

Quick ID Points

Name	Code	Look for...	MY ID GUIDE
TREES			
Norway maple (<i>Acer platanoides</i>)	ACPL	Evenly ridged dark bark; white sap from leaf petioles; broad angle in winged fruit; dense shade & large leaves with 'U'-shaped sinuses between lobes. Leaves are often large and very pointy	
Tree-of-heaven (<i>Ailanthus altissima</i>)	AIAL	Long compound leaves with long pointed leaflets that have only a couple of lower lobes (not teeth); smooth grey bark; notable unpleasant odor; dense flower or winged fruit cluster at ends of branches	
*Japanese angelica tree (<i>Aralia elata</i>)	AREL	Very large, multiply-divided leaves that form flat layers; very nasty, sharply-prickled stem (<i>beware!!</i>)	
SHRUBS			
Barberry (<i>Berberis thunbergii</i>)	BETH	Small sharp thorns at each leaf-base (<i>beware!!</i>), dense small leaves with narrow base, bent-over stems	
Winged euonymus (<i>Euonymus alata</i>)	EUAL	Opposite leaves; corky 'wings' along the stems. The 2 leaves on the ends of branches look like rabbit ears!	
Multiflora rosa (<i>Rosa multiflora</i>)	ROMU	Compound <u>leaves</u> are alternate; leaflets of the leaf are opposite; leaflets are small. Look for stipules – leaf-like appendage at leaf-base – broad and fringed; Very thorny (<i>beware!!</i>)	
Wineberry (<i>Rubus phoenocolasius</i>)	RUPH	Arching stems have prominent reddish-purple dense hairs; 3-parted compound leaves (green above, white below). Looks thorny, but the 'prickles' are mostly sticky hairs	

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VINES			
Bittersweet (<i>Celastrus orbiculatus</i>)	CEOR	Very common; rounded shiny leaves with a pointed tip; twining around its support (no tendrils), clusters of flowers or fruits at leaf-bases.	
Japanese honeysuckle (<i>Lonicera japonica</i>)	LOJA	Opposite leaves; small, widely-spaced simple leaves on a thin woody stem; commonly running along the ground (rarely climbing in the forest except in light gaps), rarely in flower. Native species very unlikely to be seen.	
Mile-a-minute weed (<i>Polygonum perfoliatum</i>)	POPE	Herbaceous vine, forms dense growths over everything. Large triangular leaves, with the petiole attached in mid-leaf; down-pointing short barbs on the stem (<i>beware!!</i>)	
*Black swallow-wort (<i>Cynanchum louiseae</i>)	CYLO	Herbaceous vine; opposite long-pointed dark green leaves; clusters of dark purple flowers at the leaf-bases; pods like milkweeds (fall)	
HERB			
Garlic-mustard (<i>Alliaria petiolata</i>)	ALPE	Different growth form and leaves of 1 st and 2 nd -year plants. First year: low-growing rosette of roundish, heart-shaped leaves with coarse blunt teeth. 2nd-year: tall stem with round to triangular, coarsely-toothed leaves with heart-shaped bases; cluster of small white flowers or long thin pods at the top. Smells garlicky.	
GRASS			
Japanese Stiltgrass (<i>Microstegium vimineum</i>)	MIVI	A light green grass with a silver stripe down the center of the blade. The blades are usually less than 3" long but they are fairly wide for a grass and tapered at both ends. The plant is usually only a few inches high, because the stems lie horizontally. Stems look a bit like bamboo.	