

*The next tree is not too far,
Around the curve, don't need a car.
My bark has ridges and I'm tall and straight.
I'm not big around; on path's edge I wait.*

5) Hackberry: **N 44° 58.043 W 92° 59.739**

- *Leaves alternate on twigs. Small teeth along leaf margins.
- *Small dark edible red berries turn purple.
- *Wood were used for barrel hoops and floors in pioneer cabins.
- *Fruit eaten by birds; source of larvae and nectar for some wildlife

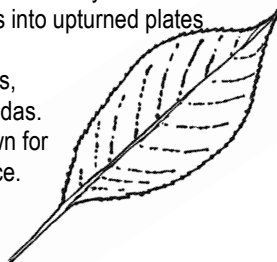


Native to Minnesota.

*You're half way through – there's more to see.
Go 'cross a bridge to the next tree.
Go up and around past the great pond view.
The scaly bark is this tree's clue.
(See if you can find 4 or 5 more trees like me in the area.)*

6) Black Cherry: **N 44° 58.063 W 92° 59.669**

- *Leaves simple, elongated, shiny. Contain toxins to deter browsing by animals.
- *White flowers in spring; cherries in early summer.
- *Young bark is smooth; breaks into upturned plates as matures
- *Fruit used in jams, pies, cakes, ice cream and for flavoring sodas.
- *Wood used in cabinets. Known for strong red color and high price.
- *Fruit eaten by birds



Native to Minnesota.

*The next left you'll have to take.
The trail between the ponds is great!
Go up two stairs (look left, not right).
My spreading limbs are quite a sight.*

7) Black Walnut: **N 44° 58.128 W 92° 59.612**

- *Leaves compound and alternate on twigs, 11 – 23 leaflets. stems have fine hairs.
 - *Nuts large, round, with a green to brown husk.
 - *Wood used for cabinets, veneer and paneling.
 - *Nuts used for baking, oil, polish.
 - *Nuts eaten by squirrels, deer, woodpeckers.
- Native to Minnesota.



*Along this trail, so long ago,
Trees were planted, in a row.
On your right you'll see these trees,
Stop and look if you please.*

8) Green Ash: **N 44° 58.146 W 92° 59.554**

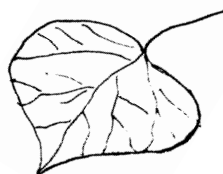
- *Leaves compound and opposite on stout twigs.
 - *Single winged seeds called samaras.
 - *Supple wood used for sports equipment, tool handles and furniture.
 - *Susceptible to emerald ash borer.
- Native to Minnesota.



*It stands alone near the trail,
You can find it, you won't fail.
The bark looks different than what we've seen;
it's more smooth and rather green.*

9) Quaking Aspen: **N 44° 58.141 W 92° 59.451**

- *Leaves flutter in the wind.
 - *Wood valued for paper products.
 - *Leaves, buds and bark eaten by deer, beaver and ruffed grouse.
- Native to Minnesota.



*Stop at the bench made by hand,
Look to trail's left for this tree stand.
An evergreen grove, a place to nest,
Please step off the trail to find the
Tree Quest Chest!!*

10) White Cedar: **N 44° 58.111 W 92° 59.357**

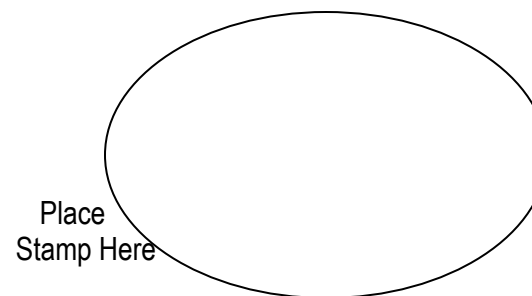
- *Also known as Arborvitae.
 - *Leaves scale-like and flattened.
 - *Oblong cones are 1/3 to 1/2 inch long.
 - *Ornamental landscaping tree.
 - *Wood used for fences and shingles.
 - *Deer use cedar swamps for winter cover and food.
 - *Small animals, birds feed on seeds.
- Native to Minnesota.



Drawing courtesy of University of Minnesota Extension.

Congratulations, Tree Questers !!

You have found the Tree Quest Box. Please sign the guestbook.



Maplewood Nature Center

651-249-2170

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WEB: www.ci.maplewood.mn.us/nc

Tree Quest is the creation of
Volunteers B. Gibson, J. Houck and L. Pearson
for their 2006 Master Naturalist Capstone Project.

Updated winter 2010 by J. Houck and L. Pearson

Maplewood Nature Center Tree Quest Map & Clue



*Now with
GPS COORDINATES*

What is a Quest?

A Quest is a self-guided treasure hunt. The map and clues lead you to special trees along Maplewood Nature Center trails and, finally to a special quest box.

Duration: 45 minutes

Distance: about one mile

Who: Adults, Kids, Families,
Youth groups

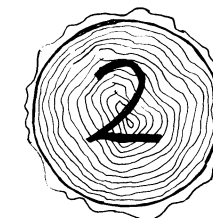
Nature Center Trail Hours:

Open Everyday from Dawn to Dusk

Start: Begin the Tree Quest at the arbor, located in the Oak Grove, adjacent to the nature center parking lot.

*Follow the clues and take a map,
Hike the trail, no time to nap.
Read the rhymes to find each tree,
You'll have fun,
just wait and see.*

*The trees are marked
with wooden rings,
Take your time and
learn new things.*



Past the building, push thru the gate
 To Heron Trail, oh, please, make haste!
 At the pond take a left, not a right.
 Just over the bridge lies your first site.
 At water's edge my roots take a drink,
 My branches spread wide,
 Don't you think?

1) Golden Willow: **N 44° 58.012 W 92° 59.334**

- *Named for golden twigs in spring.
- *Flexible twigs used for wicker baskets and twig furniture.
- *Nesting & roosting habitat for many bird species.
- *Good browse for moose, rabbits and beaver.

Not native to Minnesota.



Go thru the prairie where you will see
 A bench to sit on (Thanks, James McKee!).
 But don't sit down, not just yet.
 To the 3-sided shape you need to get.
 Past this shape, off to your right,
 View a three-trunked tree of tremendous
 height.

2) Eastern Cottonwood: **N 44° 58.000 W 92° 59.461**

- *Minnesota's largest tree (to 120 feet)
- *Named for cottony substance attached to seeds
- *Leaves: Simple, alternate with toothed edge
- *Used to make boxes, furniture, matches, paper

*Native to Minnesota

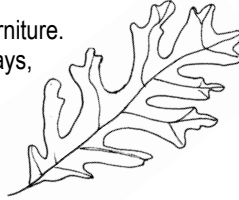


Back on the trail past a boulder with heft,,
 At the "Y" just bear to the left.
 On the crest of the hill at path's edge you
 will see, a gray pachyderm foot,
 As in an 'Elephant Tree'!

3a) White Oak: **N 44° 58.019 W 92° 59.566**

- *Simple, alternate leaves with rounded lobes.
- *Bark light gray brown fissured into long, broad scaly, and flattened ridges.
- *Wood suitable for flooring and furniture.
- *Acorns eaten by squirrels, blue jays, mice and deer.

Native to Minnesota.

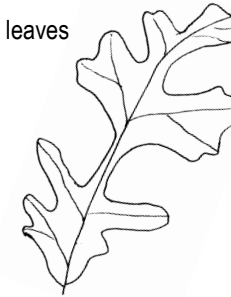


Walk about fifteen adult-sized steps
 down the trail. Into the woods, on your
 left you will see a Bur Oak.

3b) Bur Oak: **N 44° 58.021 W 92° 59.572**

- *Simple, alternate, fiddle-shaped leaves with rounded lobes.
- *Twigs have corky ridges.
- *Bark rough and heavily ridged
- *Acorns have fringed caps.

Native to Minnesota.

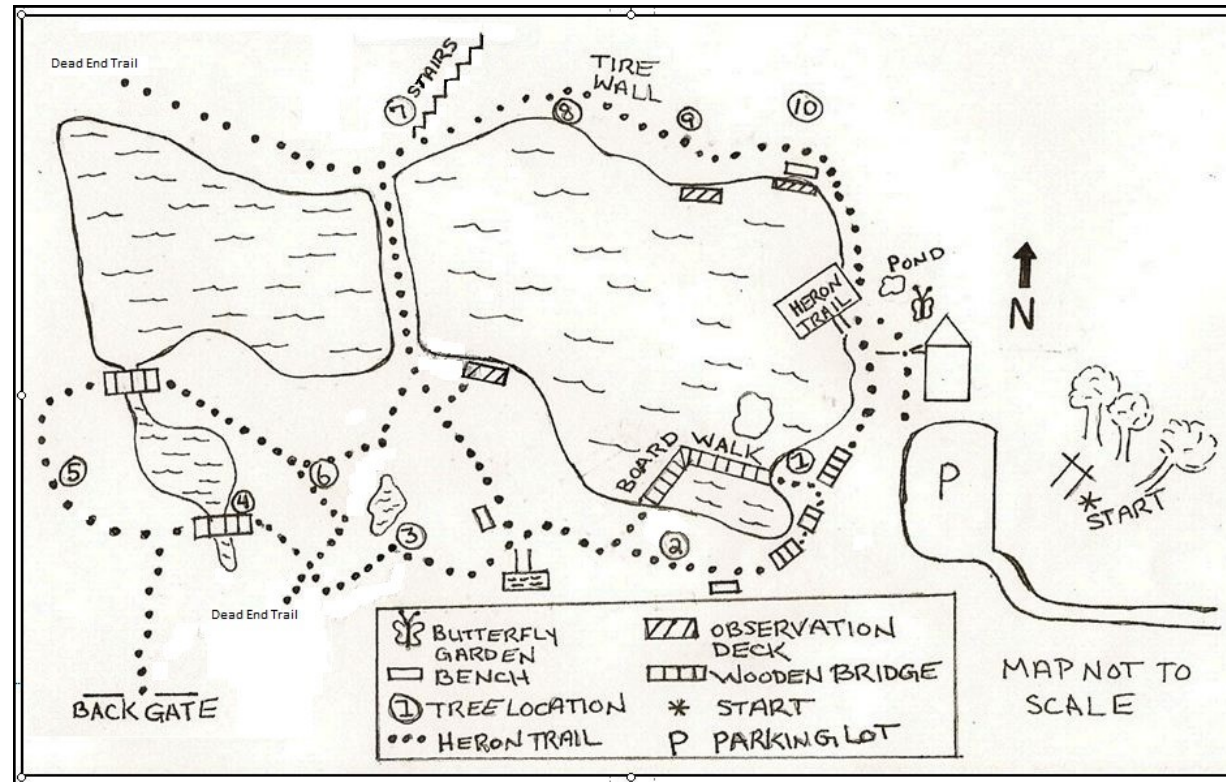
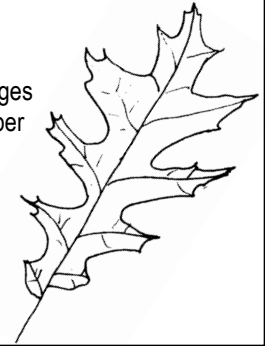


NOW Look to the other side of the trail
 for a Red Oak.

3c) Red Oak: **N 44° 58.021 W 92° 59.572**

- *Named for its reddish wood.
- *Leaves: simple, alternate, with spine-tipped lobes.
- *Dark bark with flat-topped ridges
- *Wood provides valuable lumber for houses and furniture.
- *Acorns eaten by numerous animal species.

Native to Minnesota.



Continue on the path, you're doing great!
 Stay to the right, not to the gate.
 When paths meet straight ahead, you go
 down the hill, don't be slow.

4) Silver Maple: **N44° 58.031 W 92° 59.714**

- *Leaves simple, opposite with silvery undersides.
- *Seeds large, double-winged, a.k.a. 'helicopters'.
- *Grows in moist woods near water.
- *Cavities provide nesting and roosting habitat for various bird species.

Native to Minnesota.

