

TREE IDENTIFICATION GAME:



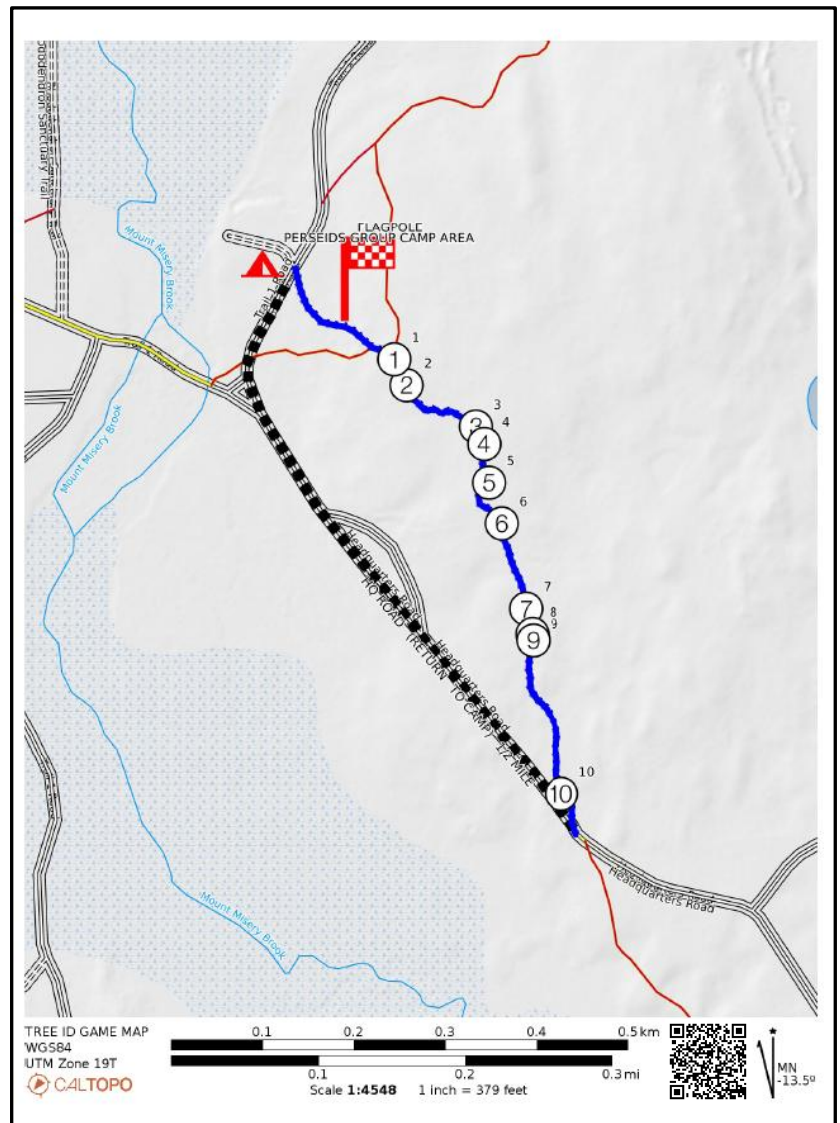
The trail for this game is an easy combination of trail and paved road. It is 1 mile long. It begins at the Flagpole at the CCC Group Camp Area. Follow the BLUE WIRE MARKERS across the grassy area from the flagpole to the outhouses. From behind the outhouses follow the BLUE FLAGGING along the Blue Blazed Nehantic Trail foot trail. The BLUE FLAGGING will lead you along the trail route which will follow the blue blazed footpath and bring you to the paved Headquarters Road. Turn right (North) on Headquarters Road and follow the blue flagging back to the start of the game at the Flagpole (you can also simply turn around and follow the trail back to the start).

There are 10 tree identification stations along the trail portion of this route. Each one of these is marked with a YELLOW WIRE MARKER and the tree to be identified will have YELLOW FLAGGING tied on its branches.

If you are hiking the Tree Identification Game on your own, **stop at each station and answer the questions on the following pages to identify the tree species. On your sheet circle the correct answer for each tree station.** You can turn in your final answer sheet for grading to the RANGER ON DUTY station at the event campsites, or keep it with you and bring it on the group hike on Saturday 8/15 at 2 pm.

Bob Panko will lead the group hike and will stop at each station with the group and identify the trees. The group hike will meet at the CCC Flagpole and the hike will begin promptly at 2 pm on Saturday 8/15

SCAN FOR THIS GUIDE & MAP→



GAME PARTICIPANTS

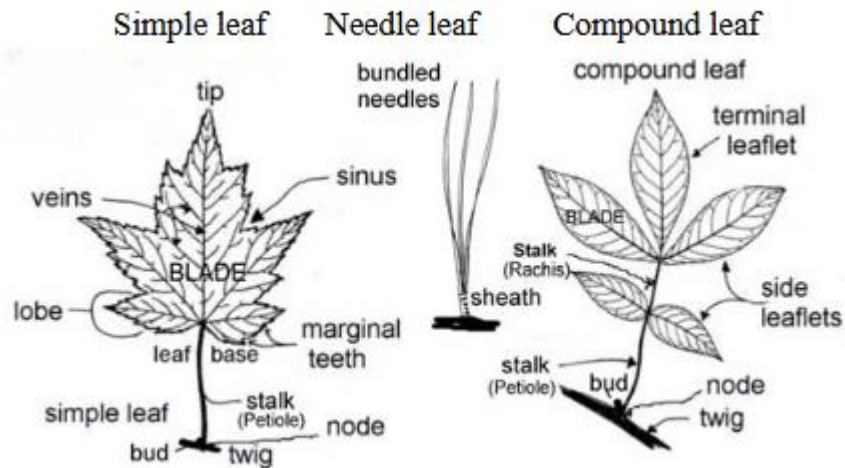
NAME: _____

STATION 1:

Leaves on trees have three types: Simple leaf that is just one complete leaf; Compound leaf where one leaf has several "leaflets" or; Needle leaf which is a characteristic of most evergreen trees such as pines, spruce, fir and hemlock.

What kind of leaves are on Tree #1? (Circle correct answer)

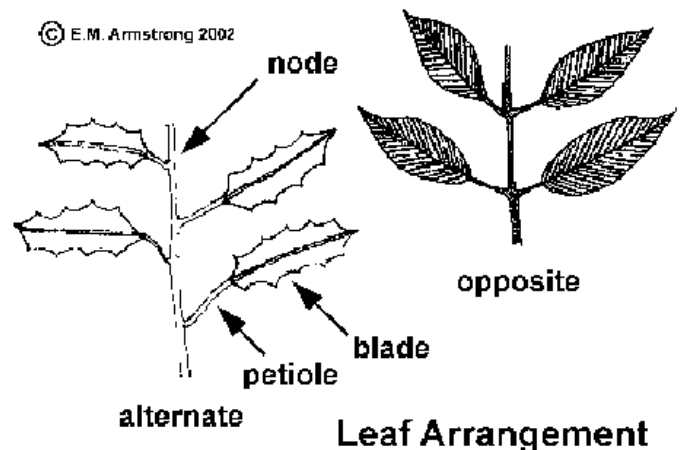
- Simple
- Needle
- Compound



Leaves on branches generally either alternate along the stem of the branch, or are opposite each other on the branch.

The leaves on Tree #1 are: (Circle the correct answer)

- Alternate
- Opposite



Which Statement Below is Correct?

Tree #1 has Simple, Alternate leaves and it is a WITCH-HAZEL

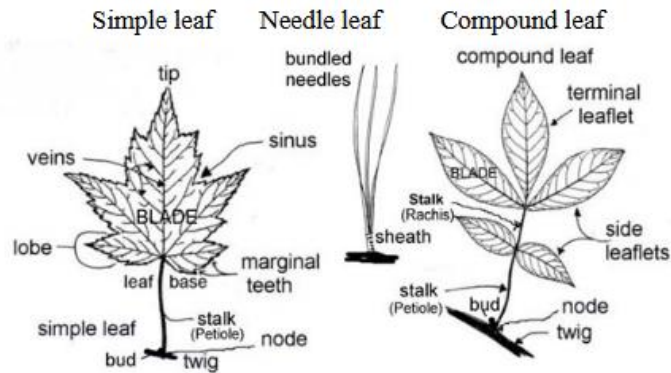
Tree #1 has Compound, Opposite leaves and it is a WHITE ASH

STATION 2:

Leaves on trees have three types: Simple leaf that is just one complete leaf; Compound leaf where one leaf has several "leaflets" or; Needle leaf which is a characteristic of most evergreen trees such as pines, spruce, fir and hemlock.

Tree#2 has:

- Simple leaves
- Needle leaves
- Compound leaves



Needle leaves may be thin, pointy and there may be anywhere from 2 to 5 needles in a single bundle. Or they may be single, relatively flat and blunt at the tip.



Which Statement Below is Correct?

Tree #2 has thin, soft, pointy needles with 5 needles in each bundle and it is an EASTERN WHITE PINE

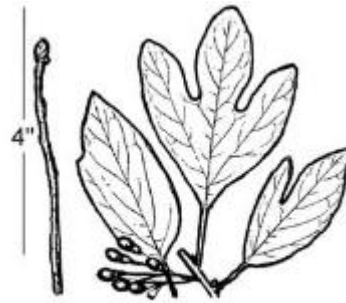
Tree #2 has flat, short stubby needles and it is an EASTERN HEMLOCK

STATION 3:

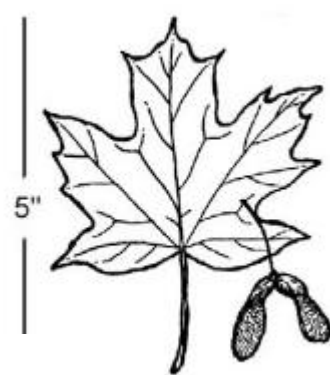
Edges of leaves may be serrated, smooth and pointy. They may have no lobes, multiple lobes, irregular lobes or very distinct patterns of lobes. Leaves may be round, oval, elongated or palmate (shaped like the palm of your hand).



Oval Leaf with Serrated Edge



Oval Type Leaf with Irregular Lobes and Smooth Edge



Palmate shaped leaf with distinct Lobes and Pointy Edges

Tree #3 has:

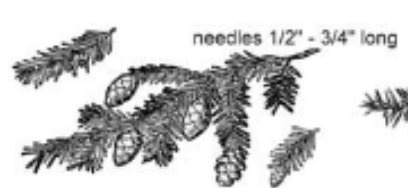
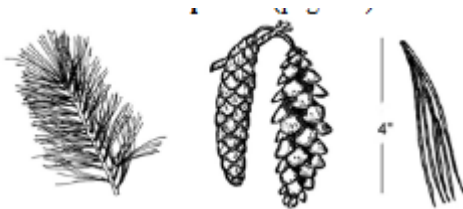
Oval shaped leaves with a serrated edge and is a NORTHERN BEECH

Generally oval shaped leaves with smooth edges with 0, 1 or 2 lobes and is a SASSAFRAS

Palmate shaped leaves with pointy tips and three distinct lobes and is a RED MAPLE

STATION 4:

Needle leaves may be thin, pointy and there may be anywhere from 2 to 5 needles in a single bundle. Or they may be single, relatively flat and blunt at the tip.



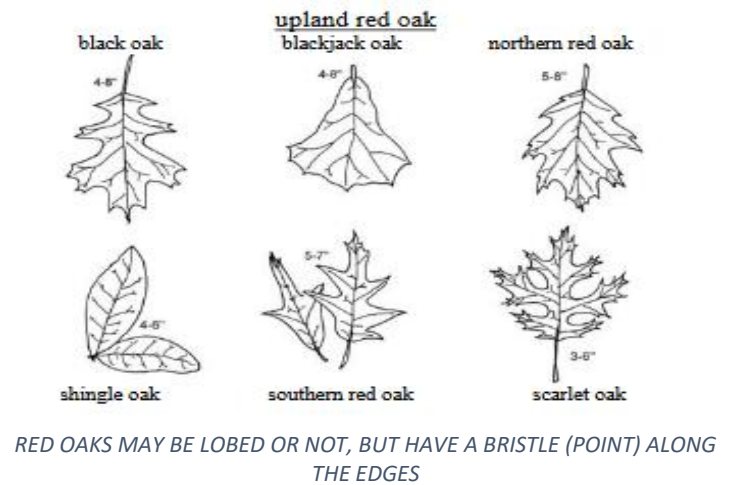
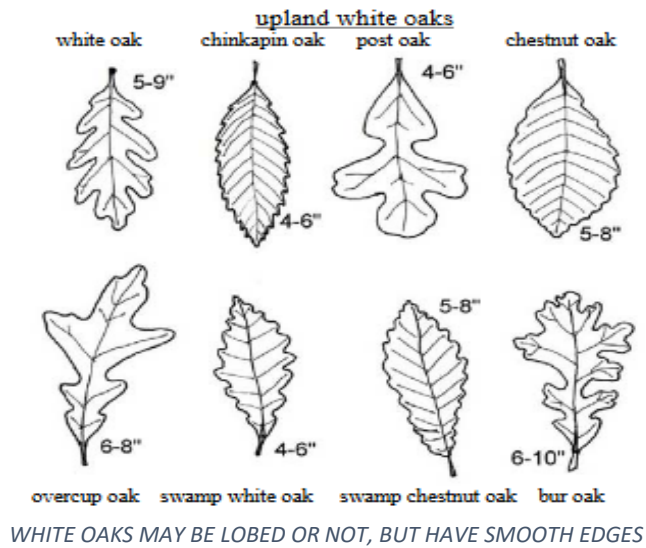
Which Statement Below is Correct?

Tree #4 has thin, soft, pointy needles with 5 needles in each bundle and it is an EASTERN WHITE PINE

Tree #4 has flat, short stubby needles and it is an EASTERN HEMLOCK

STATION 5

Oak trees in the northeastern US generally fall into two types; White Oaks and Red Oaks. 19 different kinds of Oaks fall into these White or Red oak types.



Tree #5 has:

Leaves with distinct lobes that have sharp, pointy edges and is a RED OAK

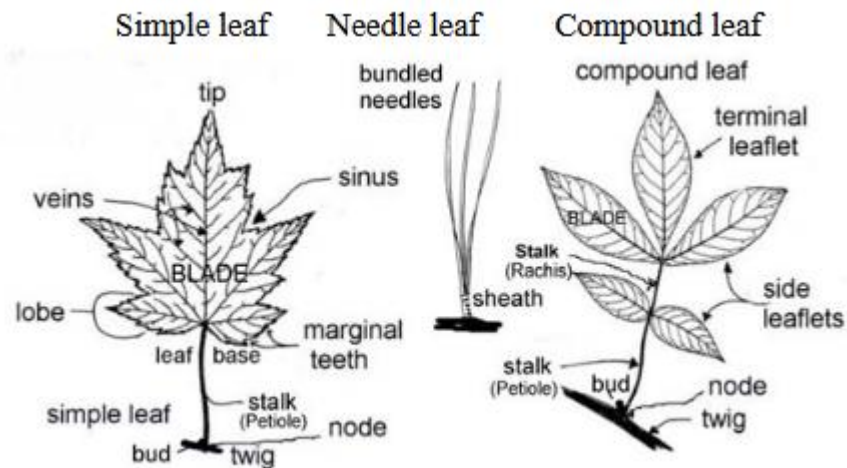
Leaves with distinct lobes with rounded, smooth edges and is a WHITE OAK

STATION 6:

Leaves on trees have three types: Simple leaf that is just one complete leaf; Compound leaf where one leaf has several "leaflets" or; Needle leaf which is a characteristic of most evergreen trees such as pines, spruce, fir and hemlock.

What kind of leaves are on Tree #1? (Circle correct answer)

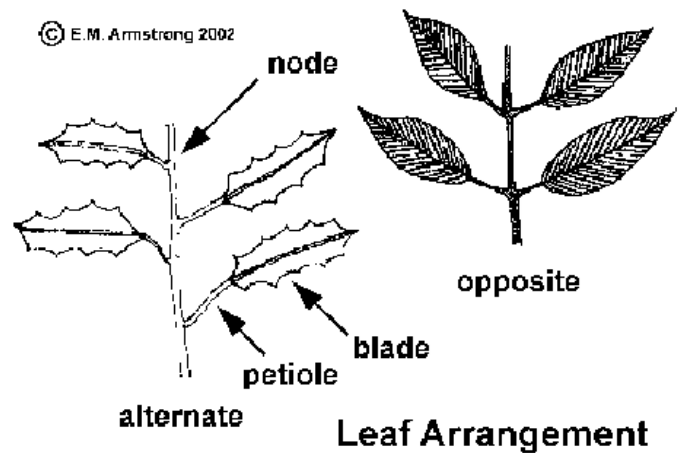
- Simple
- Needle
- Compound



Leaves on branches generally either alternate along the stem of the branch, or are opposite each other on the branch.

The leaves on Tree #1 are: (Circle the correct answer)

- Alternate
- Opposite



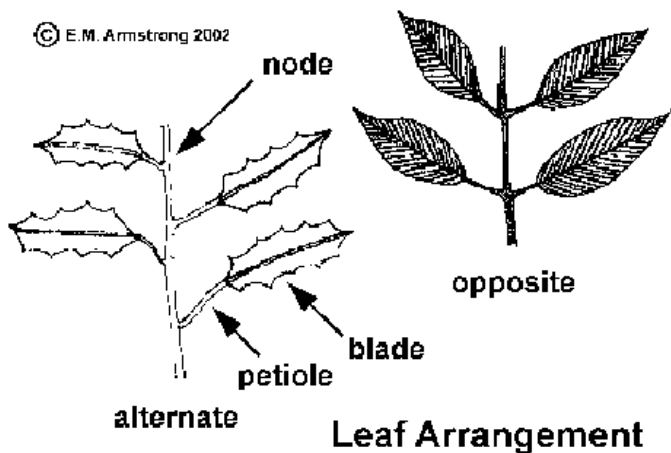
Which Statement Below is Correct?

Tree #6 has Simple, Alternate leaves and it is a RED OAK

Tree #6 has Compound, Alternate leaves and it is a HICKORY

STATION 7

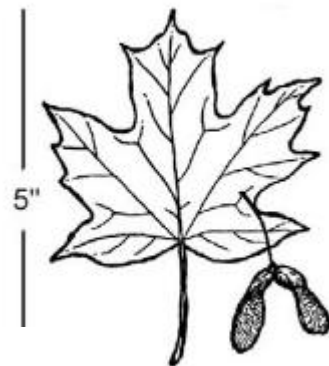
Very few of our northeastern tree species have opposite leaves. In fact, you can remember those with opposite leaves by remembering the pneumatic MADCAPHORSE: the letters of the pneumatic stand in order for MAPLE, ASH, DOGWOOD, CAPRIFOLIACEAE and HORSE-CHESTNUT as it is these tree types that have opposite leaves here in Connecticut. Knowing that it becomes much easier to identify these type trees. Ash and Horse-Chestnut have compound leaves. Dogwoods and Caprifoliaceae have simple leaves. Maples all have simple leaves with one exception that has a compound leaf.



Oval Leaf with Serrated Edge



Oval Type Leaf with Irregular Lobes and Smooth Edge



Palmate shaped leaf with distinct Lobes and Pointy Edges

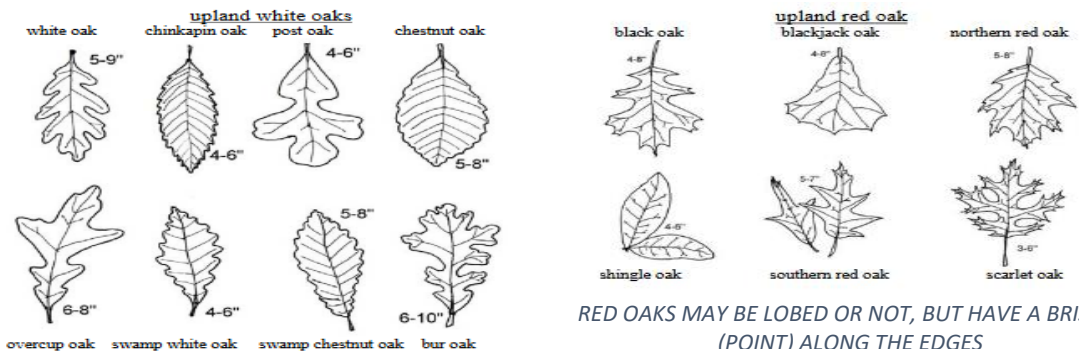
Which Statement Below is Correct?

Tree#7 has simple, alternate, palmate shaped leaves with lobes that end in a sharp point and is a RED OAK.

Tree#7 has simple, opposite leaves with 3 lobes that end in a sharp point, has bright red “petioles” that attach the leaves to the stem and is a RED MAPLE

STATION 8

Oak trees in the northeastern US generally fall into two types; White Oaks and Red Oaks. About 19 different kinds of Oaks fall into these White or Red oak types.



Tree #8 has:

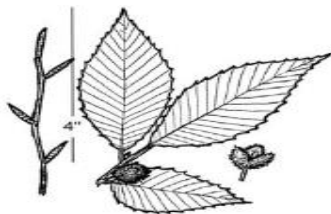
WHITE OAKS MAY BE LOBED OR NOT, BUT HAVE

Simple, alternate leaves with distinct lobes that have sharp, pointy edges and is a RED OAK

Simple, alternate leaves with distinct lobes with rounded, smooth edges and is a WHITE OAK

STATION 9

Edges of leaves may be serrated, smooth and pointy. They may have no lobes, multiple lobes, irregular lobes or very distinct patterns of lobes. Leaves may be round, oval, elongated or palmate (shaped like the palm of your hand).



Oval Leaf with Serrated Edge



Oval Type Leaf with Irregular Lobes and Smooth Edge



Palmate shaped leaf with distinct Lobes and Pointy

Tree #9 has:

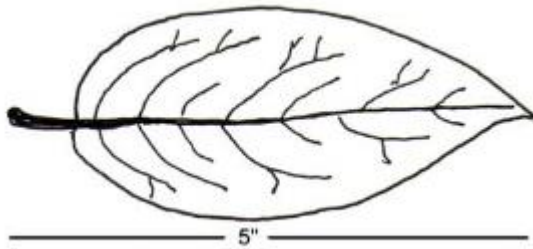
Alternate, oval shaped leaves with a serrated edge and is a NORTHERN BEECH

Alternate, generally oval shaped leaves with smooth edges with 0, 1 or 2 lobes and is a SASSAFRAS

Opposite, palmate shaped leaves with pointy tips and three distinct lobes and is a RED MAPLE

STATION 10

Edges of leaves may be “doubly serrated” instead of smooth with no lobes and sometimes the color of the bark on the stems or trunk “shouts out” its trees name.



Smooth edge with an oval or elliptical shaped leaf



Doubly serrated leaf edges that are almost saw like.

Tree #10 has:

Alternate, oval shaped leaves with a smooth edge and is a BLACK TUPELO

Alternate, oval shaped leaves with a doubly serrated edge and yellowish colored smooth to flakey bark and is a YELLOW BIRCH

Thank you for playing the Tree Identification Game brought to you by Friends of Pachaug Forest! To have your answers graded you can leave your answers with the RANGER ON DUTY at the events campsites or attend the group hike starting promptly on Saturday August 15 at 2pm. (Meet at the CCC Group Camp flagpole).

