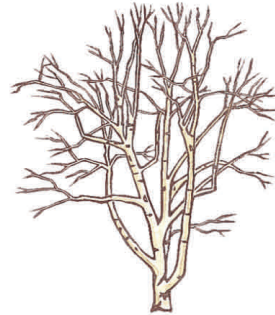




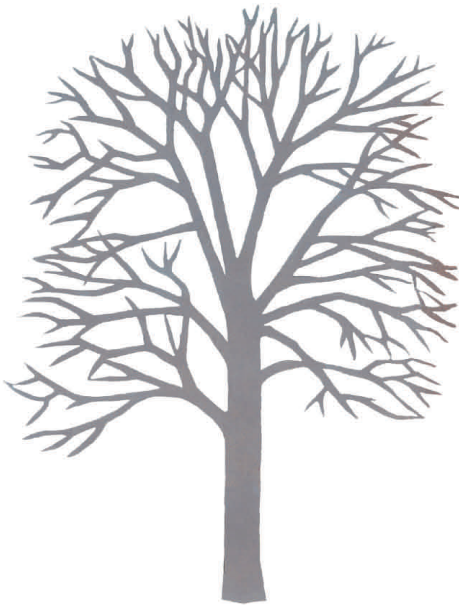
# Winter Trees | Identification



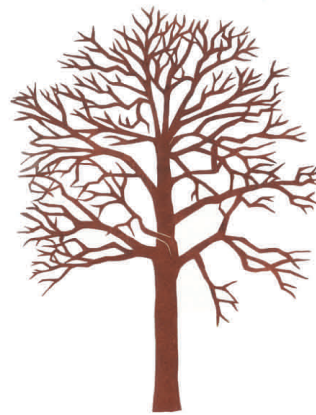
American beech



paper birch



yellow poplar



bur oak



Eastern hemlock



white spruce



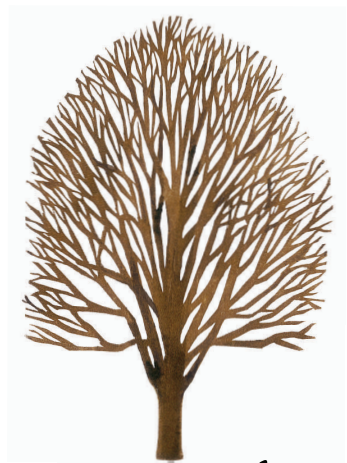
# Identifying Trees in the Winter



You can identify trees in winter by looking at the shapes formed by their trunks and bare limbs. Each type of tree has a distinct shape. A tree's bark, twigs, and inactive buds also help identify it in winter. Twigs are the tiny branches that bear buds. These buds can produce leaves, flowers, or both.

The trunks and branches of evergreen trees form distinct shapes, too. Evergreens are covered with thin, pointed leaves called needles. They hold on to their needles all year—making these trees “ever green.” Each kind of evergreen has its own color, length, and texture of needles. In spring, the buds on evergreen trees produce tiny branches. Small cones grow on the new branches of some evergreens. Other types on evergreens bear small seeds or berries.

Every tree goes through a similar cycle each year. In spring, new leaves or branches grow from buds. In summer the tree keeps growing. In autumn, leaves from many types of trees die and fall off. In winter, these trees become dormant, or inactive.



**sugar maple**