

The Tree Hunt

Trees and shrubs you can identify standing in front of them, named in the forest inventory, the 1800s land survey and the natural-community appendices.

Explorer: _____

How it works

1. Take a photograph of each thing on the list. Any camera counts - a phone is fine.
2. Tick the box when you have the picture, and write down where you were.
3. You do not have to get them in order, and you do not have to get them all.
4. Stay on roads, trails and public beaches. Ask before you cross anyone's land.
5. Look, don't touch: leave the plants growing and the bark on the trees.
6. If an animal changes what it is doing because of you, you are too close. Back away.

How hard is it? ★☆☆☆☆ seen all the time ★★★★★ very rarely seen

Before you go

- | | |
|---|--|
| ☐ A camera, or a phone | ☐ Water, and a snack |
| ☐ Sunscreen and a hat | ☐ Shoes you can get wet |
| ☐ A pencil for this book | ☐ Bug spray in summer |

Determinate species only.



American beech

Smooth grey bark like an elephant's leg. The most recorded tree on the island.

★☆☆☆☆

WHERE _____



Hemlock

Short flat needles and a droopy top. Some here are older than the United States.

★☆☆☆☆

WHERE _____



Northern white-cedar

Flat, scaly leaves. It leans out over the water along almost every shore.

★★☆☆☆

WHERE _____



Sugar maple

The leaf on the Canadian flag. Look up: this one makes the roof of the old forest.

★★☆☆☆

WHERE _____



Tamarack

A conifer that turns gold and drops all its needles in autumn. Nothing else does that.

★★☆☆☆

WHERE _____



Red maple

★★☆☆☆

WHERE _____



White pine

Needles in bundles of five. Count them. This is the tree the loggers came for.

★★☆☆☆

WHERE _____



Balsam fir

Flat needles and bubbly bark. Smells like Christmas.

★★☆☆☆

WHERE _____



Paper birch

White bark that peels like paper. Never pull it off - it does not grow back.

★★★☆☆

WHERE _____



Yellow birch

★★★☆☆

WHERE _____



Black ash

★★★☆☆

WHERE _____



Red oak

Leaves with pointy tips, and acorns.

★★★☆☆

WHERE _____



Quaking aspen

★★★★☆

WHERE _____



Red pine

★★★★☆

WHERE _____



Eastern hemlock

★★★★☆

WHERE _____



White spruce

★★★★☆

WHERE _____



Eastern white pine

★★★★☆

WHERE _____



Black spruce

★★★★☆

WHERE _____



Green ash

★★★★☆

WHERE _____



Ironwood

★★★★☆

WHERE _____



Balsam poplar

★★★★☆

WHERE _____



White ash

★★★★☆

WHERE _____



Striped maple

★★★★★

WHERE _____



Black oak

★★★★★

WHERE _____



Basswood

★★★★★

WHERE _____



Northern white cedar

The tree that leans out over every shoreline and stream mouth. Best photographed from below, from a boat.

★★★★★

WHERE _____

Woody, and mostly below knee height.

Ground hemlock
★★★★☆
WHERE

Hazel
★★★★★
WHERE

Bingo

Sixteen of these you can reasonably expect to find. Four in a row - across, down or corner to corner - and shout BINGO.

 American beech	 Hemlock	 Northern white-cedar	 Sugar maple
 Tamarack	 Red maple	 White pine	 Balsam fir
 Paper birch	 Yellow birch	 Black ash	 Red oak
 Quaking aspen	 Red pine	 Eastern hemlock	 White spruce

Draw the best thing you found

Made from the Beaver Island Archive. Nothing here was made up: the animals come from public observation records, the trees and plants from forest surveys, 1800s land-survey field notes and natural-features reports, the ground from geological mapping, and the places from the archive’s own encyclopedia. The complete list, and the reasons behind each entry, is at beaverislandarchive.org/photo-hunt/.