

Even the backyard can have a plethora of vegetation

- Wildflowers

- Plantain

- Most Plantains are edible
 - Rabbits eat them



- English Plantain (Grows very tall)



- Dandelion



- Japanese Knot Weed

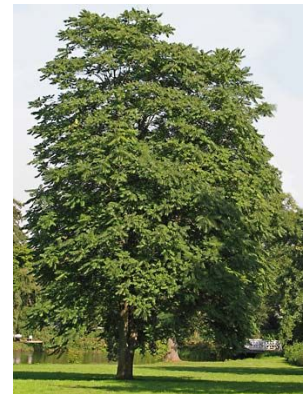


- Very invasive
 - Seeds get into water, and it grows EVERYWHERE
 - Environmental Enemy # 1
 - Riparian Environment
 - Knotweed chokes out everything
 - Environmentalists try to kill it, but can't do so without hurting the other animals and vegetation

- Tree of Heaven



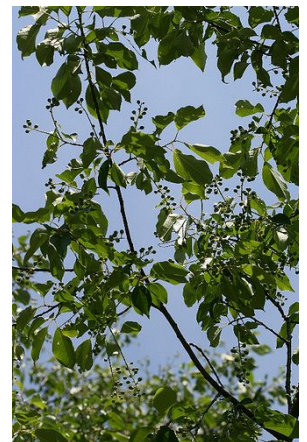
- Obnoxious
- Interior of tree smells like rancid peanut butter
- Invasive and aggressive
- From China
- Push out other species and grows quickly
- No food or furniture value
- Waste of space



- Chokecherry



- Biggest leaf for a cherry
- Have teeth on them
- Fleshy part of fruit can be eaten, but pit contains cyanide
- Can boil cherries, and chemical reaction makes cyanide no longer an issue
- Good for firewood and furniture
- Shares light quite well with other trees
- Needs a lot of sun



- Silver Maple



- 3-lobed leaf
- Lobes have 'V' shaped cut outs
- Have silver backs
- Fresh bark is silver
- Has helicopter seeds
- Can be used for furniture and for firewood
- Hard to split, but still useful
- Most common use is in yards for shade
 - Roots have a tendency to surface though



- Poison Ivy

- Leaves of three, let them be
- Berries white, poison in sight
- Hairy vines
- Leaves are toxic
- Inflammatory oil
 - Highest concentration in berries



- Gives dermatitis
- The oil is also concentrated in hairs

- Wild grape vine

- Have a tendency to have smaller grapes



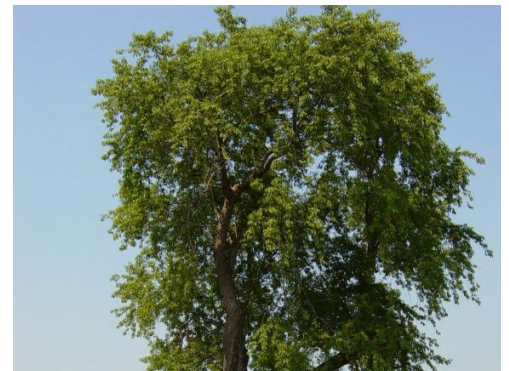
- Blackberries and Black Raspberry (shrub)

- Thorns
- Can get to be 5 or 6 foot tall
- Raspberries tend to have 3 leaves



- Black Cherry

- Also has cyanide in the pit of the cherry
- Cherries are very small, usually come out in June
- Reason for purple bird poop
 - Birds don't have the acid to break down the pit of the cherry
- Makes great firewood
- Splits well too
- Good furniture
- All cherries have lenticels
 - How they breathe
 - Actually trap pollution like a filter
- Flakey bark
 - Only cherry that does that



- Virginia Creeper

- 5 leaves, often mistaken for poison ivy by idiots
- Has purple berries, which are toxic
- No inflammatory

- Black Locust

- Thorns
- Primary succession Pioneers
- Grow 3 feet in one summer
- Locust is chalked full of arsenic
- Bad for farmers because they grow fast
- Makes an excellent fence post because animals won't eat the arsenic
- Very hard, they make sparks when you cut them with a chainsaw
- Has seed pods
- Compound pinnate leaves



(Random: There are hundreds of species of moss)

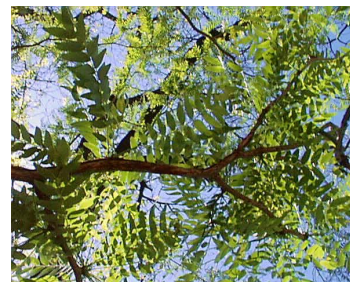
- Scotch Pine

- Not a very useful tree
- Trunks aren't straight, looks like it's been drinking too much scotch
- Newer bark is an orange color
- Needles come in bunches of 2
- Needles are a little twisted
- Only use is cheap Christmas trees and paper
- Has a lot of sap
- Don't live long (bug infestations, etc)
- Sap permanently stains clothes



- Honey Locust

- Has some thorns
- Has seed pods that make a real mess
- Sometimes used for shade trees, but not a real big canopy



- Asters

- Wild flower
- A lot of different colors



- Common Thistle

- Sticks to everything
- Barbs stick to things and get carried away to reseed
- Very invasive





- Gall

- Disease that trees grow around



- White Ash

- Under attack by the Emerald Ash Bore
 - So good at killing trees that could kill white ash within a couple of years
- Has a commercial use
 - Baseball bats
 - Flexes a little bit, but doesn't break
 - Most guys in professional baseball prefer white ash



- Hardy Catalpa

- Big heart-shaped leaves
- Seed pods



- Pin Oak

- Great shade
 - Really wide crown
- Slow grower, very hard wood
 - Grows quickly for an oak though
- Small acorns (hence pin)
- Main body of leaf is thin
- Not used much in furniture because of the many knots
- Branches droop down at bottom, can identify without approaching due to this fact



- Red Maple

- Leaves turn blood red in the fall
- One of the first trees to get leaves, buds are red
- Can be used for furniture and firewood
- Can get large
- Have 3 main lobes



- Goldenrod

- Wild flower (not as much pollen as people think)



- Queen Anne's Lace



- Mulberry



- Raspberry-like fruit
- Attracts a lot of birds
- Unique lobed leaf



- American Elm

- Toothed Leaves
- Leaves like sandpaper
- Leaf is lopsided. Elm is the only tree in Pennsylvania like that
- Very pollution tolerant
- Almost went extinct (Dutch Elm Disease)



- Milkweed

- Milk
- Monarchs



- Staghorn Sumac

- Unlike poison Sumac, doesn't irritate as badly
- Has fuzz that some people get a rash to
- Looks like it is velvet
- Red seed pods
- Doesn't get big
- Grows in wet areas



- Norway Maple

- The Canada Leaf
- Can look like the sugar maple, but milk comes out of stem when leaves are green and the lobes don't go down as far
- Good furniture, firewood and shade

- Fox-tail Grass (Pioneer)

- Invasive because of its seeds
- Barbs



- Jimson Weed
 - Toxic
 - Doesn't take much to kill a horse
 - Grows when top soil stinks



- Crowned Vetch
 - Animals don't eat it, but it grows invasively



- Multi-flora Rose
 - Wild rose
 - Yellow and white flowers
 - Fairly invasive



- Inkberry (Pokeweed)
 - Indians used to paint faces
 - Permanently stains clothes
 - Makes bird poop purple

- Sassafras
 - Leaves change shape
 - They make tea out of the leaves



- Black oak
 - Variable leaves
 - Some look like black oak, others look like red oak
 - Fatter leaves than the red oak
 - Bark on a black oak is very rough; while red oak has smooth patches
 - Acorns are also larger
 - Difficult to cut, but makes good furniture



- Norway Spruce
 - Three S Rule; Short, Sharp, Strong Needles



- Colorado Blue Spruce
 - Blue Color
 - Same as Norway outside of its color

