

10. Green Ash - *Fraxinus pennsylvanica*  
The Green ash is a tree that can be found across much of the US as it tolerates a wide range of growing conditions. Sadly, they are a target of the emerald ash borer, a beetle native to northeastern Asia, decimating many trees. Interestingly, green ash is the wood from which most oars and paddles are made!

11. White Mulberry - *Morus alba*  
White mulberries are native to Asia; you can distinguish them from red mulberries from their glossy leaves.



*Elderberry fruit and leaf*

12. Elderberry - *Sambucus canadensis*  
Elderberry are shrubby plants that produce small purple berries. They are used medicinally as they help boost immune systems, though they are also used to make various food products like jellies and jams, wine, syrup, and more. However, the Elderberry is poisonous if not cooked before ingesting.

13. Boxelder Maple - *Acer negundo*  
These branchy trees have been cultivated for hundreds of years. Native Americans used their sap, though don't expect this maple species to be a prolific producer like its cousin the Sugar maple.

14. American Elm - *Ulmus americana*  
Once upon a time, the American elm was the premiere landscaping tree in the Eastern US due to its lovely shape and systemic crown which makes it a good shade tree.



*Water Oak leaf and acorn*

15. Water Oak - *Quercus nigra*  
The second of our oak trees, the Water oak is another generous provider for wildlife. Many of the animals that live in and pass through Woodlands Trail depend on the water oaks for food. Take note of their interesting leaf shape, they look like frog feet!



### About Woodlands Conservancy

Our mission is to preserve and restore wetlands and other historic or ecologically significant lands in Louisiana.

Woodlands Trail is located in Belle Chasse, about 10 miles from downtown New Orleans. Consisting of 11 miles of nature and horseback riding trails, the park is open from dawn to dusk, 7 days a week.

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## Upland Trail Guide

Woodlands Trail





3. Southern Magnolia - *Magnolia grandiflora*  
 With large, deep green, waxy leaves and beautiful white blossoms the Southern magnolia is a tough tree to miss. The Southern magnolia is both the state tree AND state flower of Mississippi.

5. Roughleaf Dogwood - *Cornus drummondii*  
 A popular choice for gardening, the Roughleaf dogwood is a small shrubby plant. Some people say the leaves smell slightly like sour milk!

7. Nuttall Oak - *Quercus texana* - The Nuttall oak is one of three oak species you come across on your walk. It is a favorite tree among landscapers as it is tolerant of many conditions and is an excellent shade tree. Here at Woodlands Trail, it has a high wildlife value as it produces lots of acorns, a favorite among squirrels and other small mammals.



Cypress frond



Sugarberry leaf

6. Bald Cypress - *Taxodium distichum*  
 The state tree of Louisiana, the bald cypress is a common fixture in Louisiana imagery. They are impossible to miss with their buttressed base and knobby knees. Cypress wood is also water and rot resistant, making it an ideal material for building. In fact, many of the homes in New Orleans were constructed with Bald cypress wood.

8. Hackberry (Sugarberry) - *Celtis laevigata* - Hackberry (or sugarberry) is very common tree found along the trail. They produce a small pea-sized 'drupe' (fruit), that provides food for many birds, racoons, deer, and even people.



Red Mulberry leaf and fruit

9. Red Mulberry - *Morus rubra*  
 Red mulberry is our only native mulberry tree. They are prolific fruit producers.

Follow along the Upland Trail, starting on the side closest to the Parking area.



Live Oak Acorns

1. Live Oak - *Quercus virginiana*  
 New Orleans just wouldn't be New Orleans without the picturesque Live oaks! Live oaks got their name from remaining evergreen through the winter, while other oak species are dormant. They have a large taproot which can absorb 50 gallons or more of water each day!

2. Water Tupelo - *Nyssa aquatica*  
 Water tupelo are beautiful, almost Dr. Seuss like trees with a swollen base that quickly narrows through the trunk. They typically grow in floodplains and swamps in the Southeastern US. In the fall their leaves fade to striking yellow color!



Seeds of Red Maple

4. Swamp Red Maple - *Acer rubrum*  
 Another water loving tree often found in swamps, the Swamp red maple is a large tree reaching a height of 80 feet. They produce winged seeds that twirl as they fall giving them the nickname "helicopters" or "whirligigs".

