

Populus balsamifera BALSAM POPLAR. This tree will grow to 80 feet in height and likes a wet to moist habitat. It likes sun to partial sun, has sticky, winter buds, and grows in swamps and on banks.

Populus tremuloides QUAKING ASPEN. This tree likes a moist upland area and grows to be 30 to 40 feet in height. It likes sun to partial sun. The leaves of this tree guiver in the breeze and turn yellow in the fall. Beavers like the bark of this tree and it is often found near stream banks. It should not be planted near structures.

- \* Prunus americana AMERICAN PLUM. This 20foot tree likes an open habitat. Flowers are white; blooms in April and May. The tree prefers sun, partial sun and well-drained soils. It has shaggy bark, grows in thickets and on banks and attracts wildlife. In addition, it has edible fruit and thorns.
- \* Prunus nigra CANADA PLUM Likes a woodsy habitat and only grows 16 feet high. It likes sunny and partly sunny areas and has white flowers that bloom in May. It is similar to the American Plum (Prunus americanna), has thorns and likes wooded areas.
- \* Prunus pensylvanica PIN CHERRY. This smaller, 32-foot tree likes a <sup>1</sup>mesic habitat. It has white flowers that bloom in May and prefers sun or partial sun. An attractive tree, good for wildlife, edible fruit for jelly, but toxic to livestock.

Prunus serotina BLACK CHERRY. The black cherry likes a <sup>1</sup>mesic habitat and grows to 82 feet in height. It has white flowers that bloom in June and prefers sun to partial sun. It is a good source to attract wildlife but is toxic to livestock.

<sup>1</sup>Mesic: adjective (mez - ik) of, pertaining to, or adapted to an environment having a balanced supply of moisture.

\* Prunus virainiana CHOKECHERRY. A smaller tree that grows to 25 feet in height and best in rich, moist soils. However, it is adaptable and tolerates poorer, drier soils. The fruit is puckery; can be used for making jelly or wine.



Quercus alba WHITE OAK. This tree likes a moist to dry habitat. It prefers sunny areas and can grow to 80 feet in height. It is slow-growing, a great shade tree and produces acorns for wildlife.

Quercus bicolor SWAMP OAK. The swamp oak prefers

a wet/moist habitat. It likes the sun and will grow to 98 feet in height. It tolerates poorly drained soils and can also be grown in upland habitats.



Quercus ellipsoidalis NORTHERN PIN OAK. Prefers dry, sandy soils that are acidic. Has red fall foliage and grows to 65 feet in height. Oak wilt may be a concern.

Quercus palustris EASTERN PIN OAK. Growing to 80 feet in height, this tree likes moist, wet, sunny habitats. It is a common shade tree, likes acidic soils and grows well in poor clay soils.

*Quercus rubra* NORTHERN RED OAK. Likes a <sup>1</sup>mesic habitat in sunny areas. Possible oak wilt concern. Do not prune from April through June. Has red fall foliage and grows to 98 feet in height.



\* Sorbus americana AMERICAN MOUNTAIN ASH. This tree prefers a <sup>1</sup>mesic habitat, grows to 32 feet in height, has white flowers and blooms in May and June. It prefers

moist woods where the soil is well drained, attracts wildlife and is a good specimen tree.

¥ Smaller type trees or large shrubs

Sorbus decora NORTHERN MOUNTAIN ASH. Likes a <sup>1</sup>mesic/moist habitat, has white flowers that bloom in May and June. Tolerate sun, partial sun and partial shade. Likes well-drained soils and is a good specimen tree, but not a true ash species.

Tilia americana BASSWOOD. This tree prefers rich woods as a habitat and will grow to 130 feet. It has yellow, fragrant flowers that bloom in July and likes sun and partial sun. It is easy to grow in most soils, a good specimen tree but must be pruned to train.



Thuja canadensis CANADA HEMLOCK. This tree prefers a moist, cool habitat and can grow from 60 to 70 feet in height. It prefers sunny areas, is an attractive specimen or screening tree and needs fertile, welldrained soils. It has soft needles.

Thuja occidentalis WHITE CEDAR. The white cedar tree prefers a dry-wet, moist habitat. It can grow from



40 to 50 feet in height and likes the sunny areas best. It is a good specimen tree or for screening and is easy to grow in moist soils.

Information provided courtesy of Oneida County Land and Water Conservation Department, Courthouse, P O Box 400, Rhinelander, WI 54501 (715) 369-7835 Michele Sadauskas, County Conservationist msadauskas@co.oneida.wi.us



Source: Oneida County Land and Water Conservation Department, Wisconsin DNR, USDA.



## **NATIVE TREES** OF THE **NORTHWOODS**

ONEIDA COUNTY & SURROUNDING AREAS



Sparrows.

Around 30 species of trees are native to Wisconsin. Generally, Wisconsin's Northwoods are dominated by species such as sugar maple, box elder and birches. The Sugar Maple seeds of the river birch are a favorite of Pine Siskins and American Tree

The American mountain ash, provides fruit that is eaten by at least 14 species including Cedar Waxwings, Gray Catbirds and Grosbeaks.

Trees such as White spruce and White cedar are primarily shelter trees. The White oak and Northern red oak provide acorns that are eaten by Redheaded Woodpeckers or Blue



Northern Red Oak

Learning how to identify native trees can help you enjoy wildlife activity going on in your own yard or while you are out walking through Wisconsin's beautiful Northwoods.

ONEIDA COUNTY LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION



## **Native Trees of the Northwoods**

**Abies balsamea** BALSAM FIR.

This tree likes a dry to moist habitat and will grow to 50 feet in height if not managed. It is hardy and attractive and likes full sun. It is used mainly



for Christmas trees. It also likes slightly acidic and moisture-retentive soils.

**Acer negundo** BOX ELDER. The box elder tree likes a moist, <sup>1</sup>mesic habitat. It will grow to 65 feet in

height and bloom from March to May. The tree prefers sunny areas, grows fast and is drought resistant. However, it can cause other problems due to the fact

that it attracts the pesky box elder bugs (nuisance bugs). This tree can be invasive.

**Acer rubrum** RED MAPLE. This versatile tree grows in all habitats. It can grow to 40 feet in height and has foliage that turns red in the fall. It likes sun to partial sun. The red maple is a hardy, all-around tree.



**Acer saccharum** SUGAR MAPLE. The sugar maple likes dry, rich woods. It is a beautiful, 60-foot tree with yellow to orange foliage in the fall. It is often tapped in the spring to collect the sap to make syrup. It grows poorly in sandy or compacted soil.

**Acer saccharumium** SILVER MAPLE. The silver maple prefers a <sup>1</sup>mesic/moist environment and grows to 60 feet. It is a brittle tree that grows fast but can be a hazard.

\* Acer spincatum MOUNTAIN MAPLE. This smaller, 22-foot tree enjoys a moist, woodland habitat in partial sun or shade. It likes the cool, moist woods and acidic soil.

\* Amelanchier arborea DOWNY SERVICEBERRY, COMMON SERVICE BERRY. A smaller tree that likes a woody habitat, and grows to 32 feet with white flowers that bloom in May and June. It likes sunny to partly sunny areas and has edible berries. The fruit is often used in pies and preserves and is good for wildlife.

\* Amelanchier laevis ALLEGHENY SERVICEBERRY.

This tree prefers a woodsy habitat and will grow to be 32 feet tall. It has white flowers that bloom in May and June. The tree likes partial sun to partial shade and is considered an ornamental tree. It has edible fruit similar to arborea and has a root depth of 24 inches.



\* Amelanchier sanguinea NEW ENGLAND SERVICEBERRY, ROUND-LEAVED SERVICEBERRY. This tree is similar to the other serviceberry species and prefers a dry, sandy habitat. It has white flowers that bloom in May and June. It likes sunny areas and grows to 32 feet in height.



Betula alleghaniensis YELLOW BIRCH. The yellow birch likes moist soils, is green in color and blooms in May and June. It can grow to 98 feet in height, needs rich, moist soil and is a big tree. It has nice bark and grows well on banks and forested slopes.

Betula papyrifera PAPER/WHITE BIRCH. Will tolerate dry to cool/moist habitats and grows to 65 feet. This tree blooms in the spring and likes part sun to shade. It grows on slopes, in sandy soils and along banks.



\* Smaller type trees or large shrubs

**Betula nigra** RIVER BIRCH. The river birch is a good specimen tree that grows along banks and is drought resistant. It prefers moist soils, blooms in the spring and grows to 80 feet in height.

Carpinus caroliniana AMERICAN HORNBEAM, IRONWOOD, BLUE BEECH. The preferred habitat for this tree is a moist woodland. It will grow to 40 feet in height and likes sun to partial sun. It is a nice tree; sometimes difficult to transplant, but grows easily from seed. It grows on hillsides and banks.

*Celtis occidentalis* HACKBERRY. This tree likes a rich woodland, sunny habitat. It grows from 50 to 60 feet in height and is extremely adaptable.

\* Crataegus chrysocarpa HAWTHORN, FIREBERRY HAWTHORN. This round-top, thorny tree likes a well-drained, open, sunny habitat. It blooms in June and grows to 32 feet in height. It has edible fruit and is good for wildlife.



**Fraxinus** ASH (WHITE, BLACK, GREEN). The ash tree is a handsome, native, deciduous tree including over 60 species - the white ash is the largest. The tree is strong, growing 50 to 80 feet in height with a 50 to 90 foot spread. Most varieties grow best in moist, rich soil and

require full sun. True ashes like the green, black, and white ash are highly susceptible to the Emerald Ash Borer, *Agrilus planipennis*, a green beetle native to Asia and invasive in North America. Since its accidental introduction into the US and Canada in the 90s, and its

subsequent detection in 2002, it has spread to 14 states and parts of Canada. It has killed 50 to 100 million ash trees and threatens the remaining 7.5 billion throughout North America. The EAB is one of the most destructive, non-native insects in the US. Green and black ash trees are preferred, but white ash is also killed rapidly, after green and black ash trees are eliminated. If you have no other "true ash" trees in your landscape, the chance of an infecting borer is low; however, plant these trees at your own risk.

Larix laricina TAMARACK. The tamarack grows best in bogs, but it can be grown on drier soils. It is yellow to red and drops its needles in the fall and can grow to 80 feet in height. It prefers sun to partial sun.

Ostrya virginiana EASTERN HOP HORNBEAM, IRONWOOD. A nice tree that will grow to 55 feet in height, likes a moist, woodland area in sunny to partly sunny areas and has flowers that bloom in spring. Can be hard to transplant, likes fertile clay loam, grows on hillsides, but will not tolerate salt

**Picea glauca** WHITE SPRUCE. Grows well in a <sup>1</sup>mesic habitat, is brown in color and grows to 60 feet in height. Makes a good specimen tree or screening, easy to grow in most upland soils.

**Picea mariana** BLACK SPRUCE. The black spruce enjoys a wet to moist habitat, grows from 25 to 30 feet in height and has red or purple cones that appear in the spring. It likes full sun, is drought resistant and can grow in upland areas.



**Pinus banksiana** JACK PINE. This 65-foot tree likes dry, sandy, sunny habitats, except for the first year, when it prefers the shade. It will grow in acidic, sandy soils.

**Pinus resinosa** RED PINE. The red pine likes a <sup>1</sup>mesic habitat and can grow to 80 feet in height. It prefers sun, has a straight trunk and reddish-brown bark. It will tolerate sandy, acidic soils.



**Pinus strobus** WHITE PINE. This large tree can grow to 110 feet in height, is salt intolerant and grows well in a dry, sandy, <sup>1</sup>mesic habitat in the sun. Don't plant near gooseberries or currants because of white pine blister rust.