



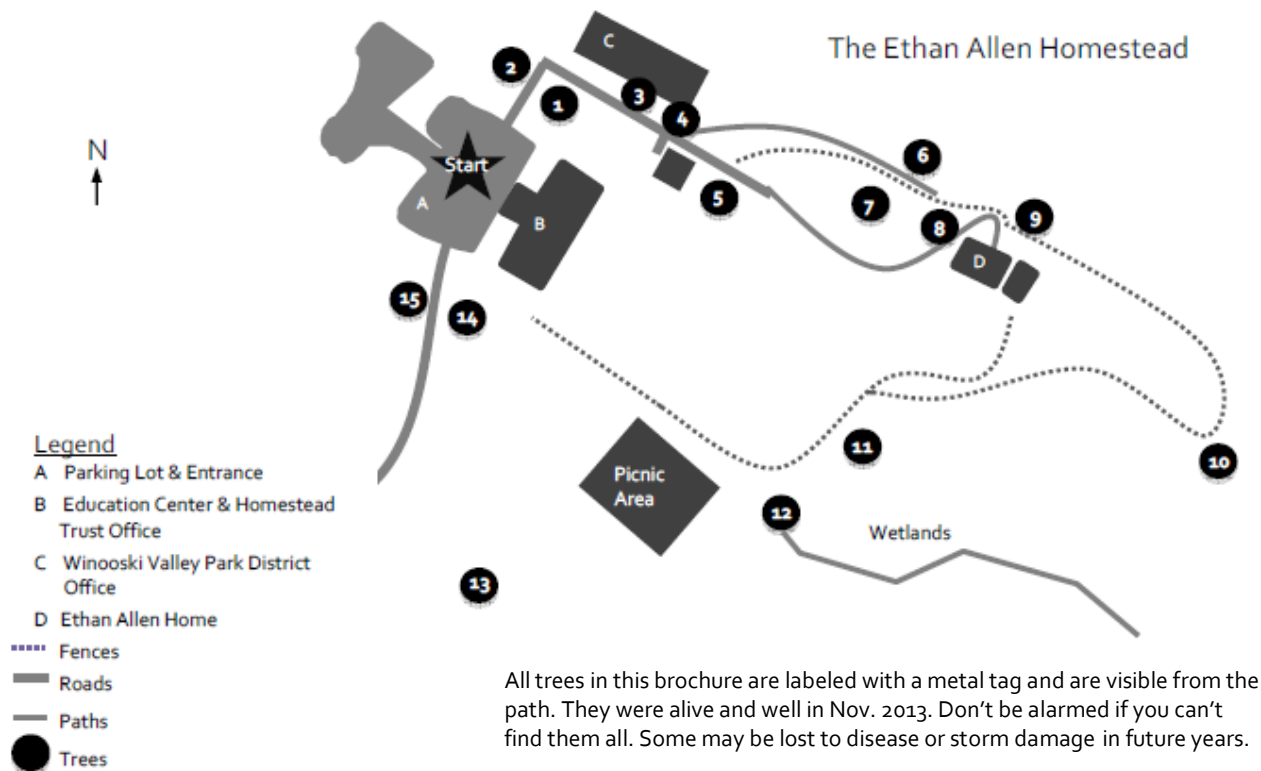
Great Trees of Ethan Allen Homestead



This pamphlet contains interesting facts and tips on identifying trees in the Ethan Allen Homestead.

The trees are all visible from the forest's edge.

- 1. Sugar Maple (*Acer saccharum*)** Vermont's state tree and Canada's national tree, famous for its maple sap and red to orange fall foliage. It grows slowly reaching heights of 60–75 feet and lives up to 200 years old. Very tolerant of shade but sensitive to air pollution and salt, because of this and a shallow rooting system, it is an unsuitable roadside tree. It is threatened by the Asian long-horned beetle (*Anoplophora glabripennis*).
- 2. Red Maple (*Acer rubrum*)** Leaves are 3-5 lobed, with red buds and in fall the leaves turn bright red. It is shorter lived than the sugar maple, living 100 years, and reaching heights of 60-90ft. It is often found growing in wet sites. Red maple is also susceptible to damage by Asian long-horned beetle.
- 3. Paper Birch (*Betula papyrifera*)** A pioneer species that is shade intolerant and commonly grows in newly reforested areas, and large openings created in established forests. It reaches a greater maximum height than grey birch, some growing up to 80 ft tall and can live up to 120 years
- 4. Grey Birch (*Betula populifolia*)** Also a pioneer species but with distinctive "cat face" shaped chevrons (where branch meets trunk), and grows up to 20-30 feet tall usually in multiple stems. Preformed catkins (flower) can be found on ends of branches most of the year.
- 5. White Pine (*Pinus strobus*)** A stately tree that is the only pine in the East with 5 needles in each bundle. It reaches heights of 140 ft, and lives up to 20 years. In pre-revolutionary times they were used for ship masts. It is often split into multiple stems high up due to the feeding of the terminal bud by the white pine weevil (*Pissodes strobe*). Trees with this form are called cabbage pines.
- 6. Butternut (*Juglans cinerea*)** Grows oblong yellow/green colored fruit covered in sticky hairs, which stain hands and was used to dye confederate uniforms. It reaches to 100 ft tall and lives up to 80 years. It is common to become infected with butternut canker, which protrudes out from under bark, and kills tree by girdling the main water and sugar in the stem from spreading to the leaves.
- 7. Black Locust (*Robinia pseudoacacia*)** Not native to VT, but is a US native. This fast growing hardwood reaches heights of 80 ft tall and lives up to 90 years. It produces pea-like flowers. At times the leaves appear to fold up. It does not self-prune easily.
- 8. Common Hackberry (*Celtis occidentalis*)** A native tree indigenous to the Champlain Valley, and is commonly found in back yards, hedgerows and along Burlington's streets. It is adaptable to urban conditions as it survives in poor soils and bad conditions. It is a medium/large tree (50 –80 feet) with a wide spread similar to the vase-like shape of an elm.
- 9. Box Elder (*Acer negundo*)** In the Maple family but smaller and shorter-lived species than sugar and red maple. It is a prolific seed producer that readily colonizes poor soils and disturbed areas. It is abundant in Burlington's back yards. This tree varies in its growth pattern but is easily distinguished by its distinct epicormic sprouting.
- 10. Eastern Cottonwood (*Populus deltoides*)** Grows 100 ft tall, lives 50 years. It is a source of large amounts of yellow pollen and white fluff in spring. It can be confused with quaking aspen (*Populus tremuloides*) because of the trembling leaves, but the bark of cottonwood looks much more ancient, and dinosaur like.
- 11. Staghorn Sumac (*Rhus typhina*)** Known for its large red cone-like fruiting bodies that persist on the trees. It is a relative of poison ivy. Rabbits love it for the nutrients it contains in the bark, as well as many bird species that feed on its seeds and fruit, which has a citric taste. It readily sprouts making it an undesired species in regulated areas such as parks.



12. Red Oak (*Quercus rubra*) Similar in size to the white oak but has leaves that have pointed lobes. It needs lots of sunlight and is competitive on sandy soils. Not a common city tree because it is difficult to grow successfully from a seedling. Wildlife love it because of the nutrients its acorns provide. Red oak is a key host of gypsy moths.

13. Northern White Cedar (*Thuja occidentalis*) Also called "Tree-of-life" (*Arborvitae*), for the tea made from twigs that cured French explorers of scurvy in the 1500s. Trees over 700 years old can be found in Ontario. It has a flat network of scales instead of needles. This tree is being strangled by bittersweet, an intrusive vine growing around the trunk.

14 & 15. Colorado Blue Spruce (*Picea pungens*) Pyramid form, reaches 90 ft tall and can live 600 years. A native of the Rocky Mountains, its classic conical shape, grace and symmetry have made it a favorite for large Christmas trees. This tree is easily identified by the blue hue of its needles.

This tree walk was produced by:
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Volunteers of *Branch Out Burlington!*
&
Warren Spinner, Arborist, Burlington Department of Parks & Recreation



Our Mission: We are a group of volunteers who help plant and care for the trees of Burlington. Our goal is to promote a vision of a city graced with a variety of beautiful and healthy trees, and a citizenry actively involved with the perpetual expansion and preservation of our urban forest.

Want to get involved? All are welcome at our monthly meetings. Call Burlington Department of Parks and Recreation at 862-8245 for the time and place. Tax deductible donations can be made to *Branch Out Burlington!* and sent to Margaret Skinner, 93 Howard St., Burlington, VT 05401.

Visit our website at www.branchoutburlington.org

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