Belgium Grove
Dichotomous Key for Leaves

START HERE

Eastern White Pine
*(Pinus strobus)*

Are the leaves like needles?
no

Simple leaf or compound leaf?

Is the leaf lobed?
simple

Are the lobes pointed? Does the leaf look like a star?
no

Bur Oak
*(Quercus macrocarpa)*

Yes

Silver Maple
*(Acer saccharinum)*

No

Are the leaf's edges jagged or mostly smooth?
jagged

Willow
*(Salix spp.)*

yes

Eastern Cottonwood
*(Populus deltoides)*

no

Are the leaf's edges jagged or mostly smooth?
smooth

Is the leaf shaped like a triangle?
yes

Black Cherry
*(Prunus serotina)*

no

Are the leaf's edges jagged or mostly smooth?
smooth

Is the tree's bark scaly and dark, like a dragon?
yes

American Elm
*(Ulmus americana)*

no

Box Elder
*(Acer negundo)*

Are some of the leaflets lobed?
no

Shagbark Hickory
*(Carya ovata)*

yes

Honey Locust
*(Gleditsia triacanthos)*

no

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Glossary

**Compound Leaf**: leaf is divided into several leaflets. Each leaflet does not have a bud.

**Jagged/Serrated Edge**: leaf's edges resemble many small teeth, like a saw.

**Lobed Leaf**: leaf's edges have deep indents that are either round or pointed.

**Simple Leaf**: one, undivided leaf is attached to a bud.

There are many other tree and shrub species at Belgium Grove. Can you find a species that is not on this sheet?

*Many other species can fall under these categories. This key is by no means an exhaustive key for all species and exists only for the purposes of this activity.*
Explore Belgum Grove by finding each tree marked with yellow tape (#1-10). Using the Dichotomous Key for Leaves, can you identify what kinds of trees they are?