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SPEAK FOR THE TREES
Boston

**Speak For The
Trees**

**Tree ID Guide
Mobile Version**

@SFTTBos



Instructions

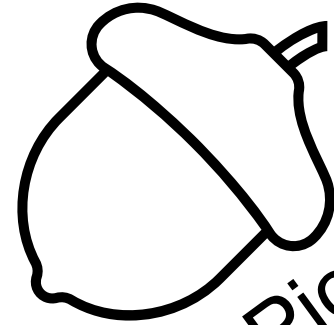
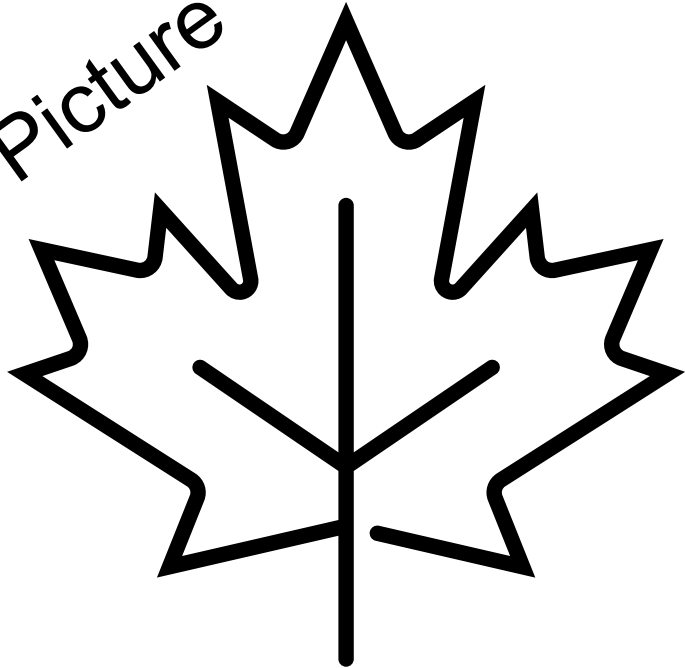
- Look at the leaves on the tree you are trying to identify and match them to a leaf on this sheet
- To double check, compare the rest of the attributes in the box
- If all the attributes are the same, then you have identified the tree!
- If attributes are not the same, look at other boxes to find one that better describes the tree you are looking at
- If you are still unsure, have a member of SFTT follow up

Common Name

Scientific Name

Top 10 Most
Common

Leaf Picture



Seed Picture

Unique tree
characteristic

Shape



Leaf Size **Opposite or Alternate**

Leaf Shapes



Hand



Teardrop



Oak



Compound



Football



Uneven

Norway Maple

Acer platanoides



Milky substance if
petiole is broken

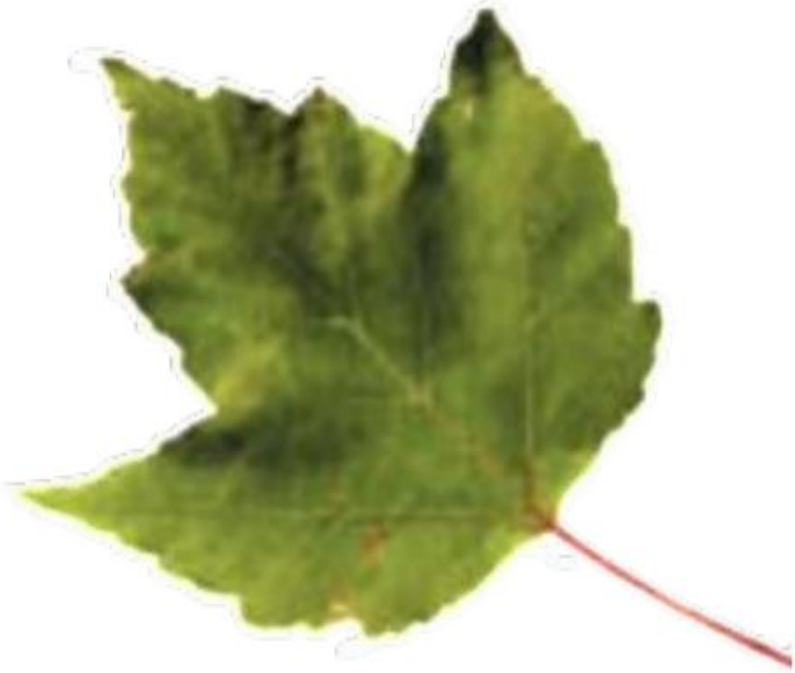
3 - 6"

Opposite



Red Maple

Acer rubrum



3 or 5 irregularly toothed lobes, red petiole; many varieties!

3 - 4"

Opposite



Sugar Maple

Acer saccharum



Usually 5 lightly coarsely
toothed lobes

4 - 6"

Opposite



Hedge Maple

Acer campestre



Backside of leaf
fuzzy and white

5 - 7"

Opposite



Silver Maple

Acer saccharinum



5 very deep lobes,
silvery underside

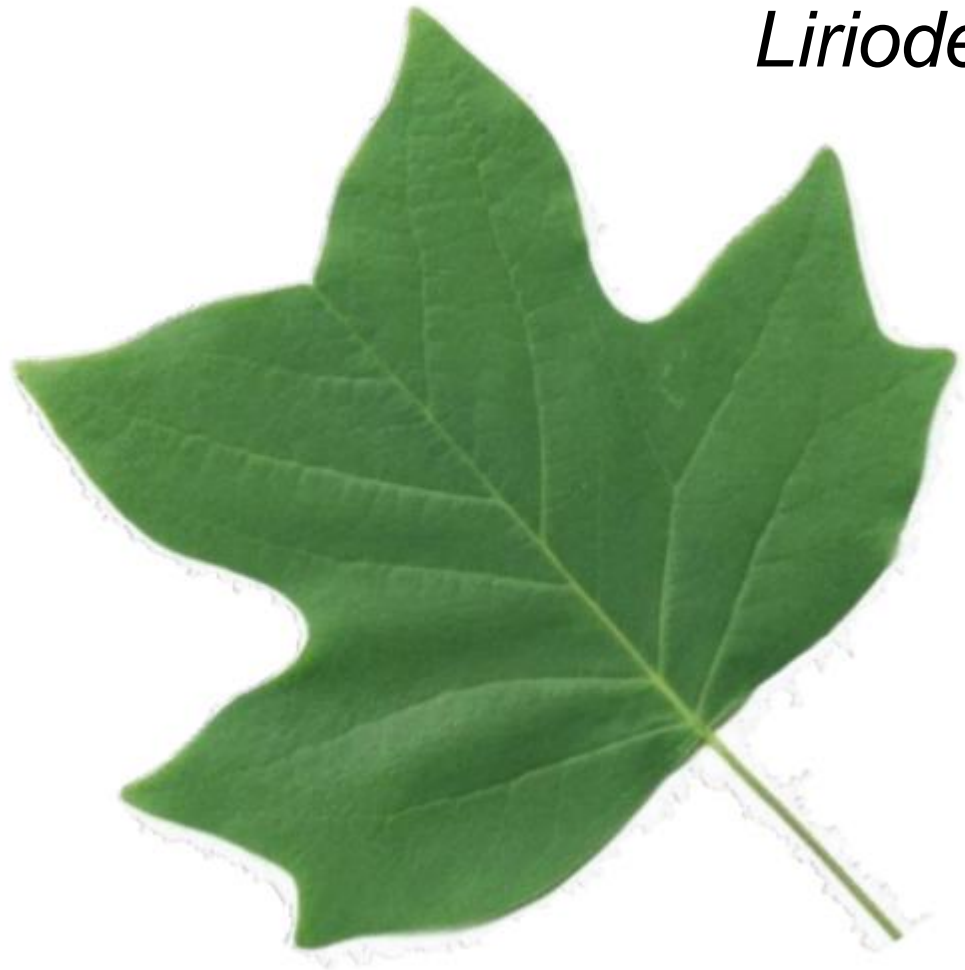
4 - 6"

Opposite



Tulip Poplar

Liriodendron tulipifera



No middle lobe,
leaves bright yellow
in fall

3 - 6"

Alternate



London Planetree

Platanus x acerifolia



5 - 10"



Distinct
flaking bark



Alternate



Sweetgum

Liquidambar styraciflua



5 to 7 lobes, toothed
along margins

3 - 7"

Alternate



Ginkgo

Ginkgo biloba



Distinct fan-shaped
leaves, only females
have fruits

3 - 4"

Alternate



Northern Red Oak

Quercus rubra



7 – 11 Waxy
spine-tipped
lobes

5 - 9"

Alternate



Swamp White Oak

Quercus bicolor



Leaves have a
leathery texture and
white backside

3 - 7"

Alternate



Pin Oak

Quercus palustris



Lobes separated by
deep sinuses

3 - 5"

Alternate



Crabapple

Malus



Leaves slightly ridged
on edges, apple size
and color varies

3"

Alternate



Cherry

Prunus

Nectar Gland



Leaves in many colors
w/ small nectar glands;
bark w/ distinctive
horizontal stripes

2 - 4"

Alternate



Black Tupelo

Nyssa sylvatica



Glossy leaves,
bright red in fall;
small black fruit

3 - 6"

Alternate



Honey Locust

Gleditsia triacanthos



Even leaves, small and wispy; long fruit pods

4 - 8"

Alternate



Green Ash

Fraxinus pennsylvanica



Lance shaped leaflets in
5s or 7s

8 - 12"

Opposite



Japanese Pagoda

Fraxinus pennsylvanica



Oval leaves, larger than
the honey locust

6 - 10"

Alternate



Japanese Zelkova

Zelkova Serrata



slightly rough leaf
texture, even at base;
seeds at base of leaf

2 - 5"

Alternate



Callery Pear

Pyrus calleryana



Waxy leaf, fruit is brown
in fall

1 - 3"

Alternate



Elm

Ulmus



Rough leaf, uneven at base

3 - 5"

Alternate



Little Leaf Linden

Tilia cordata



Leaves a bit rough;
heart shaped

2 - 4"

Alternate



Silver Linden

Tilia tomentosa



Leaves similar to Little Leaf, but silver on back

4 - 8"

Alternate



American Linden

Tilia americana



4 - 10"

Leaves larger than
Little Leaf Linden



Alternate



Japanese Tree Lilac

Syringa reticulata



White blooms
with strong smell
in spring - summer

3 - 4"

Alternate



Remember....

- 1) Pay attention to alternate vs. opposite
- 2) Leaf size matters!
- 3) Not all street trees are listed here.