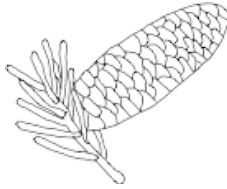


Coniferous Trees

Balsam Fir *Abies balsamea*

- Grows to 80 feet tall with a diameter of up to 3 ft
- Bark is smooth and often has blisters from resin
- Tapering spherical shape, fragrant aroma, branches keep needles when cut
- Needles have no stalk and are flat, soft and dark green with white lines below
- Upright cones in 2-4 in bluish clusters



A great smelling Christmas tree that keeps needles!

Eastern Hemlock *Tsuga canadensis*

- Reaches heights over 100 ft, with 5 ft diameters
- Crown is rounded, bark is brownish and scaly
- Twigs are yellow-brown in color and needles are flat, typically about ½ in long and appear silvery & lacy
- Cones are only about 1 in long



The bark was used to tan hides to make leather.

Eastern White Pine *Pinus strobus*

- Few horizontal branches with an irregular crown
- 80 to well over 100 ft
- Bark is smooth when young, later dark and furrowed
- The only pine with 5 needles, 3-5 in long
- Curved and drooping 4-8 in cones are brown in mature trees



White pines are the tallest tree in NY... and the BWP.

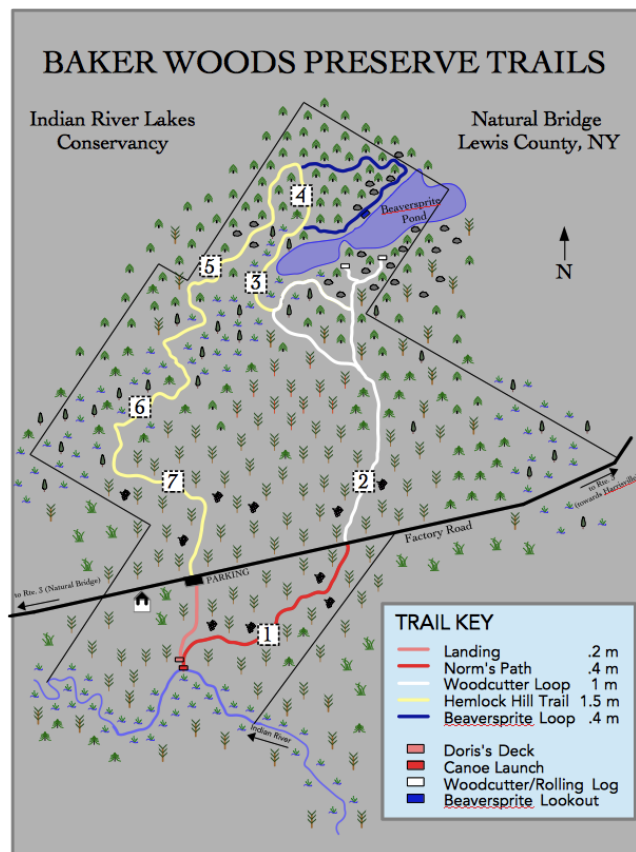
of the

Tamarack aka Eastern Larch *Larix laricina*

- Slender trunk and conical shape, grows 40-60 ft
- Commonly found in swamps and bogs
- NY's only deciduous conifer, needles turn bright yellow and fall off in the fall
- Light blue-green needles, about 1-inch long, in clusters of 10-20
- Small seed cones



Tamarack is Algonquin for "wood used for snowshoes".



Baker Woods Preserve

Red Pine *Pinus resinosa*

- Tall, straight growth, ranging from 60–115 ft in height
- Thick, gray-brown bark
- Older trees often have long branchless trunks
- 4-7 in long yellow-green needles in groups of 2; needles snap cleanly when bent
- 1-3 in cones are purple before maturity



Our red pine plantation was planted in 1953. Careful stewardship is turning it into a mixed wood forest.

Eastern White-Cedar or Arborvitae *Thuja occidentalis*

- Common in swamps
- Grows 30-50 ft tall
- Bark is fibrous and gray and peels in strips
- Used for fence posts as the wood resists rot
- "Needles" are flat and scaly
- Half inch purplish cones form clusters



Hemlock Hill Trail passes through cedar swamps.

White Spruce *Picea glauca*

- Can grow up to 100 ft tall with a straight trunk
- Bark varies from gray to brown
- Stiff ½ in needles are bluish-green and sharp
- Cones turn from green to brown when mature and hang from the branches



Nicknamed "skunk spruce" as crushed needles stink.

Our BWP *Tour of the Trees* follows Norm's Path, crosses Factory Rd. to Woodcutter and finishes on Hemlock Hill. The total hike is approximately 3 miles.

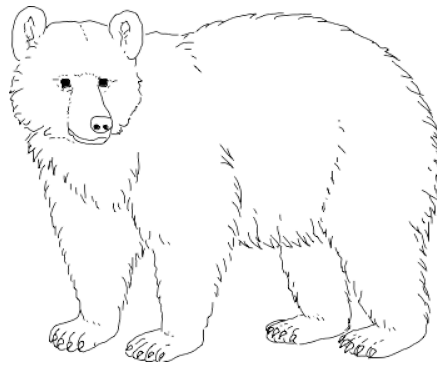
There are two main types of trees. **Coniferous** trees have needles and cones. **Deciduous (or broadleaf)** trees drop all of their leaves in the fall or winter each year. This tour will concentrate on some of our most prevalent coniferous trees.

Look carefully at the shape, length and number of needles to help identify the specific type of coniferous tree.



Try to be the first in your group to find and identify each of the seven trees that are numbered and marked along the trail:

- ✓ Read the descriptions inside
- ✓ Observe the trees' needles, bark, and cones
- ✓ Fill in the blanks with letters that correspond to the matching tree species



BWP Tree Tour "Quiz"

Seven CONIFER trees along the tree tour are marked with green numbered signs in the shape of conifer trees. Test your skills by reading the tree descriptions and matching each number with the corresponding letter.



- | | |
|---------|--------------------|
| 1. ____ | A. Eastern Hemlock |
| 2. ____ | B. Cedar |
| 3. ____ | C. Red Pine |
| 4. ____ | D. White Pine |
| 5. ____ | E. Tamarack |
| 6. ____ | F. Balsam Fir |
| 7. ____ | G. White Spruce |

An answer key is located on the bulletin board near the kiosk. Be sure not to peek before you finish the tour.



BAKER WOODS PRESERVE Tour of the Trees



The Conifers

Baker Woods Preserve's nine miles of trails are home to dozens of tree species. Trees are one of our most important and beautiful resources. Did you know that trees are basically really big perennial plants, like flowers, and that forests are actually just big gardens?

This tour will help you to recognize seven of the main coniferous (trees whose leaves are needles and have cones for fruit) native tree species in our 600 acre BWP forest garden.

Turn over for interactive tree quiz!

