

Deciduous Trees

Striped Maple aka Moosewood *Acer pensylvanicum*

- Striped maples are often shrub like, but can develop as a single trunk
- They grow up to 30 ft
- Bark is green and has vertical white stripes
- 5-9 in leaves turn yellow in the fall with 3 pointed lobes at the tip



Provides spring browsing for deer and occasional moose visitors to the BWP.

Red Maple aka Soft Maple *Acer rubrum*

- Single smooth dark gray trunk, up to 60 ft tall, with a dense crown
- Early red-tinged foliage matures to a dark green
- Red flowers in spring and in summer, winged fruit called samaras or keys
- Leaves are 3-4 in long with shallow notches between three lobes, light green in summer (red in the fall) and attached by a reddish stalk



Red maples can be tapped for sap, but do not produce as well as sugar maples which are the state tree of NY.

Yellow Birch *Betula alleghaniensis*

- Up to 60 ft tall single trunk with thin, papery, yellowish curling bark
- Slender twigs have the aroma of wintergreen
- Simple green 3-5 in oval leaves have a pointed tip and turn yellow in fall



Also look for gray birch, a close family member with chalky gray bark that often grows in clumps.

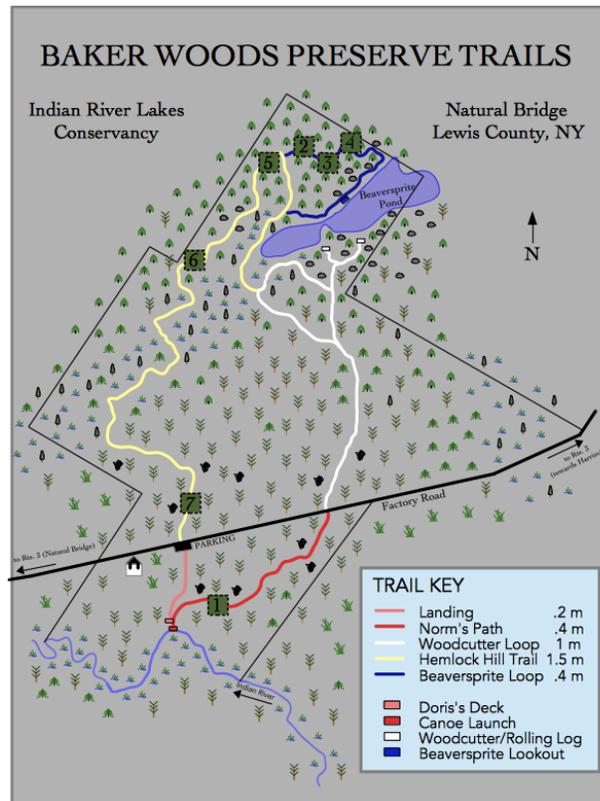
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American Beech *Fagus grandifolia*

- 65-80 ft tall but can grow up to 130 ft and live 300 years
- Bark is smooth and silver-gray with drooping branches
- Winter twigs are distinctively long and slender
- Foliage is dark green turning golden bronze in fall
- Leaves are 3-5 in, ovate to elliptic, waxy and smooth, veins end with teeth; they are the last leaves to change and fall in the BWP



Beech nuts are eaten by mice, squirrels, chipmunks, black bear, deer, foxes, ruffed grouse, ducks, blue jays ... and us!



Baker Woods Preserve

Black Cherry *Prunus serotina*

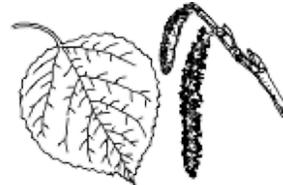
- Up to 80 ft tall with scaly brown or black bark
- Produce green cherries which turn reddish brown to black when mature
- Simple, fine-toothed 3-6 in leaves attach alternately, shiny and dark green on top, paler below, yellow in the fall



BWP is home to many black cherry trees which are highly sought after for their rich brown wood.

Quaking Aspen or Poplar ("Popple") *Populus tremuloides*

- Grows to 70 ft tall with a straight trunk and rounded crown
- Bark turns creamy white at base, can be mistaken for gray birch
- Grow in stands and can reproduce from its own roots forming "clones"
- 1-3 in leaves are round with short, blunt points and fine teeth, turn brilliant yellow in fall



This tree of many names is also called trembling aspen. The leaves tremble (or shake) with a slight breeze!

White Ash *Fraxinus americana*

- Up to 80 ft tall and live up to 200 years
- 3 ft diameter trunks have gray bark with diamond shaped ridges
- 1-2 in seeds or samaras turn brown when mature
- One of the last major trees to leaf out and among the first to drop its leaves in the fall
- 8-12 in oppositely attached green leaves, the 'white' refers to the pale underside of the leaves



Ash trees are currently threatened by the emerald ash borer, an invasive and destructive beetle.

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

At the entrance to Norm's Path, look for a wooden sign depicting the shapes and sizes of common leaves. Take a moment to note the shapes and sizes before you begin your hike.

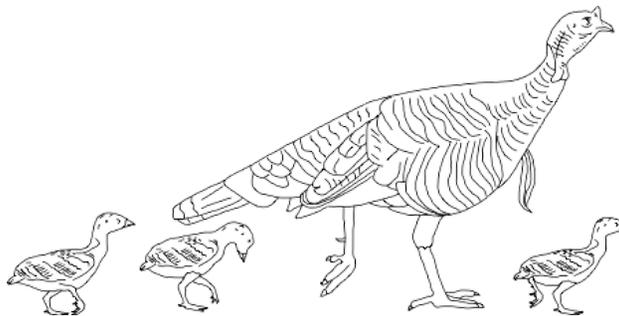
There are two main types of trees. **Coniferous** trees have needles and cones. **Deciduous (or broadleaf)** trees drop all of their leaves in the fall or winter each year. This tour will concentrate on some of our most prevalent deciduous trees.

Look carefully at the bark, and the shape and size of the leaves, to help identify the deciduous tree species.



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' leaves and bark
- ✓ Fill in the blanks with letters that correspond to the matching tree species



BWP Tree Tour "Quiz"

Seven DECIDUOUS trees along the tree tour are marked with numbered tree icons. Test your skills by reading the descriptions on the inside and matching each number with the corresponding letter.



- | | |
|---------|-------------------------|
| 1. ____ | A. Black Cherry |
| 2. ____ | B. Red Maple |
| 3. ____ | C. White Ash |
| 4. ____ | D. American Beech |
| 5. ____ | E. Yellow Birch |
| 6. ____ | F. Quaking Aspen/Poplar |
| 7. ____ | G. Striped Maple |

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 Deciduous Trees

Baker Woods Preserve's nine miles of trail 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 really just big gardens?

This tour will help you to recognize seven of the main deciduous (trees that shed leaves annually) native tree species in our 600 acre BWP forest garden.

