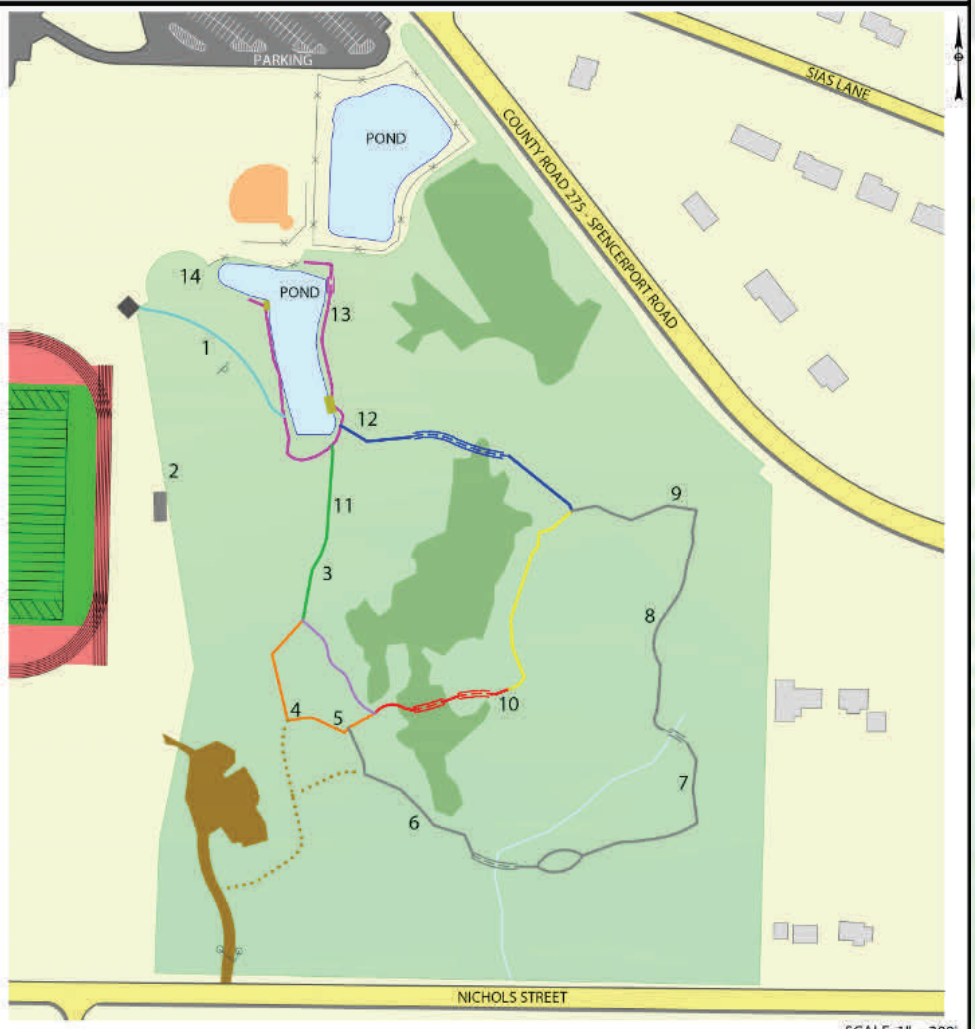
SPENCERPORT NATURE CENTER - TREE IDENTIFICATION TRAIL



LEGEND

- WOODLAND
- OPEN SWAMP
- WATER
- BUILDING
- PARKING
- OBSERVATION DOCK
- MAINTENANCE STORAGE AREA
- WOODEN WALKWAY
- CHAIN LINK FENCE
- GATE
- "NATURE TRAIL" SIGN
- TRAIL HEAD/MAIN ENTRANCE
- MAINTENANCE ACCESS ONLY

TRAIL NAMES

- PINE POINT PASS
- MAPLE TREE TRAIL
- CONIFER CORNERS
- WETLANDS WALK
- POLLYWOG PATH
- JEWELWEED WAY
- DEER RUN
- CATTAIL CROSSING
- EAGLES SCOUT TRAIL

MAP DESIGN AND PRODUCTION DONATED BY: LABELLA Associates, D.P.C.

12.9.14 Edition

SPENCERPORT CENTRAL SCHOOLS

NATURE CENTER

Tree Identification Trail

Spencerport Nature Center
2707 Spencerport Road
Spencerport, NY 14559

Trail created by Eagle Scout Michael Palozzi in 2013

Tree Identification

Welcome to the Tree Identification trail, a self-guided tour of the Spencerport Nature Center. There are 14 posts marked with a number, from 1 to 14, scattered along the trails of the Nature Center. Each number correlates to a specific tree that is indigenous to the state of New York. Using this brochure, you will be able to identify the tree that you are looking at by locating the number, that is on the post, inside the brochure. The number will be followed by a quick description of the tree.

1 **White Pine** (Pinus strobus): This pine can be identified by the needles that are in groups of 5. When white pines mature, they can reach 200 to 250 years of age.

2 **Catalpa** (Catalpa speciosa): This tree can be identified by their large, heart-shaped to three-lobed leaves. Due to their large leaf size, catalpas provide dark shade and are a popular habitat for birds since they provide shelter from the wind and the rain.

3 **Swamp (Red) Maple** (Acer rubrum): Swamp Maple is one of the most deciduous trees in eastern North America. It is also recognized as the most common variety of tree in America. Swamp Maple can be easily distinguished by its leaves. The leaves are light green with a whitish underside. In autumn, the leaves can turn a bright red as well as yellow or orange.

4 **Brewer's Weeping Spruce** (Picea breweriana): Pyramid-shaped conifer that is recognized by its weeping foliage. The purple-brown bark forms hard circular flakes as the tree matures. The needles are short, flat leaves with a shiny upper side. The seed cone can reach up to 5 inches in length.

5 **Black Locust** (Robinia pseudoacacia): The Black Locust can reach a height of seventy feet, and have a trunk with a diameter of three or four feet. It also has brittle branches that form an oblong narrow head. It is easily identified by the flowers that begin to grow in May.

6 **White Ash** (Fraxinus americana): White ash can be identified by its thick, linear bark and its leaves. This tree is very popular due to its overall tree shape but is susceptible to infestation from an insect called the Emerald Green Ash Borer. The wood of the white ash are popular in the use of making baseball bats and other sporting equipment because its bark is very strong.

7 **Slippery Elm (Ulmus rubru):** Slippery elm may be distinguished by the hairiness of its buds and twigs and by its very short-stalked flowers. Its heartwood is reddish-brown, giving the tree its alternative common name "Red Elm."

8 **Eastern Hemlock** (Tsuga canadensis): Hemlocks are medium-sized to large evergreen trees with a conical to irregular crown. The bark is scaly and commonly deeply furrowed, with the color ranging from grey to brown. The branches stem horizontally from the trunk and are usually arranged in flattened sprays that bend downward towards their tips.

9 **Poplar** (Populus): This tree is easily identified by its white to greenish, smooth bark. The leaves vary in shape, from triangular to circular to lobed. In the wind, the breeze causes the tree to have a "twinkling" appearance.

10 **Crabapple (Hawthorne family)** (Malus): Crabapples are popular as ornamental trees, providing blossom in spring and colorful fruit in autumn. Its blooms flowers that can be white, pink, or red in color. These flowers make it very easy to identify Crabapples.

11 **Wild Black Cherry** (Prunus serotina): Wild Black Cherry Trees can be easily identified by its very broken, dark grey to black bark, which can have the appearance of very thick, burnt cornflakes. In its early years, the tree's bark can closely resemble the bark of a Birch tree. Wild Black Cherry trees are a shade intolerant tree used to create cherry furniture.

12 **Silver Maple** (Acer saccharinum): The Silver Maple is easily recognized by its silvery bottomed leaves. Squirrels, raccoons, owls, and woodpeckers can find shelter inside these trees so don't be surprised to see a bunch of wildlife around this tree.

13 **Black Willow** (Salix nigra): Black Willow trees can be identified by its bark, which can be dark brown to blackish, can be fissured in older trees, and frequently forking near the base. Native Americans use the inner bark for the treatment of inflammation and head aches.

14 **Staghorn Sumac** (Rhus typhina): Staghorn Sumacs are small trees and can grow be up to 16 feet tall. The velvety texture and forking patterns of the branches are reminiscent of antlers. This has led to naming it as "stag's horn sumac." The fruit of the trees can be cultivated, washed with cold water, strained, sweetened and made into pink lemonade. Original 'taps' or spiles—used in the collection of maple sap—were made from the small branches of this tree.