### Speak for the Trees
#### Tree ID Guide

**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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Common Name</th>
<th>Scientific Name</th>
<th>Picture of Leaf</th>
<th>Distinguishing Attributes</th>
<th>Leaf Size</th>
<th>Leaf Position</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Norway Maple</strong></td>
<td><em>Acer platanoides</em></td>
<td><img src="image.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td>milky substance if petiole is broken</td>
<td>3 - 6”</td>
<td>opposite</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Red Maple</strong></td>
<td><em>Acer rubrum</em></td>
<td><img src="image.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td>3 or 5 irregularly toothed lobes, red petiole; many varieties!</td>
<td>3 - 4”</td>
<td>opposite</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sugar Maple</strong></td>
<td><em>Acer saccharum</em></td>
<td><img src="image.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td>Usually 5 lightly coarsely toothed lobes</td>
<td>4 - 6”</td>
<td>opposite</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Hedge Maple</strong></td>
<td><em>Acer campestre</em></td>
<td><img src="image.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td>Backside of leaf fuzzy and white</td>
<td>5 - 7”</td>
<td>opposite</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Silver Maple</strong></td>
<td><em>Acer saccharinum</em></td>
<td><img src="image.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td>5 very deep lobes, silvery underside</td>
<td>4 - 6”</td>
<td>opposite</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Tulip Poplar</strong></td>
<td><em>Liriodendron tulipifera</em></td>
<td><img src="image.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td>No middle lobe, leaves bright yellow in fall</td>
<td>3 - 6”</td>
<td>alternate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>London Planetree</strong></td>
<td><em>Platanus x acerifolia</em></td>
<td><img src="image.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td>Distinct flaking bark</td>
<td>5 - 10”</td>
<td>alternate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sweetgum</strong></td>
<td><em>Liquidambar styraciflua</em></td>
<td><img src="image.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td>5 or 7 lobes, toothed along margins</td>
<td>3 - 7”</td>
<td>alternate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Ginkgo</strong></td>
<td><em>Ginkgo biloba</em></td>
<td><img src="image.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td>Distinct fan-shaped leaves, only females have fruits</td>
<td>3 - 4”</td>
<td>alternate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Northern Red Oak</strong></td>
<td><em>Quercus rubra</em></td>
<td><img src="image.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td>7-11 waxy spine-tipped lobes</td>
<td>5 - 9”</td>
<td>alternate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Swamp White Oak</strong></td>
<td><em>Quercus bicolor</em></td>
<td><img src="image.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td>leaves have a leathery texture and white backside</td>
<td>3 - 7”</td>
<td>alternate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Pin Oak</strong></td>
<td><em>Quercus palustris</em></td>
<td><img src="image.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td>Lobes separated by deep sinuses</td>
<td>3 - 5”</td>
<td>alternate</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Crabapple
*Malus*
- Leaves slightly ridged on edges; apple size and color vary
- Alternate
- 3"

Cherry
*Prunus*
- Leaves in many colors w/ small nectar glands; bark w/ distinctive horizontal stripes
- Alternate
- 2 - 4"

Black Tupelo
*Nyssa sylvatica*
- Glossy leaves, bright red in fall; small black fruit
- Alternate
- 3 - 6"

Honey Locust
*Gleditsia triacanthos*
- Even leaves, small and wispy; long fruit pods
- Alternate
- 4 - 8"

Green Ash
*Fraxinus pennsylvanica*
- Lance shaped leaflets in 5s or 7s
- Opposite
- 8 - 12"

Japanese Pagoda
*Styphnolobium japonicum*
- Oval leaves; larger than honeylocust
- Alternate
- 6 - 10"

Elm
*Ulmus*
- Rough leaf, uneven at base
- Alternate
- 3 - 5"

Japanese Zelkova
*Zelkova serrata*
- Slightly rough leaf texture, even at base; seeds at base of leaf
- Alternate
- 2 - 5"

Callery Pear
*Pyrus calleryana*
- Waxy leaf; fruit is brown in fall
- Alternate
- 1 - 3"

Little Leaf Linden
*Tilia cordata*
- Leaves a bit rough; heart shaped
- Alternate
- 2 - 4"

Silver Linden
*Tilia tomentosa*
- Leaves similar to Little Leaf, but silver on back
- Alternate
- 4 - 8"

American Linden
*Tilia americana*
- Leaves larger than little-leaf linden
- Alternate
- 4 - 10"

Japanese Tree Lilac
*Syringa reticulata*
- White blooms with strong smell in spring - summer
- Opposite
- 3 - 4"

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

Leaf Shapes
- Hand
- Teardrop
- Oak
- Compound
- Football
- Uneven

Go to opentreemap.org/boston to see the progress of our tree inventory
Sign up for our newsletter at treeboston.org to learn more about our programs and volunteer opportunities

Speak for the Trees  treeboston.org  @Trees_Boston  trees@treeboston.org