

Interpretive Trail System

Portsmouth, RI
Facility



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Contents

Zone Map and Description	3
Introduction	5
Woodland Wander Trail	6
Eastern Red Cedar	6
Wild Black Cherry	8
Highbush Blueberry	10
Common Apple	12
Tupelo	14
Jewelweed	16
Poison Ivy	18
Red Maple	20
Sycamore Maple	22
Arrowwood	24
Gray Birch	26
Pin Cherry	28
Identifying Leaves	31
Identifying Fruit	38

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Contents

Zone Map and Description	3
Introduction	5
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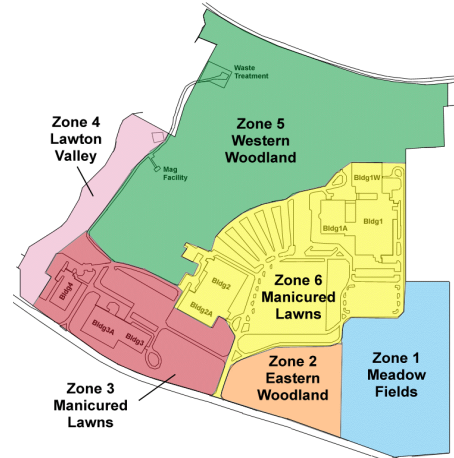
Portsmouth Zone Map and Description



Zone Description

The REWHC site in Portsmouth, Rhode Island hosts multiple ecosystems, each with individual wildlife accommodations. To better understand the relationship of our activities to these ecosystems, we delineate them based on zones on a map. Our activities, observations, and surveys are therefore by zone.

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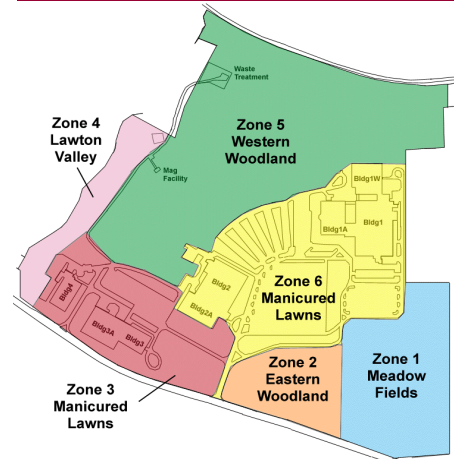
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Zone Description (Continued)

1. **Meadow Fields**—This area is bounded by the woods on the south, West Main Road on the east, Chase farm on the North and part of the west, and the parking lot on the west.
2. **Eastern Woodland**—This area is bounded by Raytheon roadways on the south and west, by open fields on the north **and West Main Road on the east.**
3. **Manicured Lawns**—This area is bounded by Lawton Valley on the south, West Main Road on the east and Raytheon Roadways on the north and west.
4. **Lawton Valley**—This area is bounded by Lawton Brook on the south, West Main Road on the east, the fence behind Building 4 on the north, and the end of the graveyard on the west.
5. **Western Woodland**—This area is bounded by a fence on the south, Raytheon roadways on the east, parking lots, and Raytheon roadways, and fencing on the north, and Burma Road on the west.
6. **Manicured Lawns**—This area is bounded by woods on the south and west, by a fence and meadow fields on the north and Raytheon roadways on the east.

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Introduction

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Harry S. Mutter

Presently, the Western Woodland has an interpretive trail called the Woodland Wander. The brainchild of employee Harry S. Mutter, the Woodland Wander trail is our first truly wild trail on the campus. Harry carved the trail out of the virgin woods almost single-handedly, providing access to a forest which has overgrown the pastures and fields of old farming homesteads. This "Emerging Forest" is the heart of our Western Woodland ecosystem, providing food and cover for a host of wildlife. Understanding the emerging forest, requires us to look to the past and the future. The old stone walls reflect an earlier agricultural era for the Western Woodland, dating to the time of Galileo. Remnants of its agricultural past still haunt the darkened woods. Pear trees, apple trees, wild garlic, and cherry dot the forest, possibly ghosts of plantings past. Wolf trees, left along stone walls, continue to grow unimpeded. Open areas in the woods, however, show the trend toward a "Climax Forest", where large trees will eventually dominate the canopy. This evolution from pasture, to emerging forest, to climax forest is possible through cooperation of local wildlife and responsible management by the REWHC team.

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Woodland Wander Trail

Length: 0.36 Miles

Interpretive Theme: The Emerging Forest

Description: The Western Woodland was not always wooded. From the 1630's to the 1950's, it was cleared and farmed, stone walls bordering the many fields for livestock and planting. When the property became Raytheon in the early 1960's, portions of the land began its natural transition into an "Emerging Forest". Important concepts to be learned on this trail are propagation mechanisms, competitive selection, wildlife food value, and historical and current uses of the trees and plants of the Emerging Forest. Starting at an intersection near the top of the Tower Trail, The Woodland Wander Trail enters a Red Cedar forest.



Eastern Red Cedar

Eastern Red Cedar

Juniperus virginiana
40' to 50' High

This widespread native conifer provides food, cover and nesting for numerous birds and mammals and is particularly important for pheasant and white-tailed deer in the winter. Some exceptional specimens can grow up to 120 feet in height.

Male and female seed

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Woodland Wander Trail

(continued)

cones grow on separate trees and pollination occurs with the help of the wind. Female seed cones ripen to pale blue berries high in fat, fiber and carbohydrates.

These berries are eaten by birds who pass the seeds intact through their digestive systems, thus dispersing the tree population over a wide area. Typically Eastern Red Cedars are the first trees to appear on abandoned farms.



Red Cedar Berries

Native Americans used the Eastern Red Cedar for spiritual and medicinal purposes, as well as in the construction of lance shafts, bows, and flutes. The bark peels easily into long strips and was used for bedding and mats, as well as shredded for tinder with which to start fires.



Red Cedar Bark

The Eastern Red Cedar is commercially harvested for aromatic oils, cooking spice, landscape plantings, and timber. Typical prod-

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Woodland Wander Trail (continued)

ucts of this richly colored red wood include hope chests, pencils and fence posts. Unfortunately, the Eastern Red Cedar is an alternate host for cedar-apple rust, a fungal disease that damages Apple Trees.

The trail, curving to the right, gradually descends a hillside softly carpeted by generations of Cedar needles. On the right, a Black Cherry tree can be seen.



Wild Black Cherry

Wild Black Cherry *Prunus serotina* 60' to 80' High (129' Record)

This rose family member is widespread and is the most important native cherry. The bark on young trees is olive/red brown and smooth; on older trees it becomes black and fissured like burnt cornflakes. Both foliage and bark are

pungently bitter in taste and odor.

The Wild Black Cherry is pollinated by insects and propagated by the birds and animals that eat its fruit. It also readily sprouts from stumps and its rapid early growth establishes it as a crown tree.

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Woodland Wander Trail (continued)

Although the leaves contain cyanide, the sprouts and seedlings of the Wild Black Cherry are a food source for rabbit and deer. Domestic animals, however, may occasionally consume toxic doses.



Black Cherry Leaves

Native Americans sometimes used fresh cherries, but more commonly the cherries were dried, pulverized, pressed into cakes and cooked in a fire. Animal fat was then added to



Black Cherry Bark



Black Cherry Fruit

make pemmican. The bark of the tree was used as an antispasmodic and a sedative. Early American pioneers sometimes flavored their rum or brandy with the

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Woodland Wander Trail (continued)

fruit to make a drink called "cherry bounce."

The valuable wood of the Wild Black Cherry is harvested commercially to make furniture and paneling. The bitter cherries are used in jelly, wine and other alcoholic beverages. The bark yields hydrocyanic acid, which is used as a sedative and as an ingredient in cough syrup.

Continuing onward on the left, a good example of Highbush Blueberry can be seen just off the trail.



Highbush Blueberries

Highbush Blueberry *Vaccinium corymbosum* 8' to 12' High

This native shrub is the basic stock of numerous cultivated varieties in the northern states. It is the only head high blueberry species north of New Jersey. The Highbush Blueberry is shade tolerant and its dark green leaves turn bright red in the fall.

The Highbush Blueberry produces bell-shaped red and white flowers in late spring. The dark blue-to-black berries begin to ripen in early summer. Many birds and animals eat these berries, including

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Woodland Wander Trail (continued)



Blueberry Flowers



Blueberry Leaves

bears, which we do not have here on Aquidneck Island. The shrub suckers from its base and deer and rabbits browse its foliage and twigs.

Native Americans ate the berries of this shrub and made a tea with its leaves that was used to treat sore throats, poor appetites, urinary tract infections and diarrhea. (It is important to note, however, that the raw fruit itself can cause diarrhea.) Today the Highbush Blueberry is extensively farmed for its berries and also used for ornamental landscaping

Proceeding through an opening in an old stone wall, we come to an area abundant with fruit trees including pin cherry, wild black cherry, and Common Apple.

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Native Americans ate the berries of this shrub and made a tea with its leaves that was used to treat sore throats, poor appetites, urinary tract infections and diarrhea. (It is important to note, however, that the raw fruit itself can cause diarrhea.) Today the Highbush Blueberry is extensively farmed for its berries and also used for ornamental landscaping

Proceeding through an opening in an old stone wall, we come to an area abundant with fruit trees including pin cherry, wild black cherry, and Common Apple.

Woodland Wander Trail (continued)



Blueberry Flowers



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Woodland Wander Trail (continued)



Common Apple Tree

Common Apple *Malus sylvestris* 30' to 40' High

This West Asian native has been cultivated since pre-historic times. It was introduced to Old World Europe and later brought to the United States. The first seeds were planted in New England by the Massachusetts Bay Company around 1629.

The Apple Tree produces white flowers which are pollinated by insects. It is a poor competitor, growing wild in mixed hardwood forests only rarely and then typically only on the fringes. The fruit of the tree is eaten by both man and animal, though the seeds are laced with cyanide and can be toxic if eaten in large quantities.



Apple Flowers

Apples were important to

12

Woodland Wander Trail (continued)



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Woodland Wander Trail (continued)



Apple Leaf



Apple Fruit

English sailors both as a cure and as a preventative for scurvy. American colonists used them to manufacture hard cider and applejack. William Blackstone, the first settler in the Blackstone River Valley, planted numerous Apple Trees in the colonies, preceding Johnny Appleseed by 150 years!



Apple Bark

The decorative wood of the Apple Tree is used to make furniture, handles and other hardwood products. It is a good fuel and in many country districts it is commonly employed for smok-

Woodland Wander Trail (continued)



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Woodland Wander Trail (continued)

ing meats. Apples, a major food crop worldwide, are eaten raw, crushed for juice, partially fermented for hard cider or fully fermented for vinegar.

The trail winds to the left in a hairpin curve down a series of stone steps. At the bottom of the curve is an old Stone-Lined Well dating back to the 1700's. To the right of the well, a Black Gum Tupelo tree is found.



Tupelo Tree

Tupelo

Nyssa sylvatica

30' to 40' High (Up to 120')
"Tupelo" is a Native American Creek name meaning "tree of the swamp;"
"Nyssa" was one of the ancient Greek water nymphs. This native aquatic tree has a wide growing range that encompasses the eastern half of the United States. Its bright green leaves in the spring and changing colors in the fall, beginning with mottled yellow, moving to orange and red and later becoming scarlet, make it an ornamental favorite. The Tupelo is also known by the common names

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Woodland Wander Trail (continued)



Tupelo Leaf



Tupelo Fruit

"Pepperidge," "Sour Gum," and "Black Gum."



Tupelo Bark

Both male and female flowers occur on the same tree, are rich in nectar, and are pollinated chiefly by bees. Its fruit is a small, bitter, dark blue berry. The tree's berries, together with its twigs and foliage, provide food for many animals and birds. A mature Tupelo is very hardy and fire resistant. Its older limbs will fall away leaving rotted cavities behind that can be used by small animals and bees.

Woodland Wander Trail (continued)



Tupelo Leaf



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Woodland Wander Trail (continued)

American pioneers used the particularly tough, hard-to-split wood of the Tupelo to make wheel hubs. They also used it as a "witness tree" when surveying and recording early deeds; its long life and lack of other uses assured it would remain. Today the Tupelo is used commercially in landscaping, as firewood and in the manufacture of boxes, pallets, rough flooring, bowling pins and railroad ties.

Continuing onward, the trail passes back through an opening in the stone wall where wild garlic may be seen on both sides of the trail. The trail bends sharply to the right then continues gradually down and to the left. Proceeding leftward, the forest opens, allowing Jewelweed ground cover on both sides of the trail to thrive in season.



Jewelweed Flower

Jewelweed
Impatiens spp.
2' to 6' High
A tall gangly plant with translucent, succulent stems. The flower is either yellow (Pale) or golden-orange, spotted with red-dish-brown and hangs from the middle of a single stem. The fruit is a swollen elliptical capsule that pops open,

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Woodland Wander Trail (continued)

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Woodland Wander Trail

(continued)

hurling the seeds some distance.

Besides the pretty flower, the one reason Jewelweed got its name becomes apparent if you take one of the leaves and put it underwater. The silvery look is very jewel-like. Jewelweed leaves are waterproof.

Water beads across their surface, kept from touching the leaf by a thin layer of air trapped in microscopic hairs on the leaf.

The reason for the name Touch-me-not, is related to the seed capsule's means of dispersal. Jewelweed seed capsules hold the seeds under tension, and they split and coil when triggered by the wind or by a touch, sending the seeds catapulting up to four feet away. Jewelweed generally occurs in large stands, owing in part to its unique method of dispersing seeds. Bees and butterflies are the main pollinators, but hummingbirds have been known to visit.

Scientific tests have given credence to Jewelweed's anti-fungal and skin-soothing properties. Interestingly, it can usually be found in most areas where Poison Ivy grows and is a decent 'antidote'



Jewelweed Leaf

Woodland Wander Trail

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Jewelweed Leaf

Woodland Wander Trail (continued)

for it. Crush the watery stems and leaves in your hand and rub vigorously on the affected area. It soothes and helps prevent spreading of the poison Ivy oils. Native Americans used jewelweed in treating stomach cramps, and they boiled the juice of the plant to make a yellow-orange dye.

Up ahead on the right side of the trail, a series of hairy vines climb their way up the trees. This vine is Poison Ivy.



Poison Ivy Bush

Poison Ivy
Toxicodendron radicans
Low Bush or 10' to 20'
High Vine
**"Leaves of three,
leave it be."**

French Canadians refer to Poison Ivy as "L'herbe a' la puce," the "herb of the flea." This common native plant, however, is best known for the itchy red rash it causes. 85% of all humans are allergic to urushiol, the

sticky yellow oil that is found in all parts of the plant and remains toxic during its winter dormancy. Urushiol easily transfers to anything it touches, even clinging to smoke particles when the plant is burned.

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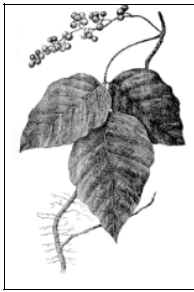
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Woodland Wander Trail (continued)



Poison Ivy Vine



Poison Ivy Berries

Poison Ivy varies between a low bush and a climbing vine, with leaves that turn beautiful shades of red in the fall. The leaves radiate out in groups of three from a central point, thus forming the plant's most distinctive feature. Poison Ivy blooms in June and produces small off-white berries in the late summer and early fall. These berries are eaten by birds who then help spread the seeds by passing them through their digestive tracts. Rabbits and deer also feed on Poison Ivy--only humans seem to be affected by its poison!

Stories of Native Americans' immunity to the ad-



Leaves of Three . . .

Woodland Wander Trail (continued)



Poison Ivy Vine



Poison Ivy Berries

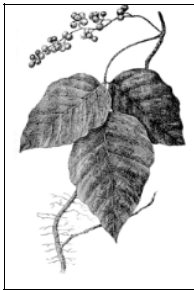
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Woodland Wander Trail (continued)

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Today, homeopaths take advantage of the urushiol present in Poison Ivy by extracting it for use in a variety of home remedies.

Descending slowly, the trail turns sharply to the left at the site of a fallen Red Cedar. A Red Maple may be seen on the left.



Red Maple

Red Maple

Acer rubrum
50' to 80' High
(125' Record)

This widespread native, known for its brilliant red and orange fall foliage, is the state tree of Rhode Island. In 1890, students over the age of ten selected the Red Maple from a list of popular tree names; their selection was officially adopted in 1964. Because

the Red Maple is frequently found in wetland areas it is often called by the common name "Swamp Maple."

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Woodland Wander Trail (continued)



Red Maple Leaf



Red Maple Fruit

The Red Maple matures in as quickly as four years. It can be either male, female, or both (though on separate branches) and is pollinated with the help of the wind. Its light winged seeds are connected in pairs and have the ability to travel long distances, spinning as they fall. The Red Maple also sprouts from stumps and roots and is very tolerant of shade and floods. Its new growth is an important food source for deer.

Native Americans used the bark of the Red Maple as an analgesic, a wash for inflamed eyes and cataracts and a remedy for hives and muscular aches.

Today the Red Maple is



Red Maple Twigs/Buds

Woodland Wander Trail (continued)



Red Maple Leaf



Red Maple Fruit

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Native Americans used the bark of the Red Maple as an analgesic, a wash for inflamed eyes and cataracts and a remedy for hives and muscular aches.

Today the Red Maple is



Red Maple Twigs/Buds

Woodland Wander Trail (continued)



Red Maple Leaf



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The Red Maple matures in as quickly as four years. It can be either male, female, or both (though on separate branches) and is pollinated with the help of the wind. Its light winged seeds are connected in pairs and have the ability to travel long distances, spinning as they fall. The Red Maple also sprouts from stumps and roots and is very tolerant of shade and floods. Its new growth is an important food source for deer.

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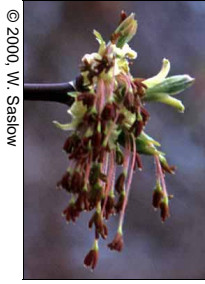
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Woodland Wander Trail (continued)



© 2000, W. Saslow

Red Maple Flowers



Red Maple Bark

commercially harvested for lumber (semi-hardwood), maple syrup and landscape plantings.

Continuing on, Red Cedar are dominant along with a few Highbush Blueberry. Exiting the grove, a Sycamore Maple can be seen on the left.



Sycamore Maple

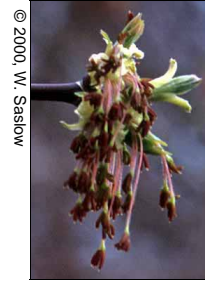
Sycamore Maple

Acer pseudoplatanus
40' to 100' High

This European tree was brought to America long ago and is now common in both Newport and Middletown. In fact, Rhode Island's first "Liberty Tree" was a Sycamore planted in

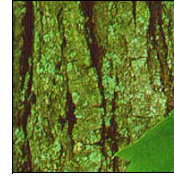
22

Woodland Wander Trail (continued)



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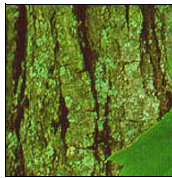
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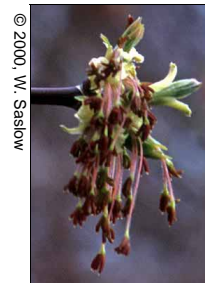
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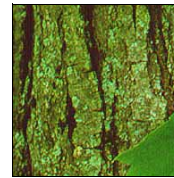
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Woodland Wander Trail (continued)



Sycamore Maple Leaf



Sycamore Maple Fruit

Newport in 1766. (The British cut this tree down and a Beech, planted in 1897, stands there now.)



Sycamore Maple Bark

The Sycamore Maple is frequently planted in parks because of its hardy rapid growth, the fact that its fruit does not attract wildlife, and its high tolerance to salt and air pollution. The tree's large dense canopy does not display autumn colors, but does create a dry, shady, barren understudy.

The flowers of the Sycamore Maple have greenish-yellow petals, are of both male and bisexual orientation and produce paired seeds with long wings that

Woodland Wander Trail (continued)



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Woodland Wander Trail (continued)

are easily scattered by the wind. Although cultivated as an ornamental tree, the Sycamore Maple is very invasive and hard to limit to its planting.

Utensils made from this valuable close-grained hardwood have been found in some European Stone Age settlements. Today the tree is used commercially for veneers, carving, flooring and furniture. In addition, the bark is used in herbal medications as a wash for skin problems, sore eyes and wounds.

Continuing onward, the trail ascends past an Arrowwood tree on the left.



Arrowwood Flowers

Arrowwood
Viburnum dentatum
5' to 10' High
This fast growing, native shrub is extremely durable and tolerates partial to full shade. The dense stems growing from its base are long and straight. In the fall its leaves turn a glossy red, purple and orange.

The Arrowwood produces small white flowers that ripen into bluish-black berries in late fall, lasting

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Arrowwood Berries



Fall Colors

into winter. These berries are preferred by many kinds of wildlife, including deer, squirrels, chipmunks, foxes, cedar waxwings, sparrows, cardinals, bluebirds, robins, mockingbirds, ruffed grouses and brown thrashers. Rabbits and deer also browse the twigs, foliage, and sprouts that sucker profusely from its base, while birds nest in its branches.

Native Americans used Arrowwood stems as arrow shafts and smoking pipes. (The center of the stem has a soft pith that can be picked out.) Commercially this shrub is used for landscaping. In aromatherapy, Arrowwood "essential oil" is said to give "clarity of direction and purpose and purity of intent, guiding one straight to the heart of the matter."

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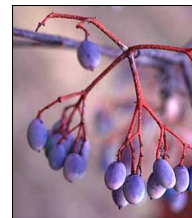


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Woodland Wander Trail (continued)

The Gray Birch, on the left, is a pioneer species which often inhabits burned areas or an abandoned farms.



Gray Birch

Gray Birch *Betula populifolia* 20' to 30' High

The Gray Birch is a fast-growing and short-lived native tree, living an average of only 20 years. It has been nicknamed "Poverty Birch" because of its ability to thrive in poor soils. It has a decorative gray-white

bark, an extremely flexible trunk and green leaves that turn a pale translucent gold in the fall.

The Gray Birch is simultaneously both male and female. Its male flowers are borne on yellow catkins hanging from twigs; its female catkins are erect on stems and develop into drooping, stalked cones with prolific clusters of light winged seeds. Although the Gray Birch has little fire



Gray Birch Cones

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Gray Birch Cones

Woodland Wander Trail (continued)



Fall Leaves



Leaves

resistance it can sprout from its surviving roots or seed banks in the soil. It is a pioneer species which often inhabits burned areas or an abandoned farms. It acts as a nurse tree, protecting the seeds of longer-lived trees that eventually shade it out. Birds and animals do not prefer it as a food source.

The Gray Birch is not the legendary birch used by Native Americans in the making of canoes and decorations, for the bark is thin and does not peel easily. Today the poor wood is harvested commercially for charcoal and firewood, as well as to make woodenware and spools

The trail continues past a patch of Ferns on the

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Woodland Wander Trail (continued)

right. The trail continues slowly upward passing a Pin Cherry on the left and emerges at an intersection with the Tower Trail.



Pin Cherry Tree

Pin Cherry

Prunus pensylvanica
25' to 40' High

The Pin Cherry is a small common tree that inhabits a great variety of lands in the northern United States and Canada. (The trees on this trail are of exceptional size!) The Pin Cherry's seeds (pits), leaves and bark contain hydrocyanic acid and can be toxic if consumed in large doses.

The Pin Cherry produces white flowers in the spring which later ripen into small cherries. These cherries are dispersed by gravity, birds and small animals and their seeds can lie dormant in the ground for 50 to 150 years until the overstory is broken. (Germination is eventually triggered by greater temperature cycles of the exposed ground.) The Pin Cherry is sometimes called the "Fire Cherry" because of its value as a reforesting tree after a fire. It provides shade for seedlings of

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Woodland Wander Trail (continued)



Cherry Bark



Cherry Fruit

slower growing species, then dies off after about 30 years, making way for the new trees.

Another name for the Pin Cherry is the "Bird Cherry" because so many types of birds eat its fruit. In hard seasons, when preferred foods are unavailable, deer will browse its foliage and twigs, and beaver gnaw its bark.

Native Americans ate the fruit of the Pin Cherry and used the bark for decorating baskets. Today the soft porous wood is of



Cherry Flowers

Woodland Wander Trail (continued)



Cherry Bark

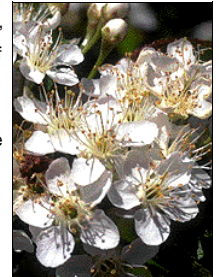


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Cherry Flowers

Woodland Wander Trail (continued)

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Identifying Leaves

The leaf of a tree contains the biological engine that makes life possible for the tree. The leaf receives the raw materials that Nature provides, and it makes food for the tree. Although leaves function in similar fashion, the leaves of most trees are distinctive. And each kind of tree makes its own kind of leaf.

A Red Maple tree always makes Red Maple leaves, and a Pin Cherry tree always makes Pin Cherry leaves. The leaves on one kind of tree usually differ from those on another kind of tree. Closely related trees typically have similar leaves, and sometimes they are very similar and hard to distinguish. Trees that are distantly related usually have noticeably different leaves. This is convenient and helpful for you when you try to identify a tree.

A word of caution! Some trees produce leaves that don't all look alike, and the leaves on one particular kind of tree may seem to mimic those of another.

There are two major kinds of leaves on the common trees of Rhode Island:

NEEDLES and SCALES are familiar on "evergreen" trees. Most of the trees with these leaves hold them throughout the winter season.

BROAD, FLAT leaves are what we see on trees that typically change color and drop their leaves

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There are two major kinds of leaves on the common trees of Rhode Island:

NEEDLES and SCALES are familiar on "evergreen" trees. Most of the trees with these leaves hold them throughout the winter season.

BROAD, FLAT leaves are what we see on trees that typically change color and drop their leaves

Identifying Leaves (continued)

after the summer's growing season is over. Needles are of varying lengths. They are narrow and often pointed, and they may be more or less **ROUND** in cross section, or **FLATTENED**. They grow either singly or in bundles. **SCALES** are short, flat and lie close to their stems.

There are two major kinds of broad leaves: **SIMPLE** leaves, and **COMPOUND** leaves.

A **SIMPLE** leaf has a single leaf blade on its stalk. The stalk in turn is attached to a woody twig. When the stalk is removed from the twig a distinct scar is left on the twig.

A **COMPOUND** leaf has more than one leaf blade on a stalk. These multiple leaf blades are called leaflets. The leaflets that make up a single leaf are attached to a single stalk. As with the simple leaf, when that stalk is pulled away from its woody twig it leaves a scar on the twig.

The other main thing to look for in broad leaves is the arrangement of leaves on a twig. In some trees, leaves occur **ALTERNATELY** along the stem. In other trees, leaves are arranged in **OPPOSITE** pairs along the stem.

To use of this characteristic you will need to know how the leaf stalks are attached to their stems. Be

Identifying Leaves (continued)

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Identifying Leaves (continued)

certain to look at its tree and note the arrangement of those leaves.

Since both of these arrangements can be found with both simple and compound leaves, there are four possible combinations:

1. simple and alternate,
2. simple and opposite,
3. compound and alternate, and
4. compound and opposite.

Identifying Leaves (continued)

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Identifying Leaves (continued)

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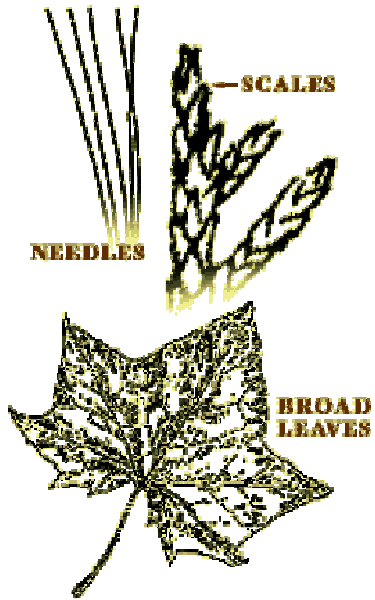
Identifying Leaves (continued)

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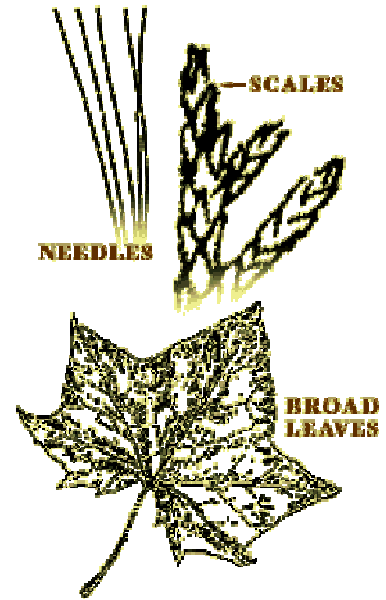
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3. compound and alternate, and
4. compound and opposite.

Identifying Leaves
(continued)



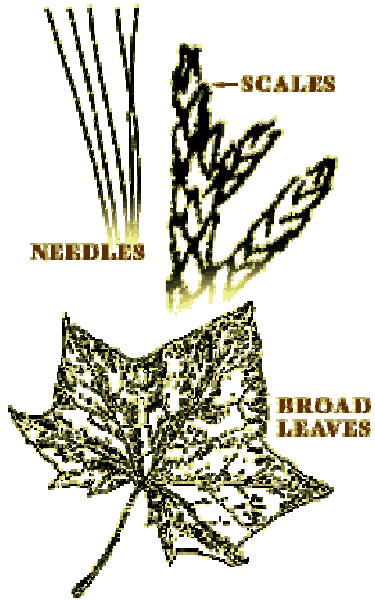
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Identifying Leaves
(continued)



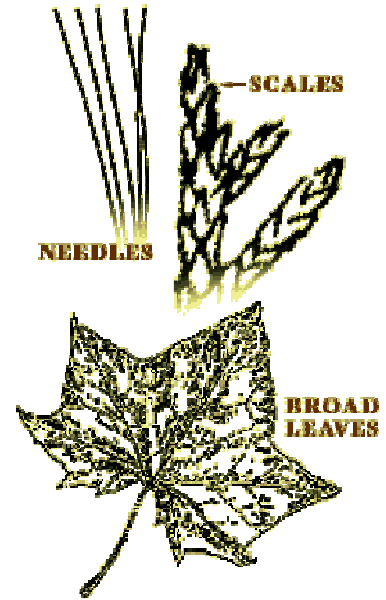
34

Identifying Leaves
(continued)



34

Identifying Leaves
(continued)



34

Identifying Leaves
(continued)



Identifying Leaves
(continued)



Identifying Leaves
(continued)

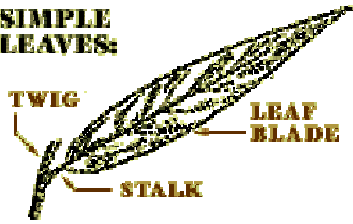


Identifying Leaves
(continued)

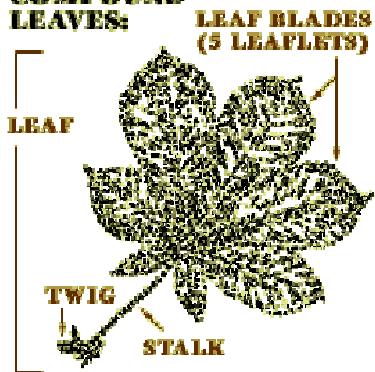


Identifying Leaves
(continued)

SIMPLE LEAVES:

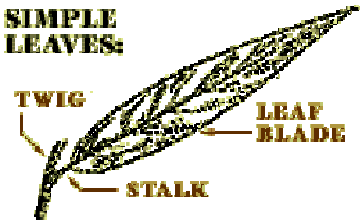


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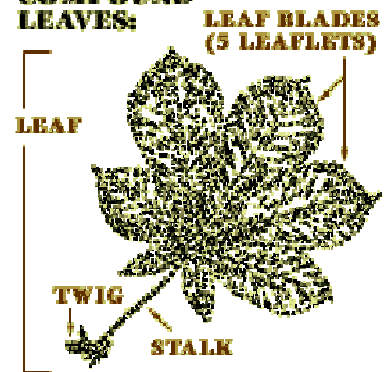


Identifying Leaves
(continued)

SIMPLE LEAVES:

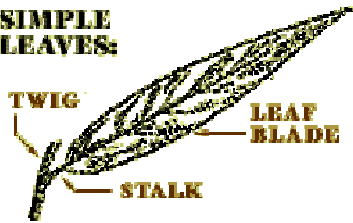


COMPOUND LEAVES:

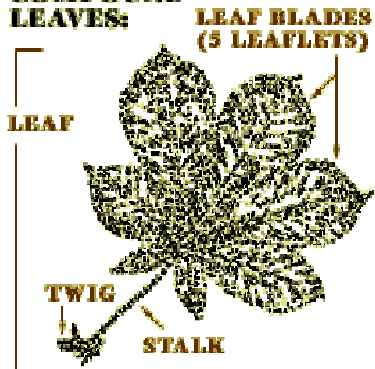


Identifying Leaves
(continued)

SIMPLE LEAVES:

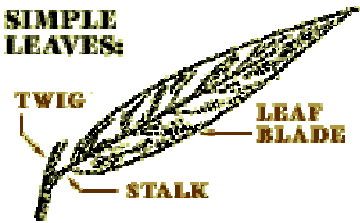


COMPOUND LEAVES:

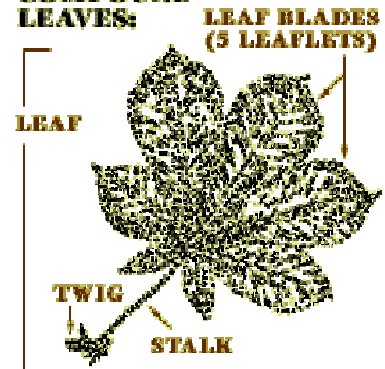


Identifying Leaves
(continued)

SIMPLE LEAVES:



COMPOUND LEAVES:

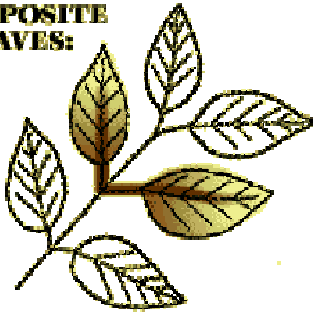


Identifying Leaves
(continued)

**ALTERNATE
LEAVES:**



**OPPOSITE
LEAVES:**



37

Identifying Leaves
(continued)

**ALTERNATE
LEAVES:**



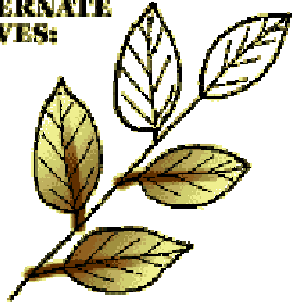
**OPPOSITE
LEAVES:**



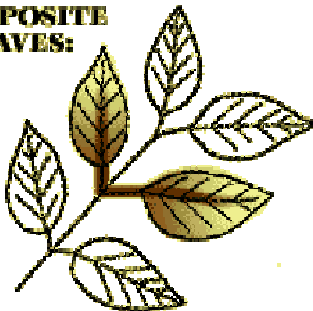
37

Identifying Leaves
(continued)

**ALTERNATE
LEAVES:**



**OPPOSITE
LEAVES:**



37

Identifying Leaves
(continued)

**ALTERNATE
LEAVES:**



**OPPOSITE
LEAVES:**



37

Identifying Fruit

The fruit of a tree is part of the mechanism by which the tree reproduces itself. The fruit contains seeds. Under the right conditions each seed can produce a new tree of the same kind.

Some people think of fruits only in terms of what they buy in a market to eat. If so, they may be surprised to learn that a pine cone is a fruit, and that the maple "wings" that glide to earth in the spring are fruits. Fruits are not just what we humans eat. Many animals eat fruits, including some that we would find most distasteful if not actually poisonous.

Each kind of tree makes its own kind of fruit. Often, you will be able to identify a tree by carefully examining its fruit.

Rhode Island's conifers, the trees that we sometimes call "evergreens," produce CONES. Each CONE consists of a number of SCALES. Each SCALE carries a SEED. Unlike the fruit of other trees in Ohio, the seeds lie naked on the scales. They are not enclosed by a surrounding structure.

In the case of certain fruits the seeds are covered by a FLESHY material. With some each fruit contains a single seed. With others a single fruit may contain many seeds. Examples of these are Black Cherry, Pawpaw, and Hawthorn. Often these fruits

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Identifying Fruit (continued)

are eaten by animals or humans.

Some seeds are contained within CAPSULES that split open at maturity. An example of this is the Bigtooth Aspen.

The seeds of locust trees are contained in long, bean-like PODS. The familiar ACORNS are products of oak trees. The nut which contains the seed is partially enclosed in a husk, often called a "cup."

Other trees produce fruits in which the nut is entirely enclosed in a HUSK. With different kinds of trees these HUSKS can be highly variable. Some are spiny or prickly ("bur"), some are smooth. Some are thick, and some are thin. Examples include hickory trees and the American Chestnut. Maples, ash, and elm trees produce distinctive fruits with membranous "WINGS" that extend from the seed cover. These thin WINGS surround the seed cavity or extend from one end.

The Sycamore tree produces a small, plumed fruit, each with a single seed. A great many of these fruits are tightly PACKED together in a characteristic ball. Upon maturity, these fruits fall away from the ball and are dispersed by the wind.

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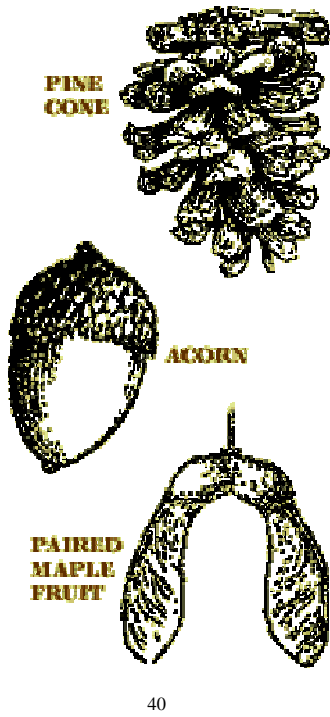
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Identifying Fruit
(continued)



Identifying Fruit
(continued)



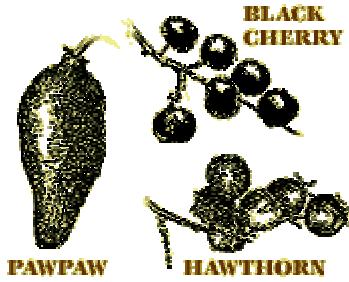
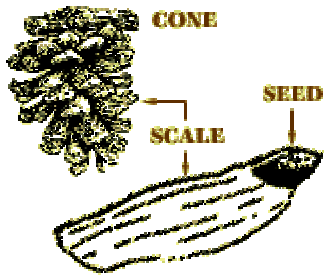
Identifying Fruit
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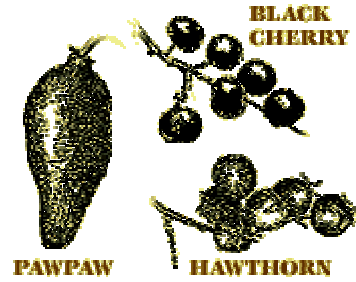
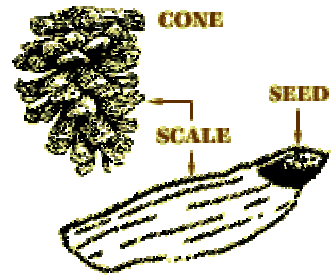
Identifying Fruit
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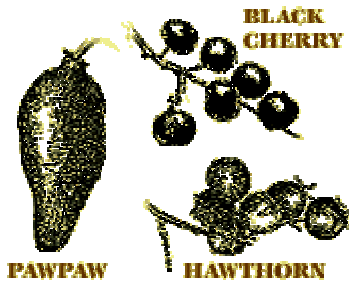
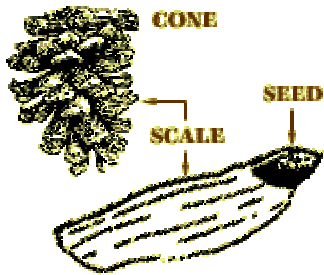
Identifying Fruit
(continued)



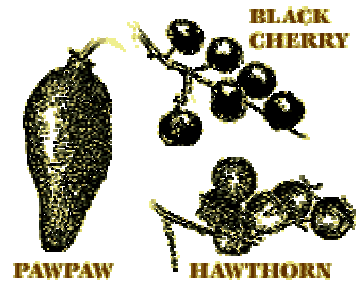
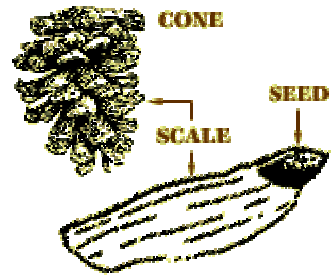
Identifying Fruit
(continued)



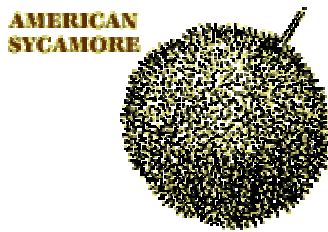
Identifying Fruit
(continued)



Identifying Fruit
(continued)

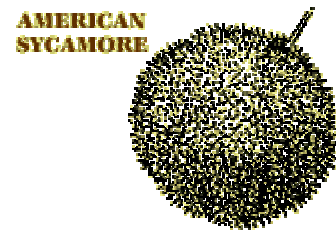


Identifying Fruit
(continued)



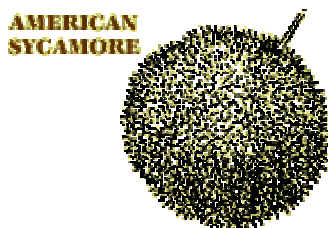
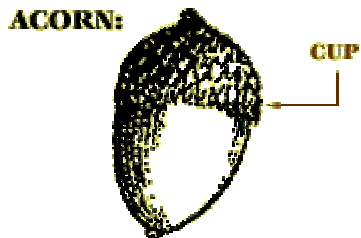
42

Identifying Fruit
(continued)



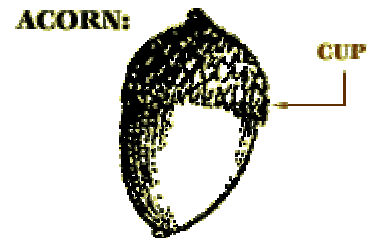
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Identifying Fruit
(continued)



42

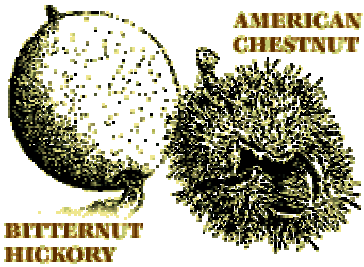
Identifying Fruit
(continued)



42

Identifying Fruit
(continued)

NUTS IN A HUSK:

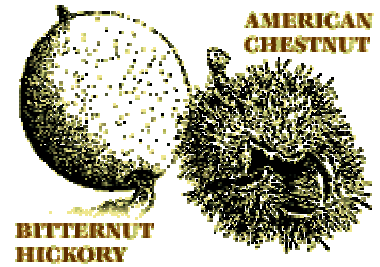


WINGED FRUIT:



Identifying Fruit
(continued)

NUTS IN A HUSK:

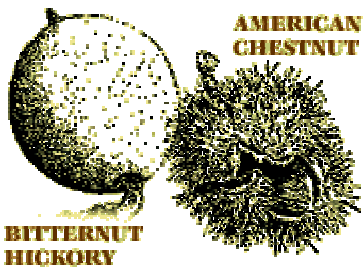


WINGED FRUIT:



Identifying Fruit
(continued)

NUTS IN A HUSK:

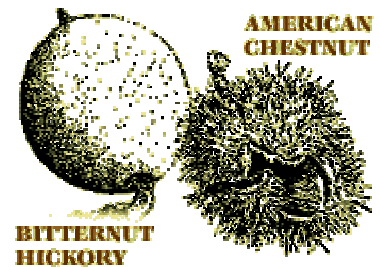


WINGED FRUIT:



Identifying Fruit
(continued)

NUTS IN A HUSK:



WINGED FRUIT:




Organization



1847 West Main Road
Portsmouth, Rhode Island 02871
Attention Elizabeth Ripa
Mailstop 113

Email: webmaster@rewhc.org

Form RF007, V1.0 4/8/01


Organization



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