























**Bess Streater Aldrich Gardens
Tree Identification Activity**

Tree Species/Location	Description	Pictorial Hint	Location
White Oak (<i>Quercus alba</i>)	Leaves are alternate, simple, lobed with rounded tips. Fruit is an acorn. The White Oak is a member of the broad white oak group (white, bur, chinkapin, swampwhite, and post oaks).		
Sugar Maple (<i>Acer saccharum</i>)	The sugar maple is one of the largest and finest forest trees, growing to a height of 80 feet with a diameter of two or more feet. The tree produces a dense, round, compact crown when grown in the open and is used quite extensively as a shade or ornamental tree. In the fall the yellow, red and crimson colors of the leaves are very showy and beautiful part of the landscape.		
Frontier American Elm (<i>Ulmus Frontier</i>)	Like other American elms, the leaves are alternate, simple, double-toothed with unequal leaf bases. The leaves are dark green in the summer and purplish in the fall. This variety is resistant to Dutch Elm disease.		
Pin Oak (<i>Quercus palustris</i>)	A common decorative tree, these fast-growing oaks have small, distinctive acorns with a saucer shaped cap and smooth, gray bark. Thin leaves have deep indentations, making the leaf look skinny, 5-7 lobes, each with multiple points at the end. The tree is late losing its leaves after its acorns are dropped.		
Kentucky Coffeetree (<i>Gymnocladus Dioicus</i>)	Kentucky coffeetree is a unique tree with large, woody pods and very large leaves made up of smaller leaflets. Its common name refers to the use of the pods by early settlers as a coffee substitute. With its bold form, contorted branching, unique bark and decorative clusters of large pods rattling in the wind, Kentucky coffeetree is an exceptional winter ornamental. Leaves emerge in late spring with a striking pink-bronze color. As the leaves mature, they become dark bluish-green and turn yellow in the fall.		
Northern Catalpa (<i>Catalpa speciose</i>)	The leaves are 8 to 12 inches long and heart-shaped. Leaves are thick and firm, dark green above and downy beneath. The fruit is a slender, 8- to 20-inch long pod that ripens in early autumn. The pod hangs on the tree all winter and opens in the spring before falling off.		
Blue Spruce Columnar (<i>Picea pungens</i> Iseli Fastigiata)	A distinctive Colorado spruce featuring blue needles and upward facing branches on a more narrow, columnar form. New foliage emerges blue in spring. Rough gray bark adds an interesting dimension to the landscape. Great for use as a vertical landscape specimen. Cones grow in the upper part of the tree.		
Eastern Redbud (<i>Cercis Canadensis</i>)	The eastern redbud is a deciduous, often multi-trunked tree with a rounded crown. It is noted for its pea-like rose-purple flowers which bloom profusely on bare branches in early spring. Flowers are followed by flattened leguminous bean-like dry seedpods (to 2-4" long) that mature to brown in summer. The alternate, simple, broadly ovate to nearly orbicular, dull green to blue-green leaves have a papery texture and are short pointed at the tip. Leaves turn pale yellow to greenish-yellow in fall.		
Douglas Fir (<i>Pseudotsuga menziesii</i>)	Douglas Fir is easy to identify. The thin needles stick out in all directions from the twig like a bottle brush. Although the appearance is similar to that of spruce, the needle tips are soft, unlike the sharp spruce needles.		
Hackberry (<i>Celtis occidentals</i>)	Hackberry is easy to identify because of its distinctive characteristics of a strong unequal leaf base and rough, warty bark. The leaves are alternate, simple, 2-5 inches long, with strongly unequal bases and a sharply tapering tip. The leaf is toothed except near the base, lustrous to dull green above, with a fine network of veins below.		

Crabapple, Indian Summer (Malus Indian Summer)	Broadly round, maturing to 15 to 20 ft. tall and wide. Red buds open to rosy red flowers. Bright red fruit, 3/4" fruit persists into winter providing food for birds. Foliage emerges reddish-purple, turns medium green in summer and finally in the fall, provides showy oranges and yellows.		
Black Walnut (Juglans nigra)	On a black walnut, the bark is furrowed and dark in color. The leaf scars along twigs look like an upside-down shamrock with five or seven bundle scars. Beneath the tree, you usually find whole walnuts or their husks.		
Austrian Pine (Pinus nigra)	The Austrian pine "rivals all pines in durability," making it one of the toughest of all European pines. Austrian pines are medium to fast-growing, generally reaching between 40 and 60 feet and spreading 25 to 35 feet. Mature trees can grow to be over 500 years old. The Austrian pine is native to Austria and appreciated for its bold texture, fullness of foliage, and dark-green needles.		
Norway Spruce (Picea abies)	Norway spruce needles are dark green. Individual needles are 1/2"-1" (1.75-2.5cm) long and the twig is hairless. The cones of the Norway Spruce are very long and grow mainly in the upper part of the tree. Cones fall readily, making them very useful in identification as they are the longest of the spruce cones.		
Green Ash (Fraxinus pennsylvanica)	Green ash is one of our most adaptable native trees. Green ash is characterized by having opposite, pinnately compound leaves with 5 to 9 leaflets (usually 7). The leaves are 10 to 12 inches in length with individual leaflets 2 to 6 inches long. Many are dying because of the European Ash Borer.		
Sycamore (Platanus occidentals)	The American sycamore is a massive tree and can attain the largest trunk diameter of any of the Eastern U.S. hardwoods. The native sycamore has a grand branch display, and its bark is unique among all trees. Its unusually large leaves, round seedballs, and mottled bark make it one of the easiest trees to identify.		
American Elm (Established) (Ulmus americana)	Leaves are alternate, simple, double-toothed with unequal leaf bases. American elm (also known as white elm, soft elm, or water elm) was, before Dutch elm disease, one of the most abundant species in the state's native woodlands and forests.		
Persimmon (Diospyros virginiana)	Common persimmons are slow-growing trees that produce edible fruits. The leaves are simple, alternate, and deciduous. They grow 4 to 6 inches long by 2 to 3 inches wide. The oblong-shaped leaves usually have shiny, leathery, dark green upper surfaces while the underneath surface resembles a stained-glass mosaic pattern of paler green.		
Flowering Dogwood (Cornus Florida)	Flowering dogwood is a small <u>deciduous tree</u> growing to 33 ft. high. The <u>leaves</u> are opposite, simple, finely toothed. They turn a rich red-brown in fall. The <u>flowers</u> are individually small and inconspicuous, with large white, pink or red "petals" (actually <u>bracts</u>).		
European Mountain Ash (Sorbus Aucuparia)	The mountain ash is a deciduous tree with alternate, pinnately compound leaves. Each leaf is serrated. In the spring and summer, the leaves are a dark yellow-green and in the winter they turn varying shades of yellow and red. It blossoms from May to June with small yellowish white flowers and develops small fruit that ripen from August to October.		
Bald Cypress (Taxodium Distichum)	A slow-growing, and long-lived tree with grayish brown to reddish brown bark, the Bald Cypress has needle-like leaves are 1/2 to 3/4 inch long and are simple, alternate, green and linear, with entire margins. In autumn, the leaves turn yellow or copper red. The bald cypress drops its needles each winter and then grows a new set in spring.		
Tulip Tree (Liriodendron)	<i>Liriodendron</i> trees are easily recognized by their <u>leaves</u> , which are distinctive, having four lobes. In autumn, the leaves turn yellow, or brown and yellow. The flowers start forming after around 15 years and are superficially similar to a <u>tulip</u> in shape.		

Garden Layout:

