










Field Guide to Desired Native Trees

Provided courtesy of Virginia Tech Forestry Department.

Species Name and Picture			Description
<p><u>Flowering Dogwood</u></p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>Leaf</p>  </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>Bark</p>  </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>Seed</p>  </div> </div>			<p>Leaf: Opposite, simple, and oval with wavy margin.</p> <p>Bark: Gray and smooth when young, turning scaly to finely blocky.</p> <p>Flower: White clusters appearing in mid-spring</p> <p>Seed: Shiny, oval red drupe in small clusters ¼ to ½ inch long.</p>
<p><u>Bald Cypress</u></p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>Leaf</p>  </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>Bark</p>  </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>Seed</p>  </div> </div>			<p>Leaf: Yellow-green; small; thin.</p> <p>Bark: Fibrous red-brown or smother gray where worn by weather.</p> <p>Seed: Spherical cone; 3/4 to 1 inch in diameter.</p>
<p><u>Black Oak</u></p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>Leaf</p>  </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>Bark</p>  </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>Seed</p>  </div> </div>			<p>Leaf: 4 to 10 inches long; some variation in shape.</p> <p>Bark: Thick and very dark on older trees; orange inner bark.</p> <p>Seed: Acorn; 1/2 to 3/4 inch long with large cap; emerges August through October.</p>

Black Walnut

Leaf



Bark



Seed



Leaf: 10 to 24 inches long; composed of leaflets 3 inches long.

Bark: Light brown on surface; dark brown when cut; ridged.

Seed: Round with a greenish-yellow husk (stains clothing); from the outside, does not look like walnut; nut is inside husk; emerges September through October.

Chestnut Oak

Leaf



Bark



Seed



Leaf: 4 to 6 inches long.

Bark: Gray-brown or black; older trees have ridged appearance.

Seed: Acorn; 1 inch long with thin, warty cap. Emerges September through October.

Chinkapin Oak

Leaf



Bark



Seed



Leaf: 4 to 7 inches long; dark green on top; pale green on bottom. More pointed than rounded-pointed leaves of Chestnut Oak.

Bark: Brown-gray; thin and flaky; rough.

Seed: Acorn; 1/2 to 1 inch long; green on tree, dark brown when mature; usually has large cap; emerges September to October.

Hazelnut

Leaf



Bark



Seed



Flower



Leaf: 2 to 5 inches long; dark green above with light green underside; hairy.

Bark: Smooth; brown-gray in color; ridges form criss-cross pattern later in life.

Seed: Brown seeds enclosed in leaves; leaf case green in summer, turns to brown as seeds ripen in fall.

Northern Red Oak

Leaf



Bark



Seed



Leaf: 5 to 8 inches long; pointed tips.

Bark: On older trees, wide, flat ridges with shallow furrows between them, resembling ski tracks.

Seed: Acorns; 3/4 to 1 inch long; flat, thick cap; emerge August to late October.

Overcup Oak

Leaf



Bark



Seed



Leaf: 6 to 10 inches long; green with white underside.

Bark: Gray-brown and scaly; irregular plates; resembles White Oak.

Seed: Acorn; 1/2 to 1 inch long; almost completely covered by very warty cap; emerges September to October.

Pawpaw

Leaf



Bark



Seed



Leaf: 5 to 11 inches long; 2 to 3 inches wide; light green.

Bark: Smooth gray-brown with gray patches; wart-like ridge protrusions.

Seed: Banana-like fruit; up to 5 inches long; green at first and ripening to yellow and brown in fall.

Persimmon

Leaf



Bark



Seed



Leaf: 2.5 to 5 inches long; lustrous green.

Bark: Dark; broken up into thick square plates; younger bark smoother and ridged.

Seed: Plum-like fruit; up to 2 inches in diameter; orange to black when ripens September through November.

Pin Oak

Leaf



Bark



Seed



Leaf: 3 to 6 inches long; lustrous green top, pale green below; u-shape between major lobes.

Bark: Gray-brown; very tight and thin; stays mostly smooth, but can develop ridges.

Seed: Acorn; 1/2 inch long; round with flat, thin cap; red-brown in color with red-brown scales; emerges September to December.

Sassafras

Leaf



Bark



Seed



Leaf: 3 to 6 inches long; 1 to 3 lobes with one dominant lobe; strong, distinct smell and taste in leaves.

Bark: Brown with cinnamon-brown under-bark when cut; coarsely ridged and furrowed; spicy aroma.

Seed: Dark-blue, fleshy berries on red stalks; emerge August to September.

Southern Red Oak

Leaf



Bark



Seed



Leaf: 5 to 9 inches long; somewhat lustrous; two common lobe arrangements: 3-lobe or 5- to 7-lobe.

Bark: Thick; dark gray-brown; scaly ridges and deep furrows; inner bark slightly yellow.

Seed: Acorn; 1/2 inch long; orange-brown; Thin, flat cap; emerges September to October.

Swamp Chestnut

Leaf

Bark

Seed

Leaf: 4 to 8 inches long; 3 to 5 inches wide; lustrous dark green top with pale downy underside.

Bark: Ash-gray; scaly; furrows with age.

Seed: Acorn; 1 to 1½ inch long acorns; chestnut brown; cap scaly and bowl-shaped; emerge throughout fall.



Swamp White Oak

Leaf



Bark



Seed



Leaf: 3 to 7 inches long; 2 to 4 inches wide; lustrous dark green top with very pale underside.

Bark: Gray; scaly; develops ridges with age.

Seed: Acorn; 1 inch long; tan in color; cap bowl-shaped with longer stalk than Swamp Chestnut; emerges throughout fall.

Water Oak

Leaf



Bark



Seed



Leaf: 2 to 4 inches long; very variable in shape; can have from 0 to 7 lobes; can have bristles or not.

Bark: Dark; tight; develops rough patches and ridges as it ages.

Seed: Acorns; ½ inch long, very dark; flat, scaly cap; emerges in September.

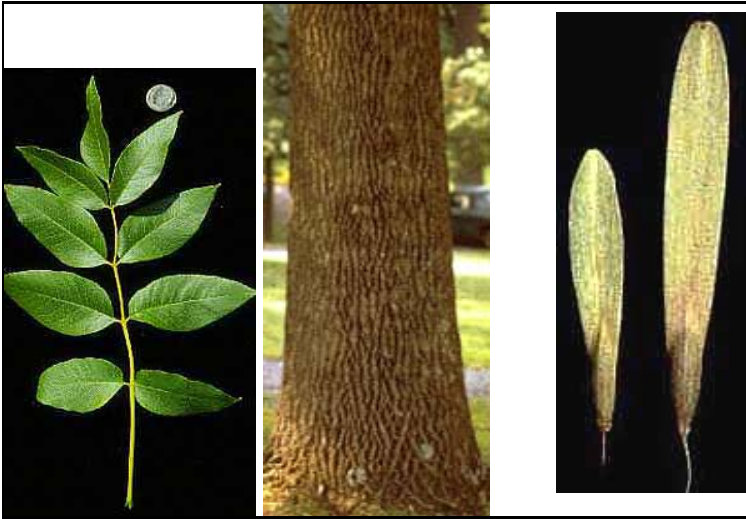
White Ash

Leaf

Bark

Seed

Leaf: 8 to 12 inches long; 7 leaflets; hairless.



Bark: Ash-gray to brown in color; ridges form diamonds.

Seed: Single-wing helicopter; matures October to November; falls in winter.

Note: *This is often confused with Green Ash. It is recommended that you have this species confirmed by a forester or master gardener before collecting.*

Willow Oak

Leaf



Bark



Seed



Leaf: 2 to 5 inches long; linear in shape (can curve somewhat).

Bark: Gray; older trees are darker and have thick ridges and deep, irregular furrows.

Seed: Acorn; ¼- ½ inch; nearly round; yellow-green hue; thin, saucer-like, scaly caps.

White Oak

Leaf



Bark



Seed



Leaf: 4 to 7 inches long; bright green on top, whitish below.

Bark: Whitish or ashy gray; scaly; patchy; blocky.

Seed: Acorn; warty cap that always detaches when ripe. Emerges July through September.

Yellow Poplar

Leaf



Bark



Seed



Leaf: 4 to 8 inches long; somewhat shaped like a tulip; alternate; palmately veined; 4-lobed with an entire margin.

Bark: Light gray-green; smooth when young, developing diamond patterns of ridges when older.

Seed: Single-wing helicopter; 1 1/2 inches long; emerges between August and October.

Source:

All textual information comes from the Virginia Tech Forestry Department, and was originally written by John R. Seiler, Edward C. Jensen, and John A. Peterson.

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