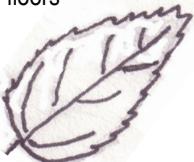


*The next tree is not too far,  
Around the curve, don't need a car.  
My bark has ridges and I'm tall and straight.  
I'm not big around; on path's edge I wait.*

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

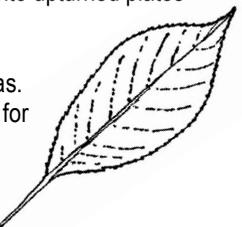


Native to Minnesota.

*You're halfway 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.  
Look to the left when you get to the Y,  
To see a tree as sweet as cherry pie.*

6) Black Cherry : **N 44° 58.063 W 92° 59.667**

- \*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

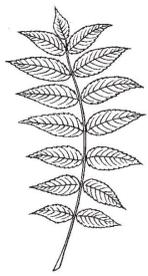


Native to Minnesota.

*The next left you'll have to take.  
The trail between the ponds is great!  
Just around the curve, on the right  
A handsome tree lies in plain sight.*

7) Black Walnut : **N 44° 58.130 W 92° 59.610**

- \*Leaves compound and alternate on twigs, 11 – 23 leaflets. stems have fine hairs.
- \*Nuts large, round, with a green to brown husk.
- \*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) Silver Maple: **N44° 58.150 W 92° 59.525**

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



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.

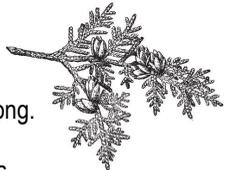


Native to Minnesota.

*Stop at the bench made by hand,  
Look to trail's left for this tree stand.  
In an evergreen grove, look for a place to nest,  
A bird house disguises the Tree Quest Chest!*

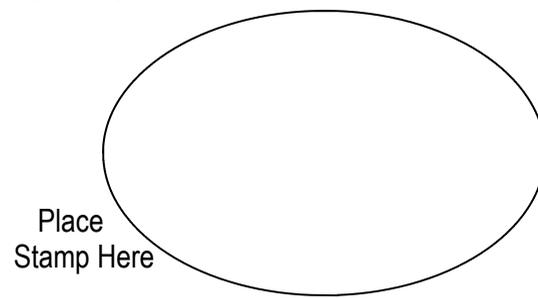
10) White Cedar: **N 44° 58.111 W 92° 59.357**

- \*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.  
*Drawings 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

*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 & Clues



*Now with  
GPS COORDINATES*

## What is a Quest?

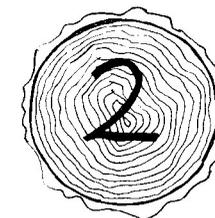
A Quest is a self-guided treasure hunt. The map and clues lead you to special trees along Maplewood Nature Center trails and, finally to a special quest box.

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.

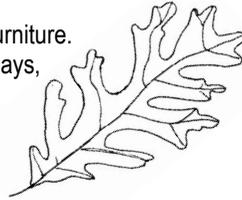


Past the boardwalk and a boulder with heft,  
 At the Y on the trail just bear to the left..  
 On the crest of the hill at path's edge you  
 will see, a gray pachyderm foot,  
 As in an 'Elephant Tree'!

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.

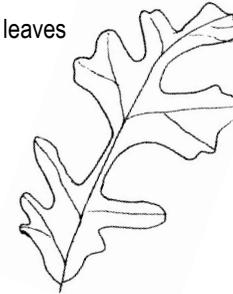


Walk about fifteen adult-sized steps  
 down the trail. Into the woods, on your  
 left you will see a **Bur Oak**.

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.

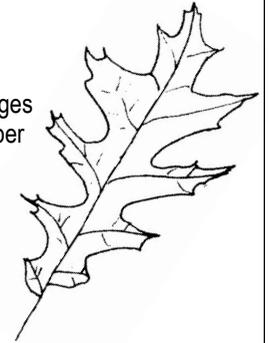


NOW Look to the other side of the trail  
 for a **Red Oak**.

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.

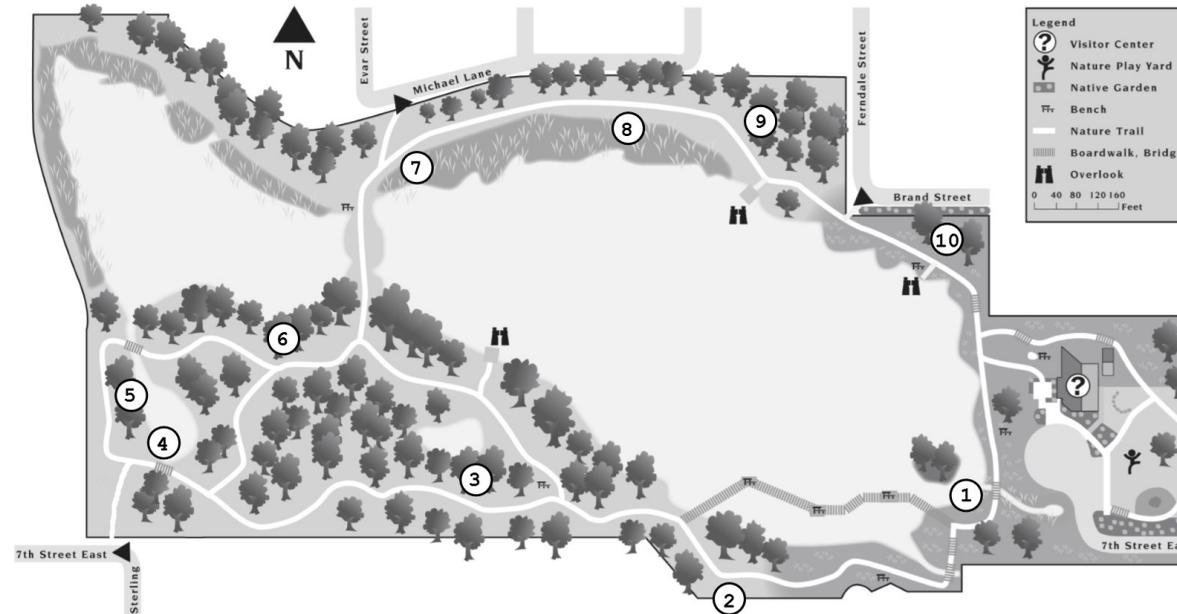


Go thru the prairie where you will see  
 A bench to sit on (Thanks, James McKee!).  
 But don't sit down, not just yet.  
 To the 3-sided shape you need to get.  
 Past this shape, look left, not right  
 View a fast-growing tree of medium height.

2) Boxelder: **N 44° 57.996 W 92° 59.444**

- \*Compound leaves with wide, irregularly toothed margins
- \*Bark is gray-brown colored and slightly ridged
- \*Part of the Maple species; occasionally used for maple syrup
- \*Common host for boxelder bugs

Native to Minnesota



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

4) Green Ash: **N 44° 58.041 W 92° 59.723**

- \*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

