



Nature trail guide

Fredericksburg-Rappahannock Chapter
Izaak Walton League of America

The trail

This trail is connected to plantsmap, a website where organizations can upload the plants they have and information about them. Each of the plant markers has the plants name, scientific name, and a barcode that if scanned, will lead to the information about the plant.



Any type of scanner app will work to allow you to pull up the information on the plants

The same information that is on plantmaps is included in this informational trail guides.

Route

This trail goes all the way around the Waltonian pond, starting by the playground and ending near the bee keep. While there are paths that lead to other areas, as long as you stay on the main one that is going around the pond, you will stay on the path.

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Poison Ivy

Toxicodendron radicans

About: Poison Ivy is a deciduous shrub from the Anacardiaceae family. It can grow as a vine on the ground on stalks only a few inches tall, or as a low bush from 12-30 inches tall. It can also grow up the sides of tree as a vine and can spread throughout the branches until it almost covers the tree. The vine looks “hairy;” and the older the vine, the more hairy it looks. The vine can be up to several inches thick. Poison ivy will always have clusters of three leaves. The leaves can either be smooth or serrated. In the winter it will occasionally grow white berries.



Locations: This plant is found from Southern Canada, United States to Guatemala, and central China to Taiwan and Japan.



Removal: Never touch the plant with bare skin or try to burn the plant. Eliminate plants with herbicides or remove and destroy plants and root systems by carefully digging them up using rubber gloves and clothing protection for other parts of the body.

Red Cedar

Juniperus virginiana



Red cedar is a part of the Cupressaceae family. This type of tree can grow up to 30 to 65 feet. Its trunk is often angled and buttressed with a red-brown bark covering it. This tree has two types of leaves that can often both be on the same tree. The first is scale-like leaves, $1/16^{\text{th}}$ inch long, that are dark green

and held tightly to twig. The second type are longer, $1/4^{\text{th}}$ inch, that are more common on young trees and fast growing shoots. Berry-like cones that are light green in the spring and mature to a dark blue show up on red cedars.

Location: Eastern North America and the Midwest



Virginia Pine

Pinus Virginiana



About: The Virginia pine is part on the pinaceae family. It is a straggling, scrubby evergreen that can reach from 15- 40 ft. tall. It has outstretched limbs that spring irregularly from its reddish- brown trunk. It has cones that are hard to the touch due to its prickly-like appendages. It is a Short-

needed tree with open, broad, irregular crown of long spreading branches; often a shrub. These needles are always arranged in bundles of two. The bark is dark brown and is smooth on young trees, but as the tree gets older is becomes shallowly fissured with, small, flat, scaly plates.

Location: Eastern United States.



Sweet Gum

Liquidambar styraciflua

About: The sweet gum is a tree in the Altingiaceae family. An average sweetgum grows to a height of 60 to 80 feet. The bark is thick and grayish-brown in color with deep furrows with narrow scaly ridges. The sweet gum has long, stalked leaves in a deep green color. Each leaf has 5-7 pointed, star-shaped lobes. The fruit comprises of green, hard, spherical, bristly fruiting clusters to 1.5" diameter. These gum balls mature to a dark brown and fall off in early spring.



Location: Eastern United States, Mexico



Red maple

Acer rubrum

The red maple is a tree in the sapindaceae family. This tree can reach 60 to 90 feet in height, but some of the largest trees can grow more than 120 feet. The bark is light gray and smooth on young trunks and branches, and becomes darker gray, with shallow fissures or ridges on older trunks. The red maple is named after its red flowers, red fruit, red twigs, and red fall foliage. The leaves are lobed and serrated and grow from 2 to 4 inches long. The fall foliage can also turn yellow or orange.



Robert L. Anderson USDA Forest Service

Location: The Eastern United States



Tulip popular

Liriodendron tulipifera

About: The Tulip popular is a part of the Magnoliaceae family. The tree can grow to a height of 80 to 100 feet, with the largest growing up to 150 feet. The bark on young trees is smooth and light ash gray in color. On older trees it is a thick with deep interlaced furrows and narrow rounded ridges. A Tulip popular has uniquely shaped leaves of a bright green leaves and are from 3 to 8 inches long and wide. In the fall the leaves turn yellow or golden yellow. Orange and green, tulip-shaped flowers appear in May and June.



Location:
The
Eastern
United States.

Wild cherry

Prunus avium



The Wild Cherry tree is part of the Rosacea family. The Wild Cherry can grow to a height of 50 to 60 feet, with the older ones going up to 100 feet. The bark on young trunks is reddish-brown and smooth with conspicuous elongated lenticels. On older trunks it becomes nearly black and rough with thick scaly

plates. The leaves are oval, green, and toothed with pointed tips. They reach up to 6-15cm with two red glands on the stalk at the leaf base. In autumn they fade to orange and deep crimson. Flowers are white and cup-shaped with five petals, and measure 8-15mm across. They hang in clusters of 2-6. After pollination by insects, the flowers develop into globular, hairless deep red cherries.

Location: The species is native to the United Kingdom and Europe, but have spread to many other places, one being the United States.



Dogwood

Cornus florida Dogwood is part of the Cornaceae family. Dogwoods can grow up to 20- 35 feet in height. The bark of the trunk is very dark brown, and is broken into distinct small squarish blocks. Leaves are oval and green, measuring 4 to 8 inches, and turn red in the fall. In the spring it grows white flowers in very small and inconspicuous tight cluster, but surrounded by 4 very showy, large, white (occasionally pink) bracts, 2 inches in diameter which turn into small, red, oval berries in the fall.



Location: North America



Ironwood

Ostrya virginiana



Ironwood trees are a part of the Betulaceae family. This type of tree can grow from 25 to 40 feet tall. When young the bark is a smooth, reddish brown, but later turns into a light brown with a shredded up appearance. The leaves are oval, alternate on the tree, grow from 3 to 5 inches long, and are serrated along the edges. The fruit for this tree are $\frac{1}{4}$ inch nutlets enclosed in a dried, leafy, inflated sac. Several of these can grow from one stem, maturing in the summer but persisting in the winter.

Location: Eastern north America and the midwest



Southern red oak

Quercus falcate

The southern red oak is a part of the fagaceae family. It usually grows up to 60 to 80 feet, but can go over 100 feet. The bark on young trees is somewhat smooth and dark reddish-brown to gray, on old trees it is almost black. It has thin papery, lobed, bristle-tipped leaves that are a bright, shiny green on top, but more of a faded green on the bottom. These leaves turn reddish-brown in the fall.



Location: Southeastern United States



Holly

Ilex opaca



The American Holly is part of the Aquifoliaceae family. The holly tree can grow from 25 feet to as tall as 60 feet. The bark is of a light gray color. It bears dark green, non-glassy, spine-tipped leaves. It has bright red berries that only occur on the female trees. These berries will only grow if there are both female and male trees growing nearby. While many types of animals eat the berries on this tree, they are poisonous to humans.

Location: Southeastern United States.



Pignut hickory

Carya glabra



The Pignut hickory is a part of the Juglandaceae family. The tree usually grows from 50 to 60 feet, with the tallest being able to grow over 100 feet. The bark is initially smooth, and light gray, soon developing scaly ridges; the bark on older trees has obvious close interlacing shaggy-topped ridges. Its leaves are 8 to 12 inches long and are green above but paler below. Male flowers are yellow-green, with three hanging from one stalk, 2 to 3 inches long;

females are very short and found in clusters at the end of the branches, and both appear in spring. The Pignut hickory grows fairly round but flattened seeds that are bitter, that ripe in early fall.

Location: Eastern North America.



White oak *Quercus alba*

White oaks are part of the Fagaceae family. The White oak usually grows up to 60 to 80 feet, but can also grow over 100 feet. White oak bark is whitish or light gray, varying from scaly to irregularly platy or ridged and furrowed. Leaves are simple and alternately arranged on the stems; they are 5-6 inches long and have a rounded tip and wedge-shaped base, with evenly notched edges. The leaves are bright green above and whitish underneath. Male flowers are green and 2-4 inches long, while female flowers are reddish and appear as single spikes with the leaves.



Location: Eastern and Central North America



Beech

Fagus grandifolia

The Beech tree is part of the Fagaceae family. Beech trees grow up to 60-75 feet, but many can grow higher than 120 feet. The beech tree has thin, smooth, silvery-gray bark. Its leaves are oblong-ovate, 2 1/2 to 5 1/2 inches long, and are shiny green above and paler below. Male flowers borne on globose heads hanging from a slender 1 inch stalk, female flowers borne on shorter spikes, appearing just after leaves in the spring.

Location: The Beech tree is native to North America.



For more information

<http://www.missouribotanicalgarden.org/PlantFinder/PlantFinderDetails.aspx?kempcode=c261>

<http://dendro.cnre.vt.edu/dendrology/syllabus/factsheet.cfm?ID=261>

https://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=PIVI2

<http://www.missouribotanicalgarden.org/PlantFinder/PlantFinderDetails.aspx?kempcode=c116>

<https://www.nwf.org/Wildlife/Wildlife-Library/Plants/Red-Maple.aspx>

<http://www.uky.edu/hort/Tulip-Poplar>

<https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/visiting-woods/trees-woods-and-wildlife/british-trees/native-trees/wild-cherry/>

<http://www.forestry.ok.gov/Websites/forestry/Images/trees,dogwoodflowering.pdf>

<http://dendro.cnre.vt.edu/dendrology/syllabus/factsheet.cfm?ID=44>

https://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=qufa

https://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=ILOP

https://plants.usda.gov/factsheet/pdf/fs_qual.pdf

<https://plants.usda.gov/core/profile?symbol=QUAL>

<http://dendro.cnre.vt.edu/dendrology/syllabus/factsheet.cfm?ID=19>

<http://dendro.cnre.vt.edu/dendrology/syllabus/factsheet.cfm?ID=47>

<http://hort.ufl.edu/trees/ACERUBA.pdf>

https://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=juvi

<http://dendro.cnre.vt.edu/dendrology/syllabus/factsheet.cfm?ID=97>

<http://dendro.cnre.vt.edu/dendrology/syllabus/factsheet.cfm?ID=62>

<http://www.missouribotanicalgarden.org/PlantFinder/PlantFinderDetails.aspx?kempcode=1330>