Medina County Park District

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Shagbark Hickory

Feeding all sorts of birds, squirrels, and other mammals with their plentiful nuts, shagbark hickories are named for the shaggy strips of bark that peel away from the tree. The bark also provides a protected place for insects to spend the winter.

Sycamore

The flaky, constantly shedding and regrowing bark of the sycamore clears away impurities that clog pores. This makes the trees better able to tolerate air pollution.

Tulip Poplar

Tulip poplars grow tall and straight sometimes reaching 60 feet before the first branches. The bark, arranged in long, vertical furrows is often pale, almost white, in the grooves and darker on the surface, especially in younger trees.

White Pine

White pines are the long-needled evergreens that are most common in this area. Native Americans dried the inner bark and ground it into flour.

American Beech

This smooth, light-colored bark is easy to spot. While many people carve into it, this can damage the tree allowing harmful insects and fungal diseases easier access to the softer inner layers of wood.

Sweet Cherry

Lenticels are the pores in bark through which trees exchange gasses. Sweet cherry lenticels are large and obvious making them easy to identify.

American Hornbeam

American hornbeams are known by many common names: blue beech for the smoothness of bark, ironwood for the hardness of wood, and musclewood for the sinewy bulges that give the bark a muscular appearance.

Black Cherry

Mature trees have a dark bark that peels up in rounded flakes looking similar to burnt potato chips. Chemicals in the bark have long been used to treat coughs and sore throats.