

Wiigwaasaatig

PAPER BIRCH

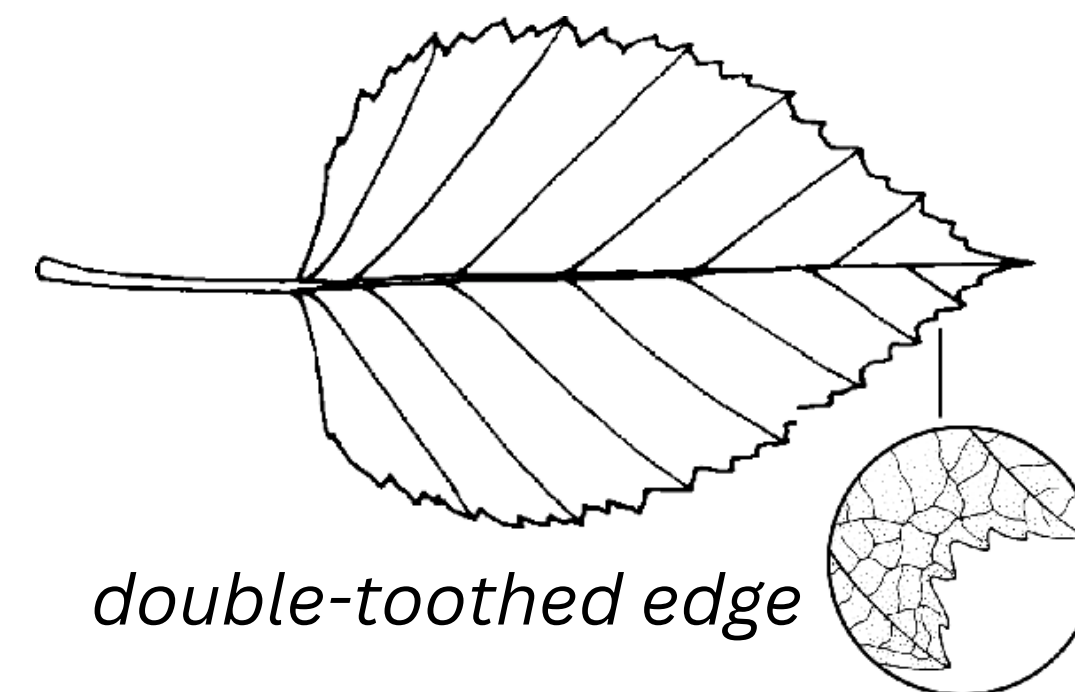
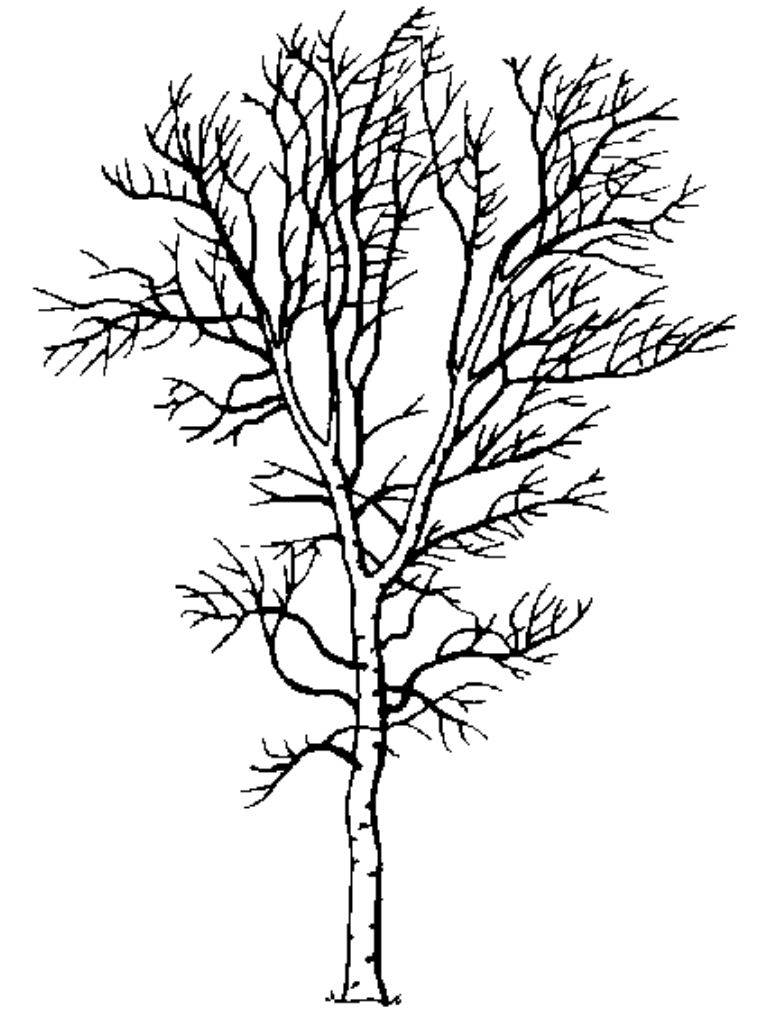
Betula papyrifera

Bark – peeling papery strips, chalky white on mature trees, reddish brown on young branches

Leaves – alternate, 2-3 inches, sharply pointed with rounded base, doubly toothed edge

Flowers – male and female flowers (catkins) are born separately on the same tree

Fun Fact – There's a reason they're called "paper birches." Some of the earliest written records were transcribed on birch wood



double-toothed edge

COMPARE TO QUAKING ASPEN!

Azaadi

QUAKING ASPEN

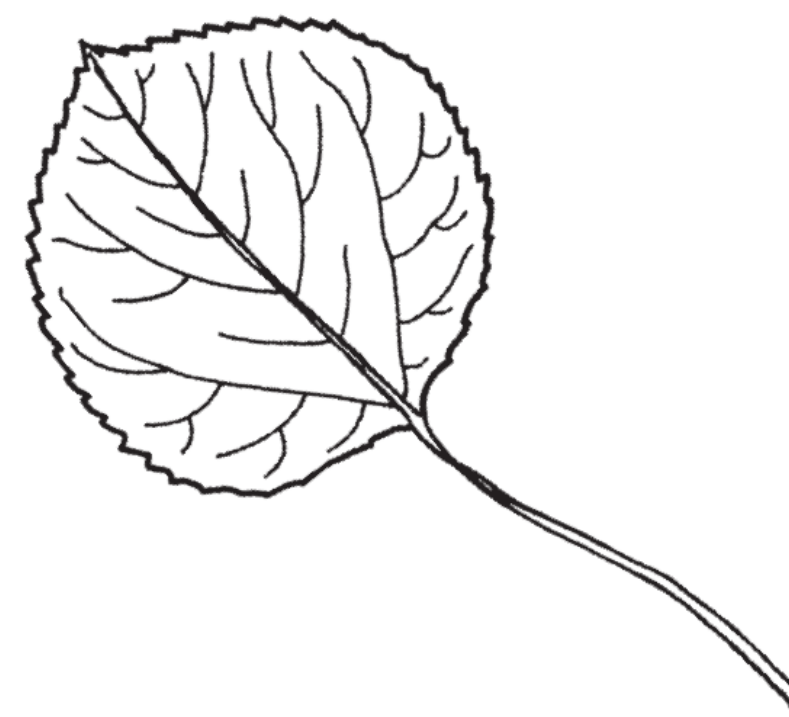
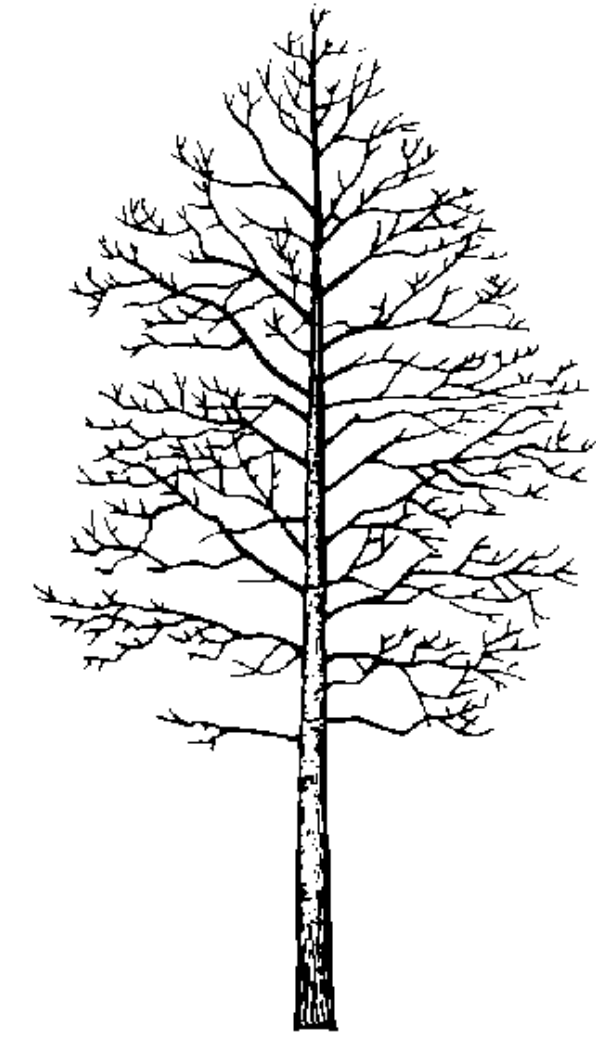
Populus tremuloides

Bark - thin, smooth and greenish white to bright white

Leaves - alternate, 1"-4" long, short pointed at end and finely toothed along margin; green and shiny above, dull green below

Flowers - male and female flowers are on separate trees in hanging clusters called 'catkins'

Fun Fact - Quaking aspen tree bark carries out photosynthesis, just like leaves. In winter, they are able to keep producing sugar for energy



COMPARE TO WHITE BIRCH!

Azaadi

BIG-TOOTH ASPEN

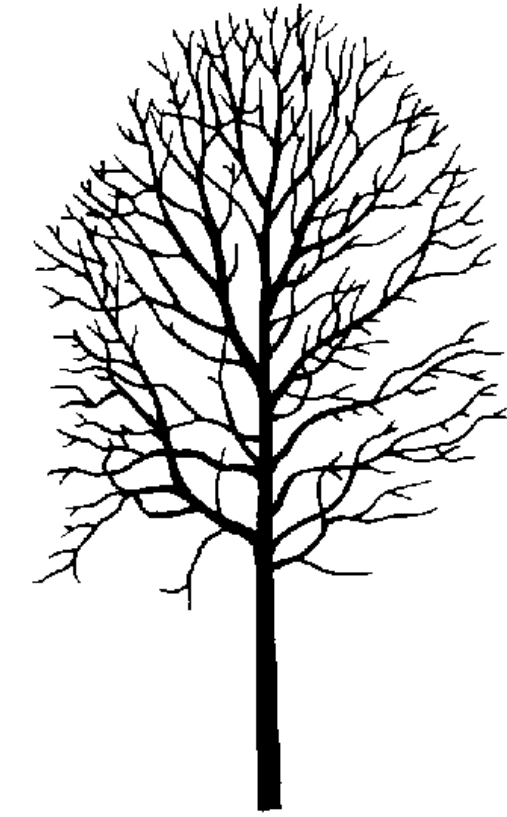
Populus grandidentata

Bark- smooth, olive green to gray, darker and furrowed on older tree trunks

Leaves - alternate, 2-4 inches. coarse-toothed; leaves appear one to two weeks later than quaking aspen, and at first are silvery white.

Flowers - female and male flowers are on separate trees in hanging clusters called catkins

Fun Fact - The aspen you see around you are likely connected and part of the same tree, called a 'clone'.



COMPARE TO QUAKING ASPEN!

Bapakwanagemag

RED PINE

Pinus resinosa

Bark - reddish orange and loose scaly vertical plates

Needles - 4-7 inches, in groups of two that spiral around the branch and break cleanly when bent

Cones - 1.5" - 2.5" long, pairs usually stick out at right angles from branch

Fun fact - Red pine are 'self-pruning'. You rarely see dead branches on the trunk below the canopy



COMPARE TO WHITE PINE!

Okikaandag

JACK PINE

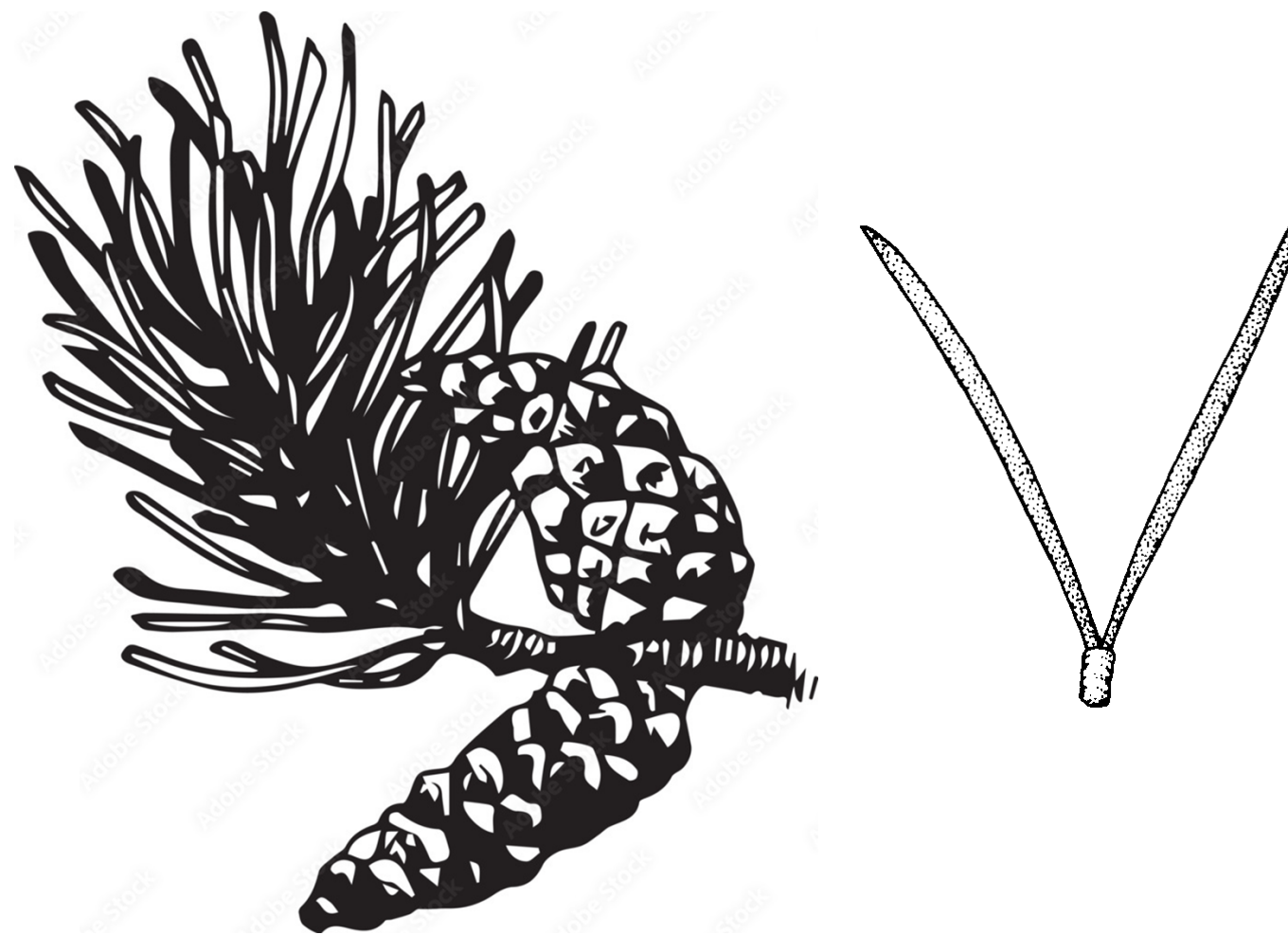
Pinus banksiana

Bark - grayish brown and flaky

Needles - 3/4 to 2 inches long,
in groups of 2

Cones - 1"-2" long, curved
toward twig, open or closed
scales

Fun Fact - MN's smallest,
shortest lived native pine, and
has the shortest needles



COMPARE TO RED PINE!

Zhingwaak

WHITE PINE

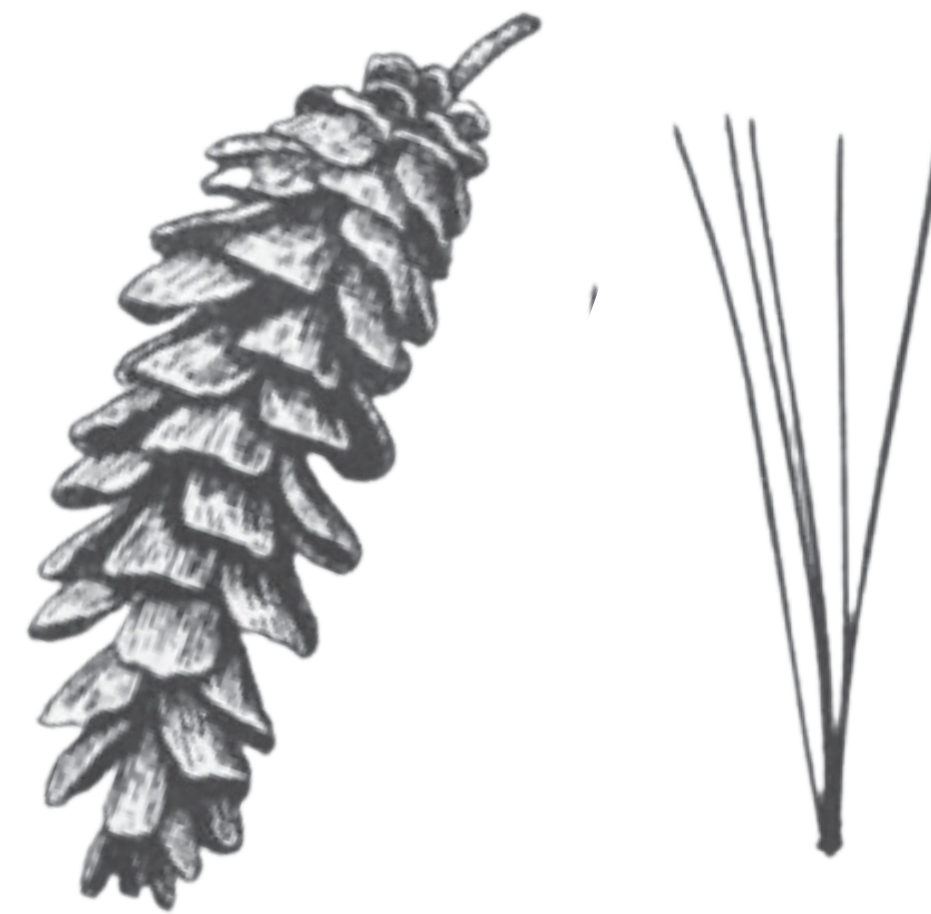
Pinus strobus

Bark – Thin, smooth, and greenish gray on young trees, but thick, deeply furrowed, and grayish brown on older trees.

Needles – 2 ½ to 5 inches long, soft and flexible, groups of 5,

Cones – 4"-8" long, cylindrical with thin, gummy scales

Fun Fact – White pine needles have five times the Vitamin C (by weight) of lemons and make an excellent herbal tea



COMPARE TO RED PINE!

Zhingob

BALSAM FIR

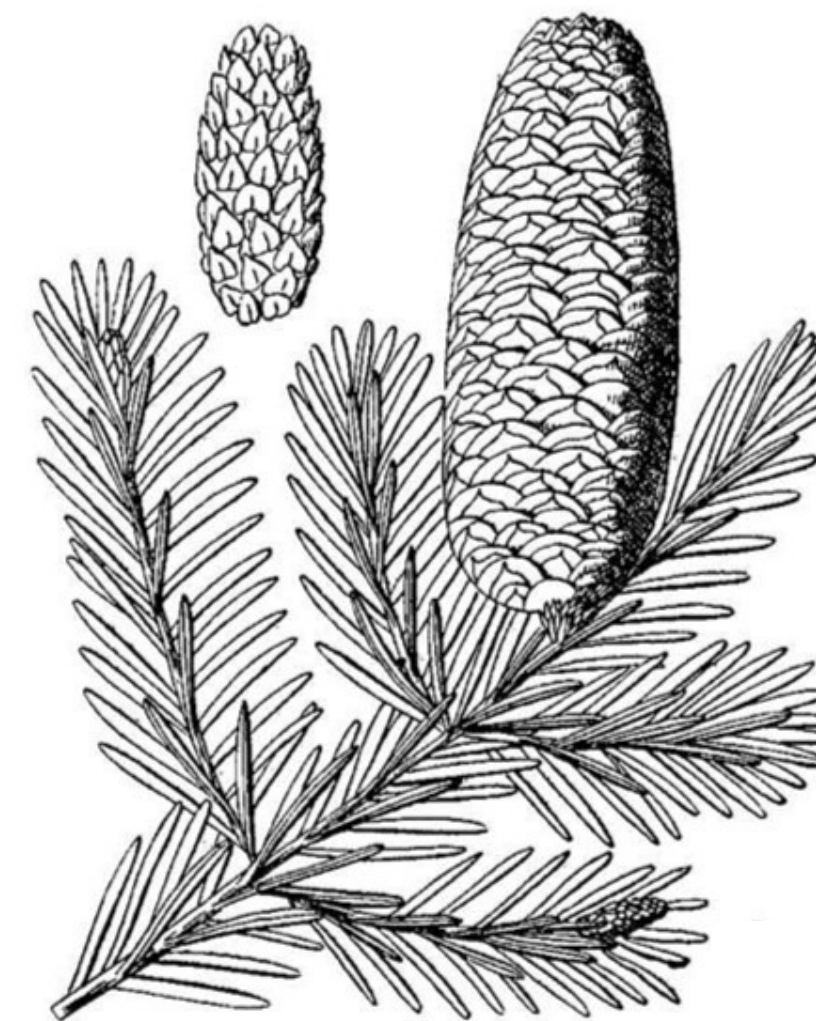
Abies balsamea

Bark - thin, gray and smooth, with many resin blisters; breaking into irregular brownish scales with age

Needles - single, flattened, 3/8 to about 1 inch long, dark green on the top, appearing striped underneath

Cone - 2"-4" long, erect, borne near top of tree; cone scales fall off, leaving a persistent central stalk

Fun Fact - Balsam fir sap has been used in healing cuts, wounds, and burns. Sometimes its needles are used to make medicinal tea



COMPARE TO WHITE SPRUCE!

Gaawaandag

WHITE SPRUCE

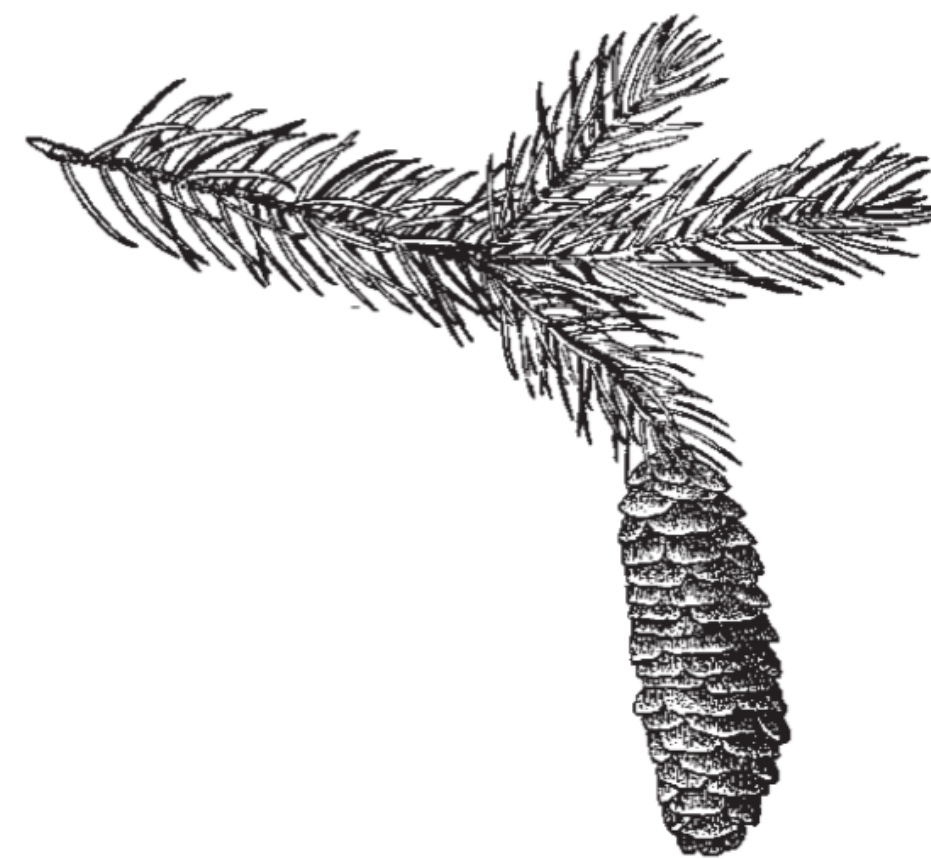
Picea glauca

Bark- dark gray or gray-brown, scaly

Needles - 1/3"-3/4", pale bluish, four sided needle, disagreeable odor when crushed. Attaches to the twig by a short woody peg. Twigs hairless

Cones - 2" slender cone, hang downward, scales round and soft at ends, thin and flexible

Fun Facts - The needles of the white spruce have a very unpleasant smell which keeps deers away, hence deers don't eat these trees



COMPARE TO BALSAM FIR!

Zesegaandag

BLACK SPRUCE

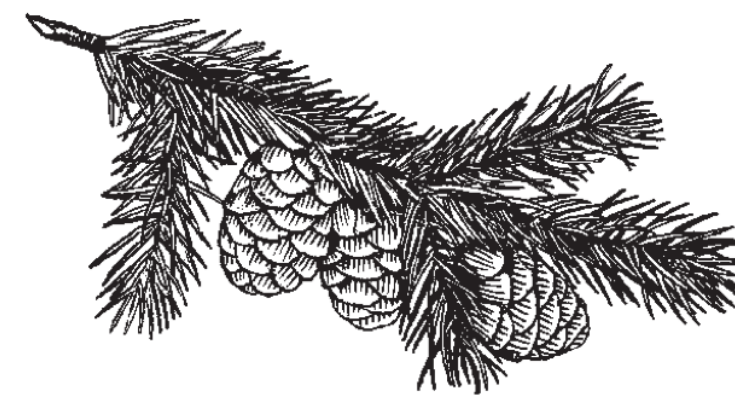
Picea mariana

Bark - grayish to reddish brown, scaly

Needles - bluish green, four sided, 1/2" long; attached to the twig by a short woody peg. Twigs with small, reddish hairs

Cones - oval, 1/2' - 1.5" long, hang downward, remain on trees indefinitely

Fun Facts - The hard resin that seeps out of this tree can be chewed like chewing gum!



COMPARE TO WHITE SPRUCE!

Mitigomizh

BUR OAK

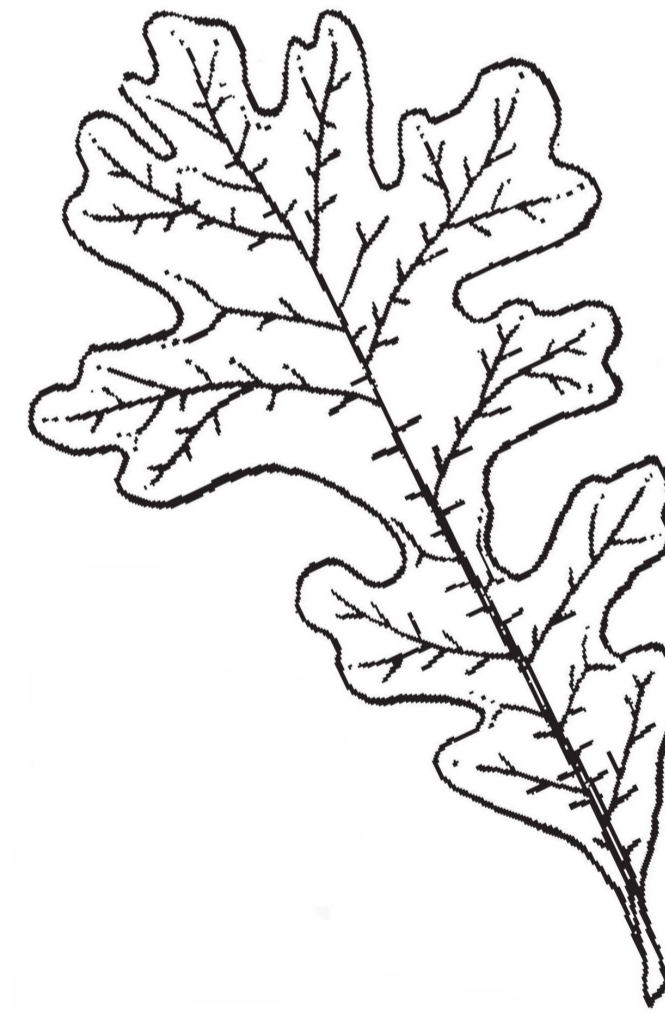
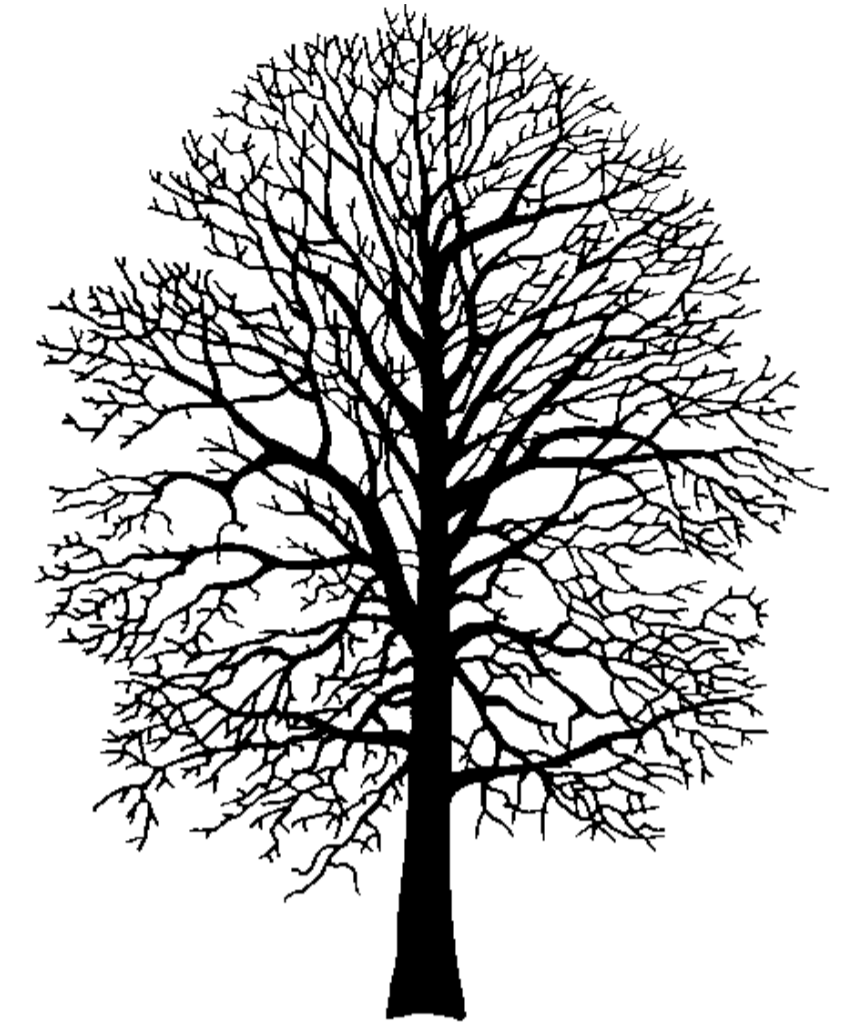
Quercus macrocarpus

Bark - rough with deep furrows and corky ridges, thick gnarly branches

Leaves - alternate, 4-8" long, narrowly tapered at the base with several deeper rounded lobes.

Acorn - round to egg shaped acorn, ½" to 1" long, set in a dome-like cup fringed with thick coarse, brittle hairs.

Fun Facts - The root system is massive, often equalling the weight of the above-ground tree



COMPARE TO PIN OAK!

Wiisagi-Mitigomizh

NORTHERN PIN OAK

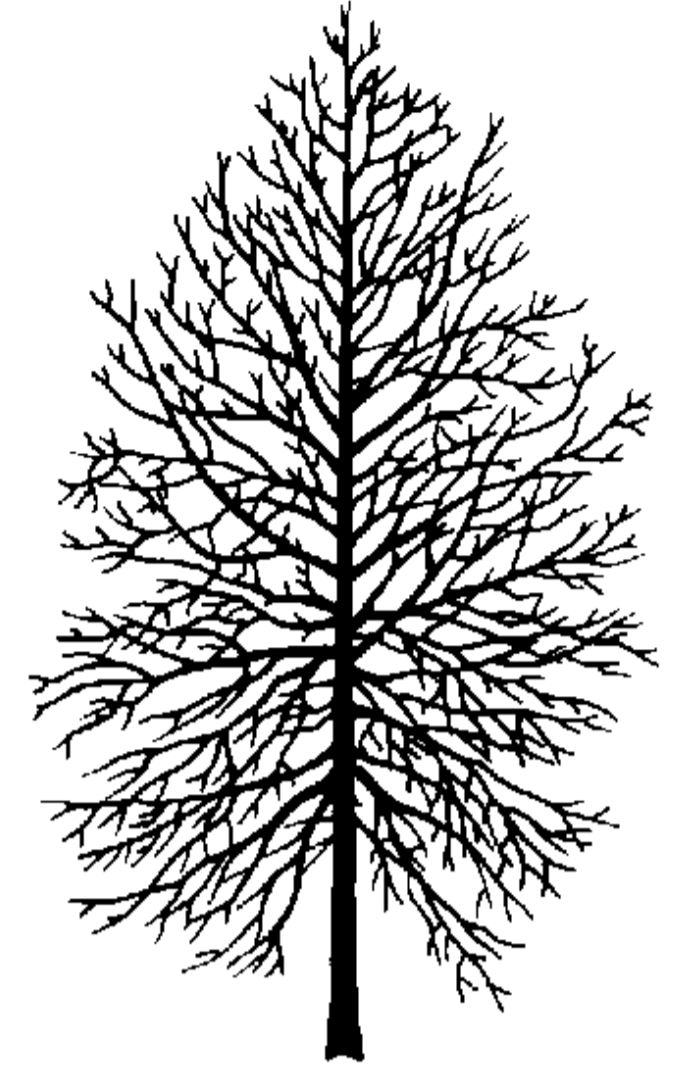
Quercus ellipsoidalis

Bark - divided by shallow furrows into irregular ridges and plates

Leaves - alternate, 2½"-5½" long and almost as wide. Deep, pointy lobes with bristle tips

Acorn - elliptical between ½" to 2/3" long, with a scaly reddish cap that covers up to half of the acorn

Fun Facts - Often hold their leaves into the fall or winter. This is called 'marescence' and almost always occurs on branches that have not yet formed flowers.



COMPARE TO BUR OAK!