



A



B



C



D

NATURE TRAILS TREE TRUNK TREASURE HUNT

How many trees can you find?
Try to identify them
using the bark and hints
provided on the back.



NORTH CAROLINA
BOTANICAL
GARDEN



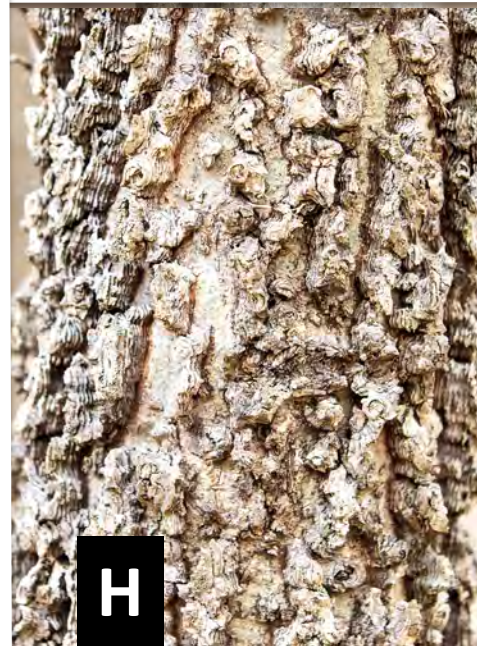
E



F



G



H

A LOBLOLLY PINE

- Reddish-brown bark
- Bark is furrowed and forms large scaly plates
- Needles ~7 inches long, usually in groups of 3
- Cones larger than those of Shortleaf Pine; branches straighter

B AMERICAN SYCAMORE

- Mature trunks have rough gray scales near the base
- Look up to see peeling green, brown, and white bark (looks like a camouflage pattern)
- Ball-like fruit
- Slender, zig-zag twigs

C SOURWOOD

- Small to medium tree
- Trunks usually lean, an adaptation to finding light in the forest
- Rugged bark is gray with red tinges in the furrows
- Spikes of white flowers/brown fruits at twig tips

D FLOWERING DOGWOOD

- Small tree; wood is dense and hard
- Bark breaks up into small square-ish blocks
- Berries are valuable wildlife food
- State flower of NC

Bark is critical to a tree's survival and can often be used to identify to species. It can vary with age and height on the trunk.

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Hope you had fun on your Tree Trunk Treasure Hunt!

E AMERICAN HORNBEAM

- Small tree; bark is smooth, gray, fluted
- Also known as musclewood (looks muscular) and ironwood (hard wood)
- Leaves are oval; double-toothed

F AMERICAN BEECH

- Large tree; smooth, gray bark (often with patches of lichen)
- Sadly, the bark is sometimes defaced with carvings
- Pale, dried leaves often remain on twigs through winter

G SHORTLEAF PINE

- Bark is broken into large, flat, scaly plates
- Look closely for small (pencil point) resin pockets in bark
- Needles are ~3.5 inches; groups of 2-3
- Look up – branches are curved, contorted

H HACKBERRY

- Older trunks have gray bark with conspicuous warty knobs
- Fruit is an important food source for squirrels and many birds (also the host plant for several species of butterflies)