

# BALSAM FIR

(*Abies balsamea*)



## NORTHWEST MICHIGAN INVASIVE SPECIES NETWORK

*Protecting, enhancing, and promoting Northwest Michigan's natural communities through terrestrial invasive plant management and outreach.*



nautical2k

**Is balsam fir right for you?**



50-70 ft tall, 15-25 ft wide

To learn more about how you can help protect our wild places, visit [HabitatMatters.org](http://HabitatMatters.org)

## Key Features:



KP McFarland

### Cones

Cones stand upright on branches, then shatter when ripe, as is characteristic of fir trees.



US Department of Agriculture

### Needles

Dark, shiny green needles appear to lay flat, and grow up to 1" long.



Matt Reinbold

### Visitors to Explore

Provides cover and nesting to many birds. The ruffed grouse pictured eats the fir's needles, tips, and buds, accounting for about 10% of its fall and winter diet.

# WINTERBERRY/MICHIGAN HOLLY

(*Ilex verticillata*)



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dogtooth77

## Key Features:



John Beetham

### Flowers

In the late spring, small white flowers bloom. Bright red berries are produced in the late summer and persist into January.



SB Johnny

### Leaves

Leaves are simple and obovate with sharply double toothed margins.



Megan McCarty

### Visitors to Explore

Hosts this henry's elfin butterfly. Its berries are eaten by birds like the cedar waxwing and the American robin.

## Is winterberry right for you?



5-12 ft tall, 5-12 ft wide

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# TAMARACK/AMERICAN LARCH

(*Larix laricina*)



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Cindy Kilpatrick



Is American larch right for you?

40-80 ft tall, 15-30 ft wide



## Key Features:



Eli Sagor

### Cones

Seed cones are small, but the bold purple-pink color in spring makes up for the size!



F.D. Richards

### Needles

Needles are soft and bright green. Unlike most conifers, it drops needles in winter after a spectacular fall color.



Matt Reinbold

### Visitors to Explore

Hosts this larch silkmoth, as well as other lepidoptera like the Eastern pine elfin and the green larch looper.

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# WHITE OAK

(*Quercus alba*)



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Bob Gutowski



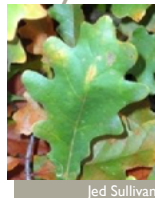
Is white oak right for you?



60-90 ft tall, 50-80 ft wide

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## Key Features:



Jed Sullivan

### Leaves

Leaves are simple and alternately arranged with round edges, in contrast with the pointy leafed red oak.



Dcrjsr

### Acorns

Acorns serve as a high quality food source for many mammals and birds.



Marvin Smith

### Visitors to Explore

Oaks are by far among the most valuable plants for wildlife, hosting over 500 moths and butterflies like this cecropia moth caterpillar.

# NORTHERN SPICEBUSH

(*Lindera benzoin*)



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Michaela Medina



### Is spicebush right for you?



5-15 ft tall  
8-15 ft wide

April-May



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## Key Features:



Tom Potterfield

### Flowers

One of the first shrubs to flower in spring, spicebush supports early pollinators--a great alternative to forsythia.



Cody Hough

### Fruits

Bright red fruits are produced in late summer. Male and female shrubs are needed for fruit production.



Lisa Brown

### Visitors to Explore

Hosts this spicebush swallowtail butterfly and its caterpillar! Fruits are high in the fats birds need for energy in fall and winter.

# STAGHORN SUMAC

(*Rhus typhina*)



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KingsbreaGarden



Is staghorn sumac right for your garden?



15-30 ft tall

June-July



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## Key Features:



Jon Hayes

### Flowers

Compact clusters of greenish-yellow flowers bloom from June to July.



Wayne National Forest

### Foliage

Alternate compound leaves 16-24 inches long, turning shades of red in early fall.



Harsh Patel

### Fruit

Fruit is produced on 3-4 year old plants maturing in Aug.-Sept., supplying food for birds, turkey, pheasants, quail and deer.