

Native Tree Checklist

Deciduous Trees



Characteristics

- Most leaves are broader than they are wide and are net veined.
- Leaves usually stay on the tree for only one season before falling off, usually before winter.
- Leaves usually change colour in the fall.
- The forms of the trees vary, but most have broad, rounded tops. Their branches are often as long as, or longer than, their short, tapered trunks.

Benefits

- Seeds are significant fall and winter food sources for white-tailed deer, wood ducks, pheasants, grey squirrels, ruffed grouse, and many other species.
- Planting hardwoods is a wonderful long-term investment in wildlife production. For example, oak trees may produce acorns for up to 400 years!

Coniferous Trees



Characteristics

- Leaves are often shaped like needles.
- Leaves are either narrower than they are wide or small and scale-like, with straight veins unconnected by cross veins.
- Mature trees usually have a straight central trunk with short side branches that spread to form a distinctive conical or columnar crown.
- Almost all trees retain their green colour over winter.

Benefits

- Because the foliage on most conifers stays all year long, their dense branches provide excellent shelter for birds and other animals. Pines, spruces, firs, cedars, junipers, and yews all make good winter cover and summer nesting sites.
- The buds and needles of many conifers — including spruce, hemlock, and white cedar — provide tasty winter food for animals such as grouse and deer.