



**A WALK ALONG THE  
BOARDWALK...**

# **TREE IDENTIFICATION GUIDE** **FOR JOCKEY HOLLOW GIRL SCOUT CAMP**



***A Girl Scout Silver Award Project by:***

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## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<i>Barberry Bush</i>	3
<i>Red Maple</i>	4
<i>Viburnum</i>	5
<i>American Beech</i>	6
<i>Ironwood</i>	7
<i>Black Birch</i>	8
<i>White Oak</i>	9
<i>Tulip</i>	10
<i>Shagbark Hickory</i>	11
<i>Northern Red Oak</i>	12
<i>Hug a Tree Game</i>	13
<i>More fun games to play</i>	14
<i>Eco Friendly tips</i>	15

# #1 BARBERRY BUSH

Other names: Pepperidge bush

**Latin name: *Berberis canadensis***

Leaves: About an inch long, simple and either entire or with spiny margins. They have three spiked thorns.

Fruit: about 1/2 inch long, red or dark blue in color with a waxy surface.

Uses : Popular garden shrubs, fruit is important for small birds.

Interesting Facts : Different species of barberry bushes are found in Europe, Asia, Africa, North America and South America. It is an invasive species. Fruit is rich in vitamin C.



## #2 RED MAPLE

Other names: Swamp maple, Scarlet maple.

**Latin name—*Acer rubrum***

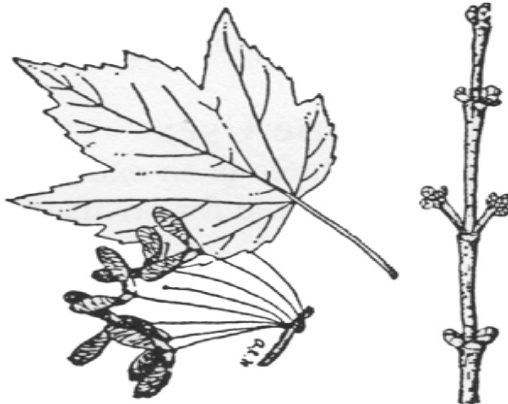
Height: 50 - 75 feet tall. 2 - 3 feet wide.

Leaves: Small, simple. Opposite each other on twig. Large, coarse pointy teeth. 3 to 5 lobes. 3-4 inches long with red-dish pink stems.

Fruit: Small winged seeds. A.K.A. whirly birds that ripen and fall off in late spring.

Uses: Used in furniture but not as very strong wood, fire-wood.

Interesting Facts : It is often thought that the Sugar Maple is the only maple that produces maple syrup. However, the red maple can also produce a lower quality maple syrup too.



### #3 VIBURNUM

**Latin name : *Viburnum prunifolia***

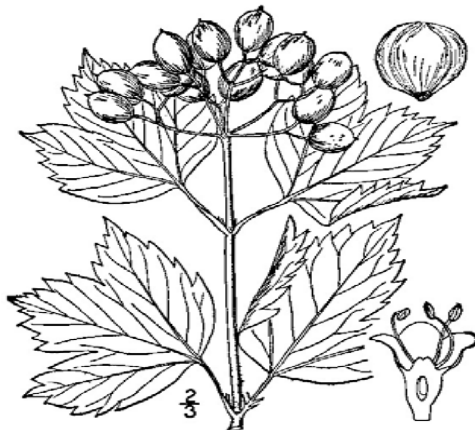
Height: 5– 10 feet tall

Leaves: Opposite, simple leaves. Can be either toothed or lobed.

Fruit: Oval, somewhat flat berries. Can be either light green or dark blue.

Uses: Decorative plant, grows wild.

Interesting Facts: Viburnum are often sold as decorative shrubs for people's yards. Wild Viburnum, such as this, is different species of plant.



## #4 AMERICAN BEECH

**Latin name - *Fagus grandifolia***

Height: 50– 70 feet. 2– 3 feet wide

Leaves: Alternating, single leaves. 3 to 5 inches long. Papery texture. Darker on top, lighter on bottom. Rough teeth.

Fruit: Stalked burs with 2 to 3 edible nuts. Nuts are a good food source for squirrels and other wild animals.

Uses: Excellent for fuel, like firewood. Not often used for lumber.

Interesting facts: Smooth, grayish bark. Most commonly vandalized. Do not carve into these trees because it will scar them and possibly allow viruses into them, causing them to die.



## #5 IRONWOOD

Other names: American Hornbeam, Musclewood, Water Beech, or Blue Beech

**Latin name - *Carpinus caroliniana***

Height: 10– 30 feet high. 8– 12 inches wide.

Leaves: Alternating, simple, double toothed, 2 to 4 inches long. Dark green on top, pale green on bottom.

Fruit: Small nut. About 1/3 of inch long, surrounded by leaves.

Uses: Because of strength, used for handles, mallets, and heads on golf clubs.

Interesting Facts: The trunk is dense like iron, and is smooth and deeply rippled like muscles



## #6 BLACK BIRCH

Other names: Sweet birch, Cherry birch, Mahogany birch

**Latin name- *Betula lenta***

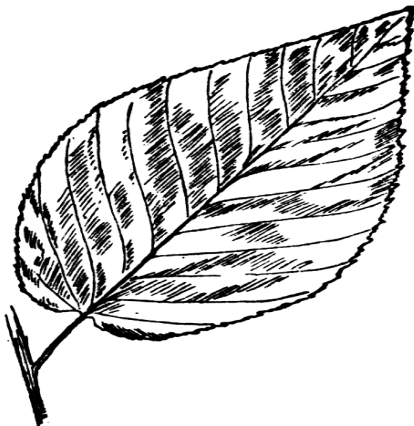
Height: 50 - 60 feet high. 1-2 feet wide.

Leaves: Simple, alternating, heart shaped leaves. 2 1/2 to 5 inches long. Darker green on top, lighter towards bottom.

Fruit: Cone-like with tiny seeds, found in early autumn. 1 – 1 1/2 inches long.

Uses: Lumber, furniture. Inner bark used for making birch beer.

Interesting Facts: Black Birch twigs were a chewing gum for Native Americans, and they can also be added to make a type of tea. A strong cup of this tea acts similar to 1/4<sup>th</sup> to 1/2 of an aspirin.





## #7 WHITE OAK

**Latin name– *Quercus alba***

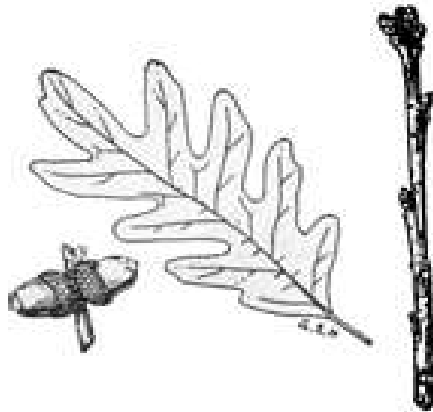
Height: 70-90 feet high. Up to 4 feet wide.

Leaves: Lobed leaves, about 5 to 9 inches long. Usually have about 5 to 9 lobes on each leaf. White oak leaves have rounded tips, while red oak leaves are pointed at the tip.

Fruit: Acorns are around 1/2 to 3/4 inch long. Sweet and edible, high in protein.

Uses: Mainly for lumber, and hardwood flooring. Oaks have strong, dense wood.

Interesting Facts: More than 180 different species of wildlife rely on white oak acorns as a food source. These trees can grow very old, even up to 800 years! It is the most common tree species in the Eastern U.S.A.



## #8 TULIP TREE

Other names: Tulip poplar, yellow poplar, white poplar, canoewood.

**Latin name— *Liriodendron tulipifera***

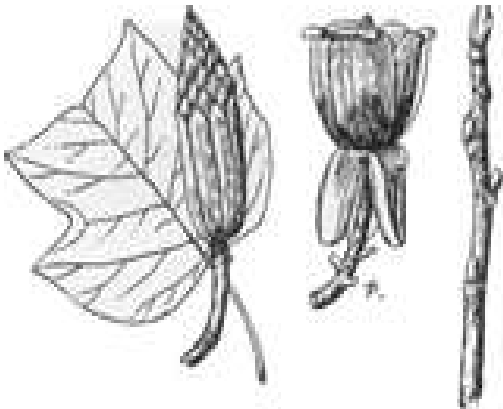
Height: Generally around 100ft high, can grow to 200ft high and 12ft in diameter.

Leaves: Uniquely shaped leaf, making identification easy, 4 to 6 inches long. Grow alternating on the branch.

Fruit: Tulip shaped flowers produce cones, 2-3 inches long, with individual seeds.

Uses: Because it is so tall, it is often used in telephone poles, as well as for carpentry and furniture,

Interesting Facts: These trees are the tallest species of tree in New Jersey. The native Americans would carve canoes out of these trees, creating the nickname “canoewood”.



## #9 SHAGBARK HICKORY

Other names: Carolina hickory, shellbark hickory, upland hickory.

**Latin name - *Carya ovata***

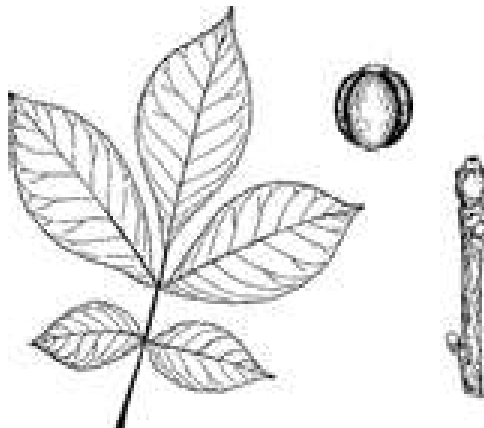
Height: 50-75 feet high, 1-2 feet wide.

Leaves: Alternating compound leaves, 5-8 inches long. The shagbark hickory is more easily recognized by its shaggy, peeling bark.

Fruit: Round nut with a thick shell, that splits into four pieces.

Uses: Mostly for handles, but also for wooden parts of cars and sporting equipment.

Interesting Facts : The nut of the Shagbark Hickory is actually edible and has a very sweet taste. Squirrels, Raccoons, Chipmunks and Mice all rely on hickory nuts as a food source.



## #10 NORTHERN RED OAK

**Latin name—*Quercus rubra***

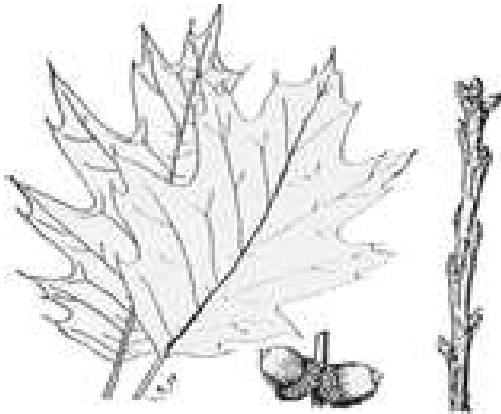
Height: 70– 90 feet high. 2 –4 feet wide.

Leaves: Alternate, simple. 5-9 inches long. 7 –11 sharp tipped lobes

Fruit: Acorns! They require 2 years to mature. 3/4 –1 inch long. Bitter to taste.

Uses: Important for furniture and hardwood floors. Often used in construction.

Interesting Facts: This tree is the state tree of New Jersey! Its acorns provide a food source for many birds including nuthatches, blue jays, squirrels and wild turkeys.

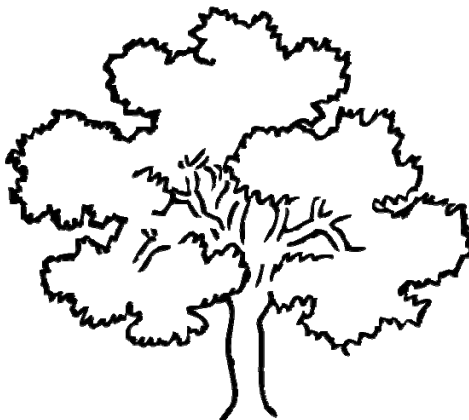


## HUG A TREE GAME

How to play:

1. Get a partner who you trust
2. Have one of the partners close their eyes or blindfold them
3. Find a tree which you can identify
4. Walk your partner blindly towards the tree
5. Have them embrace and feel the tree, and have them fully understand the bark and the leaves
6. Have the blindfolded person walk back and spin 5 times in a circle
7. Have them open their eyes or take off the blindfold
8. The partner then must find which tree which they hugged.

Reverse partners and repeat!



## MORE FUN GAMES TO PLAY!

**Spot Spy:** This game is great fun when resting on a hike or when taking a break along the way. The leader says: "I can see 5 white oaks." The group are given one or two minutes to spot the white oaks. All those who see them may indicate it by sitting down, taking off their hat, or by some other agreed signal. All those who see the object get a point.

**Trail Observations:** A good Scout can retrace a trail because she remembers certain objects along the trail. Walk for a certain distance over a trail and then ask ten questions, or each one may write ten questions and then exchange. Arguments will follow and it will usually be necessary to go over 'the trail again.

## ECO FRIENDLY TIPS!

### ***How to be more eco-friendly:***

1. Go to local farmers markets and buy local produce
2. Check out your local recycling program and see what you can recycle. You never know that what you are throwing away, it could be recyclable!
3. Fluorescent light bulbs save money and energy.
4. Only run your dishwasher and washing machine when they are full.
5. Unplug appliances that are not in use.
6. Ride your bike around town, or walk. Its much better for the environment than driving!
7. Plant a tree! Trees release oxygen back into the air so that we can breathe, so by planting one you are not only helping yourself but the environment too! You might want to ask a parent to help you.

*Feel free to keep this booklet for your use, or leave it in the mailbox for another to enjoy!*