



1 Princess Pine—Looking like a miniature pine tree, this clubmoss is native to the Eastern United States & Canada. It's leaves are microphylls, each containing only a single vein and measuring less than 1 cm long. This greenery is a favorite in Holiday wreaths.

Ground Cedar—Also a clubmoss, has fan like branches and grows from a creeping stem at the soil surface.

Oak Tree (Acorns)—Acorns are a significant source of nutrients in wildlife diets. Red oak acorns, taking two years to mature, account for a large portion of winter food storage for animals, while white oak acorns, maturing in one year, are a critical source for building energy reserves before cold weather strikes. White oak acorns have a sweeter taste than the red's.



3 Spruce Trees—Large mature stands can be found across the state as a result from plantings by the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) during the 1930's Great Depression. Spruce trees are a critical food source for red squirrels, who do not hibernate. They rely on the seeds of spruce cones to make it through the winter. In Autumn, they bite off the cones and create piles of storage called middens that can be three feet deep and over twenty feet across and used year after year.

Northern Hardwood Trees—



White Ash has deep net-like bark, oar-like seed pods, and is used to make baseball bats.



Black Cherry has dark cornflake-like bark and small dark purple berries that are a favorite snack for raccoons.

Red Maple has bright red leaves and is used in furniture making. Can you identify them?



5 Burl—Area of irregular and abnormal growth along a tree trunk or branches. They are a result of natural fungus attacks on trees. This burl is on a black cherry tree.



6 Stone Tower—Built as an observation tower in 1933 by the CCC's.

Over look—City of Salamanca and further in the distance, Little Valley, NY.



7 Iron Wood—Also called muscle wood, gets its name from it's barks appearance and solidity. Part of the hornbeam family, it is used to make tool handles.



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8 Downed tree—Why did this tree fall? Was it the weight of both trunks? Most likely. The downed limbs will provide shelter and food for many animals including browse for deer.

9 Wildlife Habitat—Every creature needs 4 things to survive; food, water, shelter and space. This is a great place to sit and look at a wildlife habitat. Some 85 species of North American birds excavate nesting holes, use cavities resulting from decay (natural cavities), or use holes created by other species in dead or deteriorating trees. Can you find the holes? When trees fall they leave holes in the ground, these holes fill with water and become vernal pools, wonderful spots for forest amphibians to lay eggs. In the spring, this area would be alive with the sounds of birds, frogs and other wildlife.

Beech bark disease— is a disease that causes mortality and defects in beech trees of the United States. Beech nuts are a favorite food of black bears.



11 Barberry—Invasive ornamental plant that is sometimes used for erosion control.

12 Locust Grove— Black locust is a fast growing tree that can reach 40-100ft in height. In the spring it boast large fragrant blossoms that compete with native plants for pollinating bees.

Wintergreen—This is actually not a mint, but part of the blueberry family. It is an aromatic, low growing plant with thick leathery leaves, bell like flower and small red berries, found in acidic soil.



14 Beech Tree—This spreading beech tree may be the result of both mechanical and natural causes. As a young beech, this tree was probably grazed on by deer causing its multiple stems. As it grew, its branches reached for the sun of the meadow. Notice part of this tree also has beech bark disease.

Debris Hut—What uses does it have?

