

# Forested Habitat

The state of New Hampshire has approximately 86 native tree species. Many of the tree species can be found here along our trail on the Lamprey River.

## Sugar maple (*Acer saccharum*)

This deciduous native tree grows to be 80-120 feet in height and the leaves have five toothed lobes that can be blunt or pointed. This tree is best known for its characteristic fall foliage where the leaves turn bright red, yellow or orange. What color are the leaves of the sugar maples around you today? This species is the only tree that is used for commercial syrup production, creating the popular maple syrup from its sap. Native Americans and early settlers used this sap as an early form of sweetener for beverages, candies and vinegar.



Examples of bark and leaves from a sugar maple tree.

Credit: Abigail Gronberg



Examples of bark and leaves from a shagbark hickory tree.

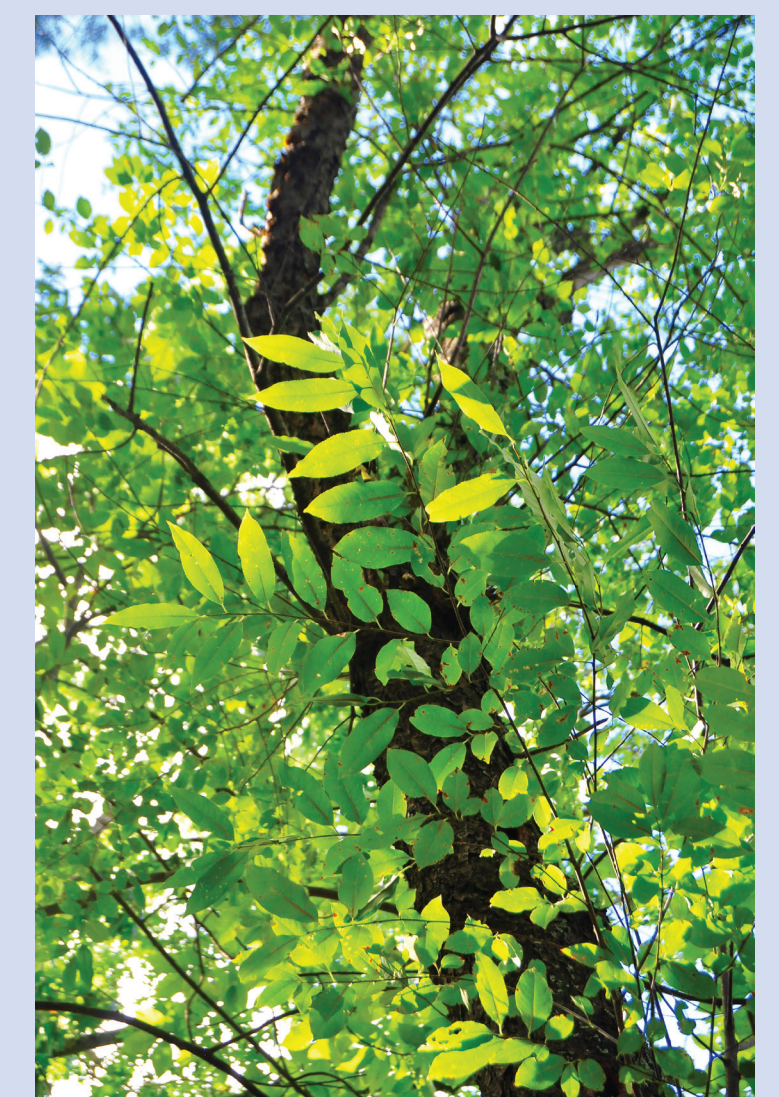
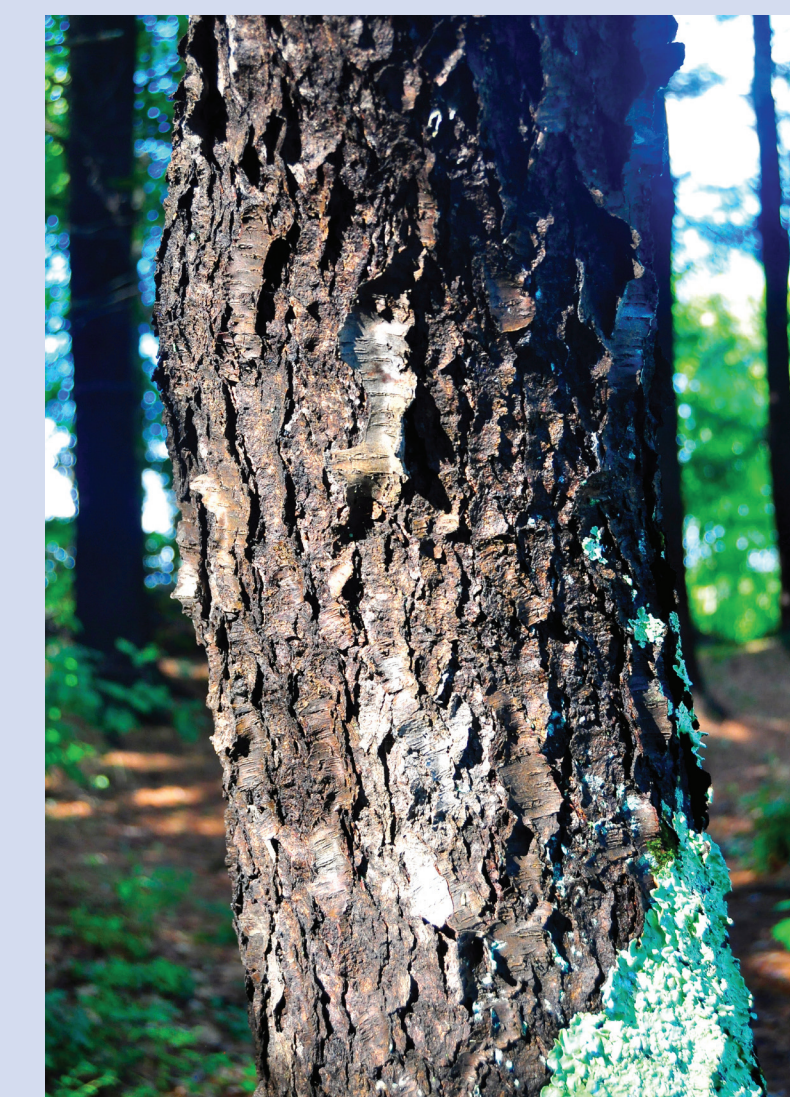
Credit: Abigail Gronberg

## Shagbark hickory (*Carya ovata*)

The hickory is a deciduous native tree that is characterized by the long pieces of bark that peel back from the trunk giving a "shaggy" appearance. This species can reach heights of 65-130 feet and the leaves have five leaflets per leaf. This species of tree is known for its nuts, which are valuable fodder for both humans and animals alike. Additionally the wood is sold commercially to use for smoking meats and lumber. How many shagbark hickory trees do you see around you?

## Black cherry (*Prunus serotina*)

The black cherry tree is a deciduous tree that is the largest—reaching 90-130 feet—and only commercially valuable species of native cherry. The name black cherry refers to the color of the fruits when ripe. Leaves are oblong with a long pointed tip and a tapering base that release a distinctive cherry like smell when crushed between fingers. Bark of the black cherry is scaly and hides a bright orange-brown underbark. There are a few black cherry trees along the trail, can you find them?



Examples of bark and leaves from a black cherry tree. Credit: Abigail Gronberg

[http://extension.unh.edu/resources/files/resource000980\\_rep1106.pdf](http://extension.unh.edu/resources/files/resource000980_rep1106.pdf)

<https://plants.usda.gov/>

<https://www.nwf.org/>

<http://www.adirondackvic.org/Trees-of-the-Adirondacks-Black-Cherry-Prunus-serotina.html>