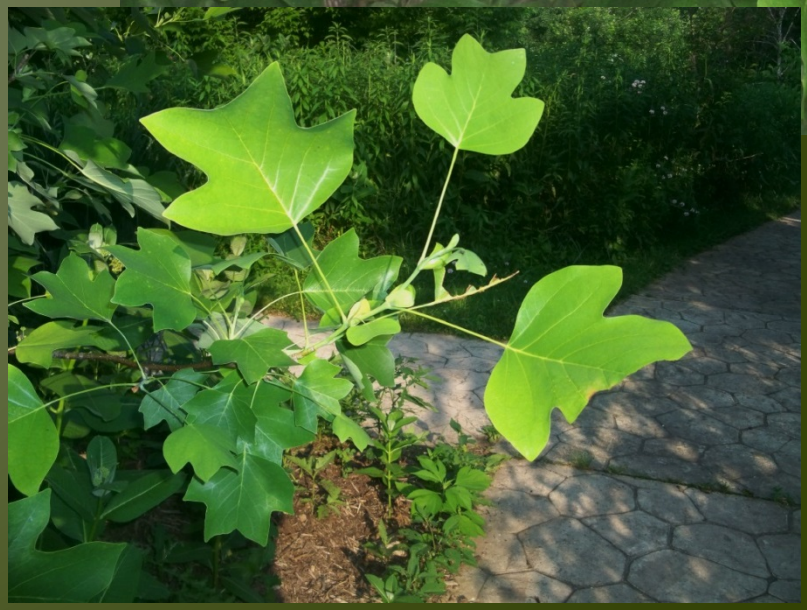
- Leaf Type: Simple
- Arrangement: Opposite
- Identifying Features: five-lobed leaves, somewhat shaggy bark, winged fruits
- Note: Similar to the Norway Maple, to identify pluck one leaf. A Norway Maple will have white sap (latex) coming from the stem.

Redbud (*Cercis canadensis*)

- Leaf Type: Simple
- Leaf Arrangement: Alternate
- Identifying Features: heart-shaped leaves, pink flower clusters directly on branches, long flat seed pods

Tulip Poplar *(Liriodendron tulipifera)*

- Leaf Type: Simple
- Leaf Arrangement: Alternate
- Identifying Features: large lobed leaves, tulip-like flowers in spring, cone-like clusters of winged seeds, aromatic when crushed
- Note: Despite it's common name, this tree isn't related to tulips or poplars. It is actually a member of the magnolia family



Pin Oak (*Quercus palustris*)

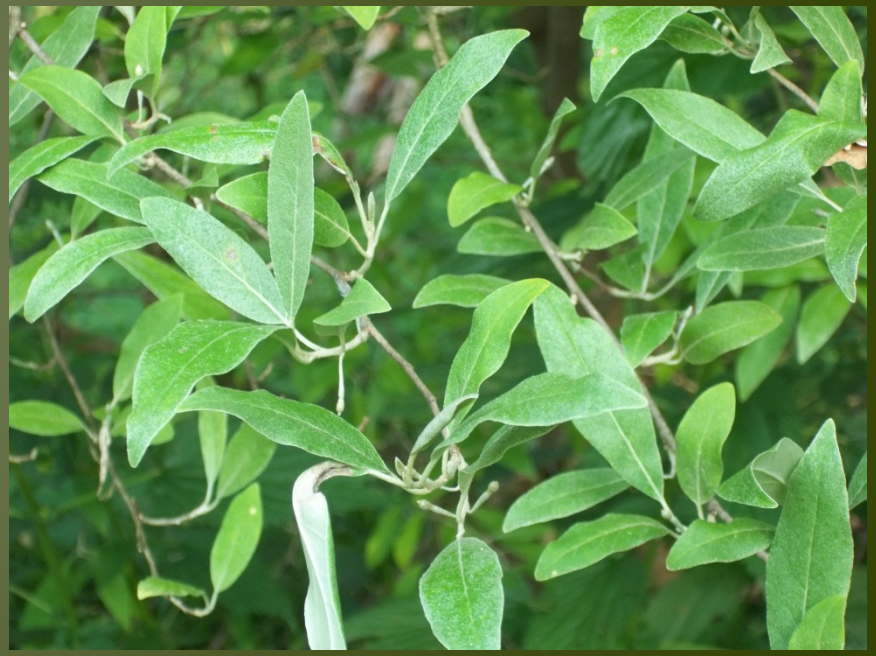
- Leaf Type: Simple
- Leaf Arrangement: Alternate
- Identifying Features: branch growth (see note), deeply cut leaves with pointed lobes, coppery color in fall, produce many small acorns
- Note: Low branches arch down, middle branches grow straight out, and high branches reach up

Sandbar Willow (*Salix interior*)

- Leaf Type: Simple
- Leaf Arrangement: Alternate
- Identifying Features: Narrow toothed leaves with lighter undersides
- Note: Grow in groups along the creek

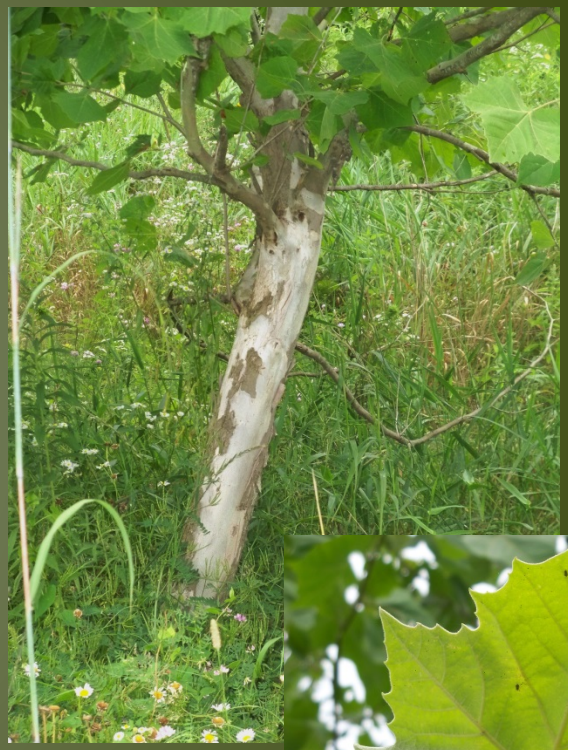
Wild Olive *(Eleagnus angustifolia)*

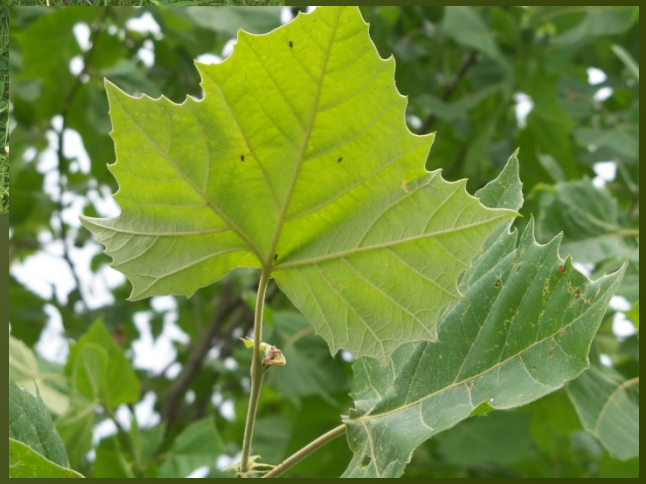
- Leaf Type: Simple
- Leaf Arrangement: Alternate
- Identifying Features: multi-trunked, silvery leaves, fragrant flowers, gets fruits in fall
- Note: Usually grows as a multi-trunked shrub as opposed to a tree



Sycamore (*Platanus occidentalis*)

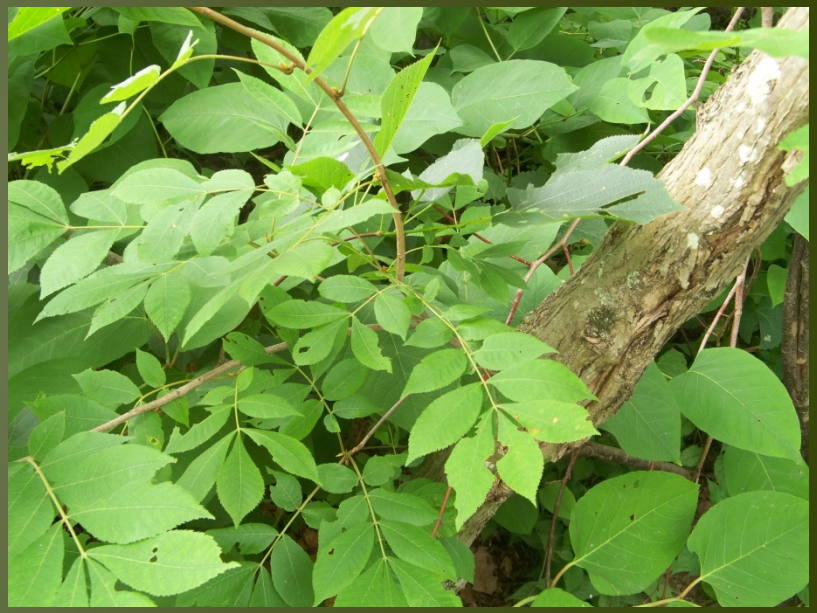
- Leaf Type: Simple
- Leaf Arrangement: Alternate
- Identifying Features: flaking bark, white or silvery trunk showing, large 3-5 lobed leaves with teeth, brown seed balls
- Note: Distinctive stipule encircling the base of the petiole





Bitternut Hickory (*Carya cordiformis*)

- Leaf Type: Compound
- Leaf Arrangement: Alternate
- Identifying Features: pointed yellow terminal bud, small hairs on the undersides of leaflets, bark is not shaggy

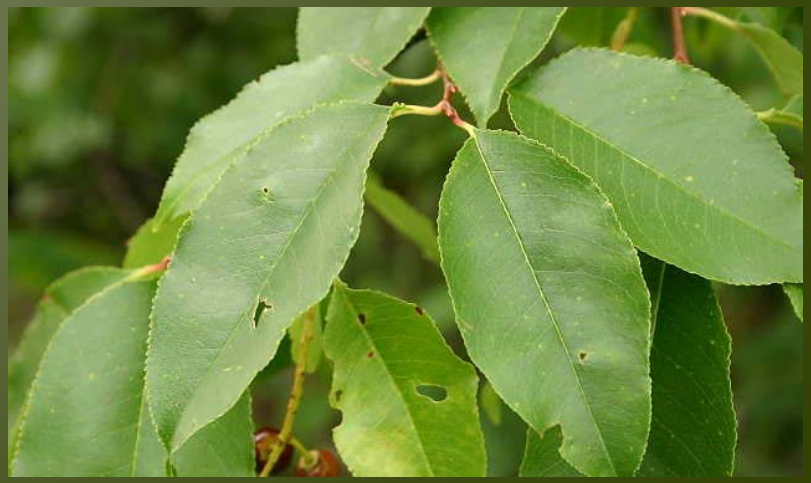


White Ash (*Fraxinus americana*)

- Leaf Type: Compound
- Leaf Arrangement: Opposite
- Identifying Features: small white flowers in spring, winged fruits in summer or fall, terminal bud, bark split into tight fissures
- Note: Terminal bud appears to be pinched, brown, and blunted

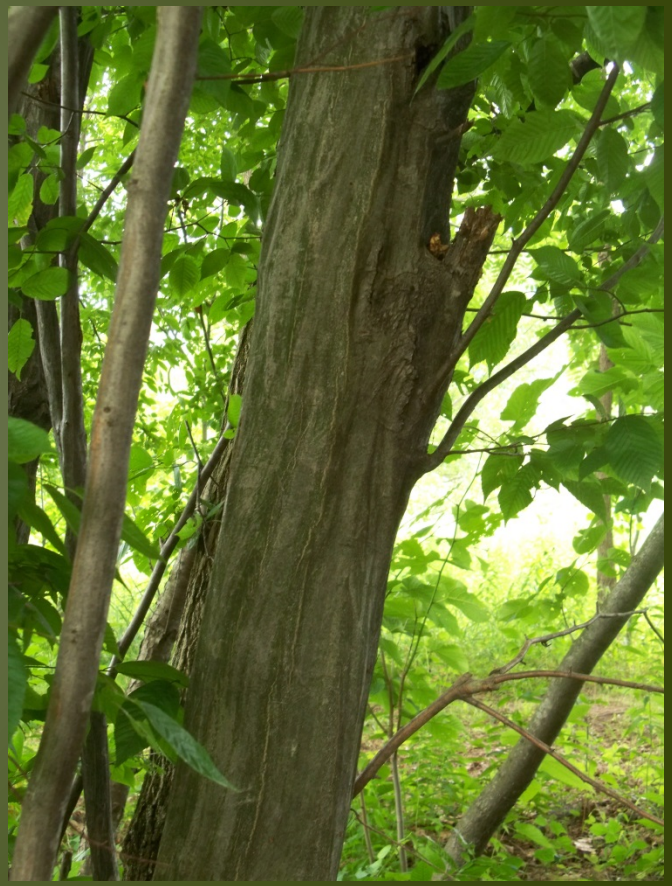
Black Cherry (*Prunus serotina*)

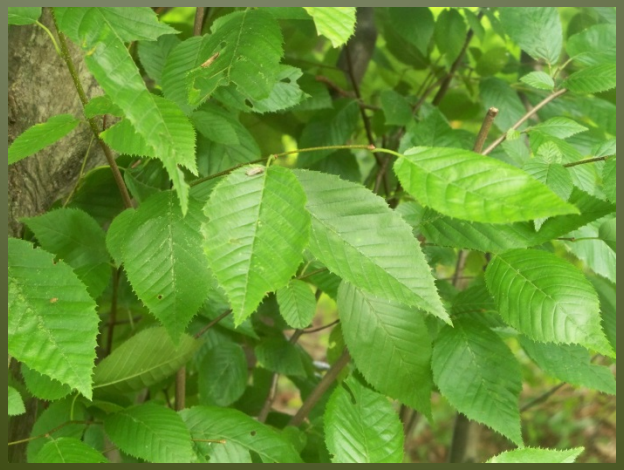
- Leaf Type: Simple
- Leaf Arrangement: Alternate
- Identifying Features: Tiny paired glands where the petiole meets the leaf blade, white or brown hairs on the undersides of leaves near the base, mature bark has a feathered look



Ironwood *(Carpinus caroliniana)*

- Leaf Type: Simple
- Leaf Arrangement: Alternate
- Identifying Features: toothed leaves, trunk, dangling catkins
- Note: Trunks has a smooth, muscular appearance. It is also know as musclewood





Basswood *(Tilia americana)*

- Leaf Type: Simple
- Leaf Arrangement: Alternate
- Identifying Features: large leaves with uneven bases, small shoots can be seen at the base of older trees

White Pine *(Pinus strobus)*

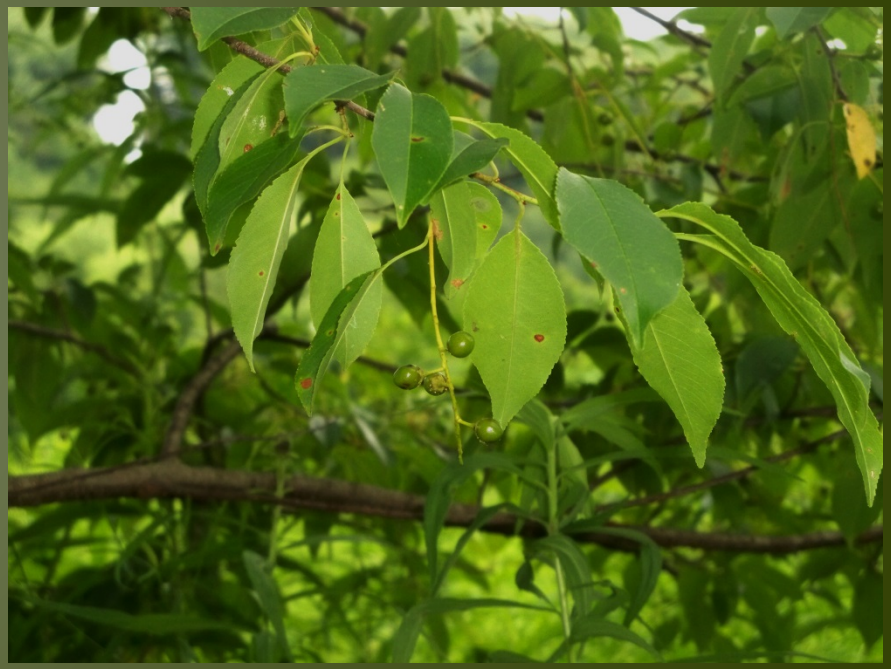
- Leaf Type: Needle
- Leaf Arrangement: Cluster
- Identifying Features: Soft texture, long needles, groups of five needles, long and sticky slender cones
- Note: It is an important source of food and shelter for many kinds of wildlife, especially white-tailed deer

Norway Maple (*Acer platanoides*)

- Leaf Type: Simple
- Leaf Arrangement: Opposite
- Identifying Features: Often confused with Sugar Maple, similar features
- Note: Distinguished from Sugar Maple by white sap (latex)

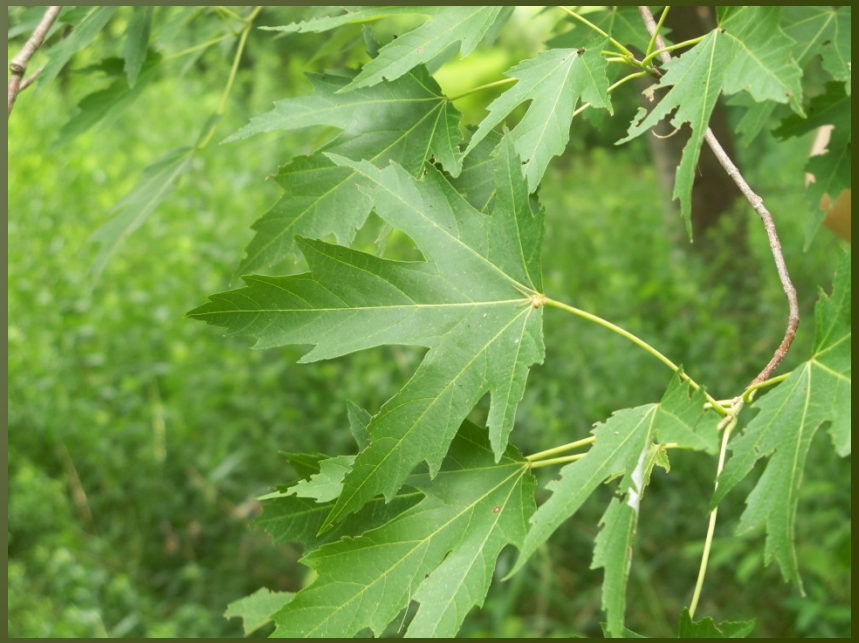
Pin Cherry *(Prunus pensylvanica)*

- Leaf Type: Simple
- Leaf Arrangement: Opposite
- Identifying Features: has tiny paired glands, reddish brown somewhat shiny bark with horizontal stripes, leaves often clustered on short spurs
- Note: Much smaller than black cherry, shrub to small tree size



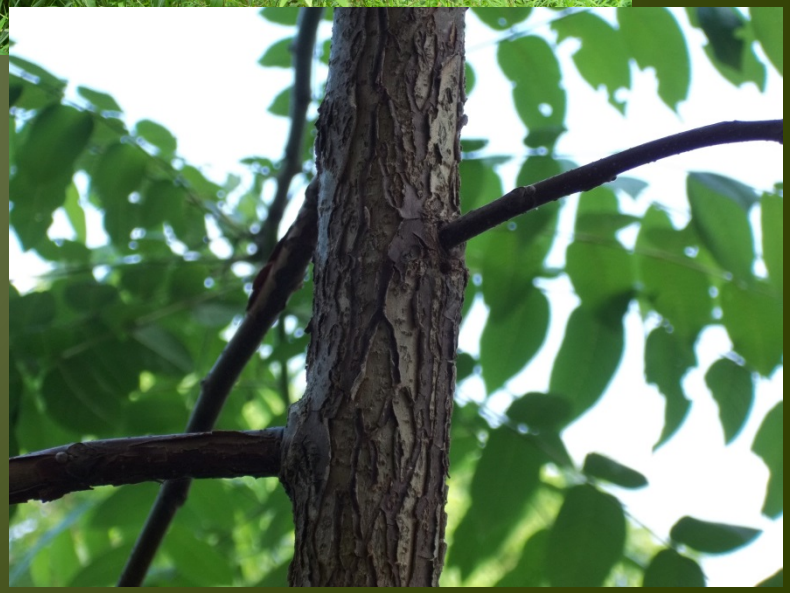
Silver Maple (*Acer saccharinum*)

- Leaf Type: Simple
- Leaf Arrangement: Opposite
- Identifying Features: Large fast-growing tree, deeply cut leaves, silver undersides of leaves, silvery grey bark
- Note: It is a weaker tree and tends to break apart easily



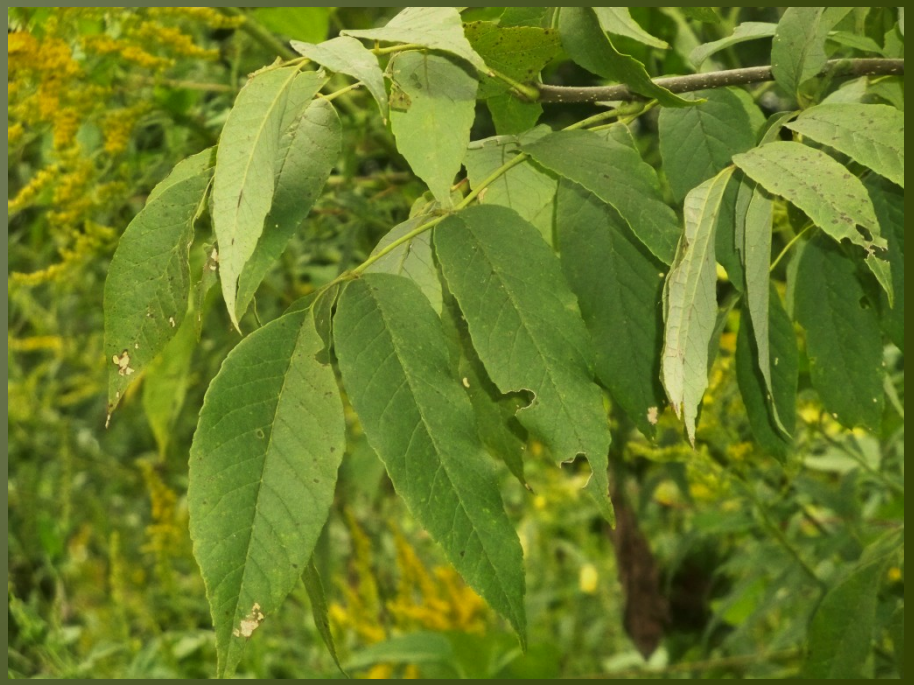
Black Walnut (*Juglans nigra*)

- Leaf Type: Compound
- Leaf Arrangement: Alternate
- Identifying Features: Walnuts, chambered pith
- Note: Leaves start with a single leaflet at the end, but later have two. Younger leaves will have an odd number of leaflets while older leaves have an even number



Black Ash *(Fraxinus nigra)*

- Leaf Type: Compound
- Leaf Arrangement: Opposite
- Identifying Features: Terminal bud is the most important feature when distinguishing from other ashes
- Note: Terminal bud is dark brown or black



Swamp White Oak (*Quercus bicolor*)

- Leaf Type: Simple
- Leaf Arrangement: Alternate
- Identifying Features: leaves vary from large broad leaves to smaller, more distinctly lobed leaves, larger acorns, pale gray bark similar to a white oak

Staghorn Sumac *(Rhus typhina)*

- Leaf Type: Compound
- Leaf Arrangement: Alternate
- Identifying Features: Leaves and twigs covered in downy hairs, fuzzy crimson fruit clusters, red or purplish fall coloring
- Note: Not related to poison sumac

Green Ash (*Fraxinus pennsylvanica*)

- Leaf Type: Compound
- Leaf Arrangement: Alternate
- Identifying Features: Very similar to White Ash, best distinguished by terminal bud
- Note: Terminal bud is pinched, brown, and pointed

Tree-of-Heaven (Ailanthus altissima)

- Leaf Type: Compound
- Leaf Arrangement: Alternate
- Identifying Features: Tall straight growth, somewhat smooth grey bark
- Note: Distinctive nutty smell when a leaf is broken off

Red Maple (*Acer rubrum*)

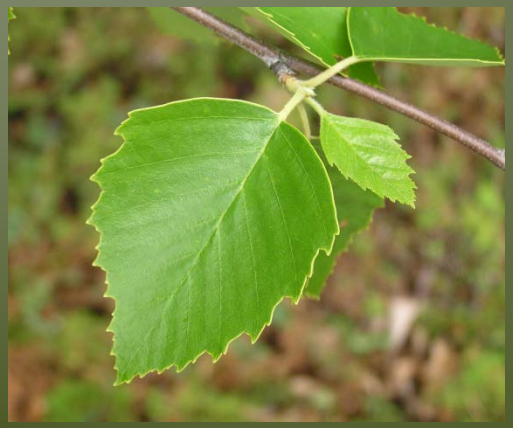
- Leaf Type: Simple
- Leaf Arrangement: Opposite
- Identifying Features: Smaller three-lobed leaf, red buds, bark is brownish and becomes shaggy, winged reddish fruits, red flowers in spring, bright red in fall, leaf stems are a bright red

Boxelder (*Acer negundo*)

- Leaf Type: Compound
- Leaf Arrangement: Opposite
- Identifying Features: Large clusters of winged fruits, only maple with compound leaves

River Birch *(Betula nigra)*

- Leaf Type: Simple
- Leaf Arrangement: Alternate
- Identifying Features: Reddish brown curling bark, grows well in wet areas, tends to grow with multiple trunks, catkins, small finely toothed leaves



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