Nature Trail Key at RiverWoods

April 2010 Dave Warner

NATURE TRAIL KEY		
	TREES	(Black Numbers)
1	White Pine	State tree of Maine. Always five needles in a cluster
2	Eastern Hemlock	State tree of Pennsylvania
3	Shagbark Hickory	Wood very tough, makes tool handles, baseball bats
4	Black Birch	Twigs have a wintergreen flavor and smell
5	White Oak	Oak barrels made from this wood
6	Blue Beech	Muscled appearance of bark, Sometimes called ironwood
7	American Beech	Often reproduces by "layering", Lateral roots sprout up
8	Red Maple	Very hardy tree, grows in all kinds of sites
9	White Ash	Wood is good for tool handles, baseball bats
10	Black Oak	Acorns are bitter, Lobes of leaves are pointed
11	Sugar Maple	It takes 35 to 40 gallons of sap to make a gallon of syrup
12	Red Oak	Closely related to the black oaks
13	Grey Birch	Resembles paper birch but has spade shaped leaves
14	Quaking Aspen	Leaves have flat stems, which makes them tremble in wind
15	Wild Cherry	Leaves and bark have a bitter almond smell
16	Moosewood	This sometimes called striped maple, Very small tree
17	Basswood	Wood is soft. Favored by wood carvers
18	Ironwood	Wood very hard. Sometimes called hophornbeam
19	Red Pine	Two needles to a cluster. Needles snap when bent
20	Paper birch	Indians used the bark for making canoes
21	Scarlet Oak	Brilliant fall color. Closely related to black oaks
22	Juniper (spp)	Trees spread by birds eating berries. Berries used in making gin
23	Yellow Birch	The most valued of the birches for lumber
24	Alternate dogwood	Purplish black berries in Fall, Small tree seldom over 20 feet high

NATURE TRAIL KEY			
	SHRUBS, PLANTS AND VINES (Red Numbers)		
1	Witch hazel	Bark and roots make an astringent sold in drug stores	
2	Maple leaf viburnum	Small shrub with maple-like leaves	
3	Staghorn sumac	Clusters of red berries make lemon-like drink	
4	Spice bush	Tea from leaves and twigs used to be a fever medicine	
5	Winterberry	Native holly bush. Colorful red berries in the Fall	
6	Cinnamon fern	Stipe (leaf stalk) covered with cinnamon colored hair in Spring	
7	Evergreen fern	Stays green all winter. Sometimes called "Christmas fern"	
8	Goldenrod	Many varieties known. Does not cause hay fever	
9	Bracken	Single stem always splits three ways	
10	Jewelweed	"Touch me not". Seed pods explode in the Fall	
11	Canada mayflower	Grows in beds. Usually blooms in May	
12	Partridgeberry	Small red berries favored by birds	
13	False Solomon's seal	Blooms April-June. Cluster of small star flowers at tip of stem	
14	Poison ivy	Leaves of three. Leave me be!	
15	Virginia creeper	A low plant or a climbing vine. Five to seven leaflets	
16	Wild grape	All domestic vines sprung from this wild variety	
17	Wintergreen	Sometimes called teaberry. Likes to grow beneath evergreens	
18	Sarsaparilla	Roots have medicinal purpose. Related to ginseng	
19	Ground Pine	Grows up to 12 inches. One of the clubmosses	
20	Lady Fern	Grizzly bears and elk like to eat these	
21	New York Fern	Usually prefers sunlit areas	
22	Interrupted Fern	Because of brown fertile leaflets which "interrupt" fronds	
23	Sensitive Fern	So called because the plant withers at the first frost	
24	Royal Fern	Likes wet soil along streams & meadows. Can be 2 to 5 feet tall	
25	Starflower	White star-shaped flower. Whorl of pointed leaves	
26	Bellwort	A yellow flower dangling under drooping leaves	
27	Wood Anemone	White to pink flower, Grows in drifts	
28	Trout Lily	Leaves mottled like a trout	
29	Violet	Purple flower with heart-shaped leaves	
30	Trillium	Member lily family. Not legal to pick this flower in many states	
31	Jack in the pulpit	"Indian turnip" It is not recommended that you eat the root	
32	Glossy Buckthorn	"Invasive species that threatens to crowd out more desirable trees	
33	Black Alder	Has small cone-like catkins. Shrubby tree	
34	Bluets	For small pale blue petals. Called "Quaker Ladies"	
35	Whorled loosestrife	Has small yellow 5-petal flowers. Member of the primrose family	
36	Lady's slipper	Lady slipper traps insects which fertilize the flower. An orchid	
37	Elderberry	Blue/black berries very edible. Plant also used to dye baskets	
38	Ragged robin	Blooms May thru August. Import from Europe. Pinkish blossoms	
39	Bittersweet	Climbing vine. Use as fall decoration can cause invasive to spread	
40	Multiflora Rose	Invasive species that threatens to crowd out more desirable trees	
41	Purple Loosestrife	Crowds out other desirable species in wetlands	
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