

Dichotomous Summer Plant Key

Willow

Narrow, sometimes hairy leaves
Smooth, twin twigs
Tassel-like upright catkins

Balsam Poplar (young)

Broad large leaves!
Stout twigs with sticky buds
Catkins hang down

Balsam Poplar (mature)

Leaves on long round stalks
Medium to large tree

Birch

Double toothed leaves, dark-green above, yellow-green below
White or tan bark that peels

Tamarack

Needles are really leaves that grow in clusters on branch, then fall off each autumn

White Spruce

New twigs are whitish and smooth
Elongated cones fall off each year

Black Spruce

New twigs are reddish and fuzzy
Egg-shaped cones stay on tree in big clusters

Aspen

Small toothed leaves
Shiny upper leaf surface
Long flat leaf stock
Powdery substance on dry bark

Willow

Leaves usually narrow and smooth
May or may not be finely toothed
Tassel-like upright catkins

Alder

Broad & toothed leaves
Nutlets present
Catkins hang down

