

odor. The leaves are compound with three small leaflets that are slightly lobed at the tip. Its clusters of berries are red and covered with fine hairs.



Chittamwood

(*Bumelia lanuginosa*) Its clustered leaves are long and slightly oval. The leaf undersides are covered with small rusty hairs. Chittamwood berries are purple to black in color and are relished by wildlife by wildlife and people alike. Another name for this tree is Gum Bumelia. The sap, or “gum” that exudes from cuts in the trunk was sometimes chewed like gum.



Green Ash (*Fraxinus pennsylvanica*) The Green Ash is uncommon in the park, found mainly along sloughs that are periodically flooded. This tree can reach 70 feet in height. Its dark-green, shiny leaves are opposite and compound with 5-9 leaflets. Green Ash is often used in shelter beds and as a shade tree.



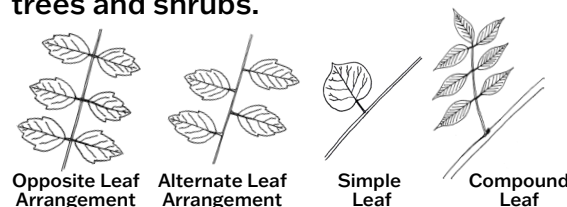
Common Trees and Shrubs of Quartz Mountain State Park



Quartz Mountain State Park
43393 Scissortail Rd
Lone Wolf, OK 73655
Phone (580)563-2238
www.TravelOK.com

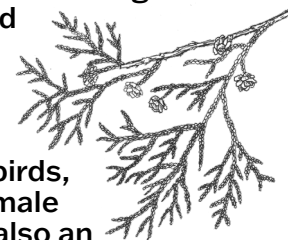
OKLAHOMA
STATE PARKS

This is a guide to the trees and shrubs found at Quartz Mountain. While many of these are found throughout Oklahoma, several are restricted to this portion of the state because of the specific growing conditions found here. Illustrations of leaf characteristics will help you to identify Quartz Mountain's trees and shrubs.



Eastern Red Cedar (*Juniperus virginiana*)

The only true evergreen species that is found in the park, easily identifiable by its “leafy” needles. Tiny bluish berries, important food for birds, are found on the female trees. Red cedar is also an important shelter tree for wildlife. It can be found throughout the park.



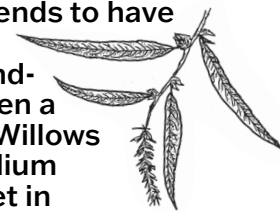
Eastern Cottonwood (*Populus deltoides*)

The cottonwood is one of our largest trees, reaching heights of 50-80 feet. Its leaves, triangular in shape with coarse teeth, make a characteristic rattling sound in the wind. Cottonwoods are fast-growing trees that prefer areas with moist soils, thus they are found growing along the lakeshore.



Willow (*Salix* sp.) Two species of willow can be found in the park; **Black Willow** (*Salix nigra*) and **Sandbar Willow** (*Salix exigua*) Both have long, narrow, lance-shaped leaves of 1.5-5 inches in length.

The Black Willow tends to have very fine teeth on the leaf edges. Sandbar Willows are often a shrub while Black Willows can become a medium sized tree of 50 feet in height. Both species grow in moist soil and are important in preventing erosion along the lakeshore.



Pecan (*Carya illinoensis*)

This nut tree is at the western edge of its range here at Quartz Mountain. It can be found growing at the base of the mountains, in some of the campgrounds. Pecans are large, fast-growing trees. Their slightly curved leaves have 9-17 leaflets and are 4-7 inches long. The nuts are an important commercial crop in Oklahoma as well as food for wildlife.



Post Oak (*Quercus stellata*)

This small tree is the most common tree in the park and is found on the mountains and flatlands. Its leaves are dark green and deeply lobed, often forming a cross, and leathery in texture. The branches are frequently twisted, giving the tree a gnarled appearance. Post Oak acorns mature their first year and are an important wildlife food source in autumn.



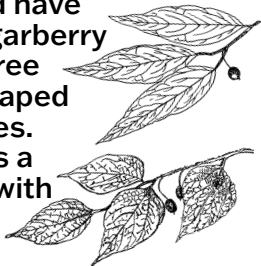
Texas Live Oak (*Quercus virginiana*)

The Texas Live Oak is a tree that is

unique to southwest Oklahoma. Its small oval leaves are dark green, leathery, and have dense hairs on the underside. Live Oak leaves also have no lobes and their edges are often rolled under slightly. The name of the tree derives from the fact that the leaves stay on the tree through the winter, replaced by new leaves in the spring, thus appearing “live.”



Hackberry (*Celtis* sp.) The park has two similar members of the hackberry family; the **Sugarberry (*Celtis laevigata*)** and the **Netleaf Hackberry (*Celtis reticulata*)**. A good characteristic of both species is the bark which has large corky warts. This is particularly obvious on the trunk of the tree. Another similarity occurs in the leaves which tend to be rough in texture and have few to no teeth. Sugarberry is a medium-sized tree with broad lance-shaped leaves of 2.5-4 inches. Netleaf Hackberry is a shrub or small tree with slightly triangular leaves, with raised veins. Both species produce a berry that is important to wildlife.



American Elm (*Ulmus americana*) This vase-shaped tree can be found along the base of the mountains and other areas where moist soil occurs. The American elm has dimple, alternate oval-shaped leaves that are rough in texture and have double teeth. These leaves also have very short stems (or petioles) which are frequently uneven at the base.



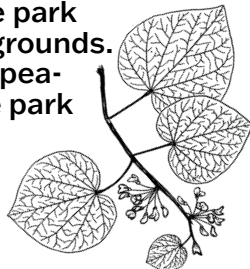
Red Mulberry (*Morus rubra*) The leaves, both lobed and unlobed, have very coarse teeth along their edges, and the stem, when broken, exudes a milky sap. Red mulberries produce a long blackberry-like berry that is red, turning black when ripe. These fruits are relished by many wildlife species.



Chickasaw Plum (*Prunus angustifolia*) This thicket-forming shrub, which grows in sandy soil (it is also called “Sand Plum”) is one of the first to bloom in the spring. Its fragrant white flowers are an early source of pollen and nectar for honeybees. Chickasaw plums have small lance-shaped leaves with tiny teeth and twigs that are often armed with spines. The familiar red fruits are eaten by wildlife species and collected by people to make “Sand Plum Jelly.”

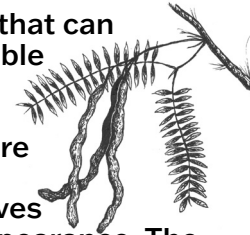


Eastern Redbud (*Cercis canadensis*) Oklahoma’s state tree, is uncommon in this part of the state, although few are found along the park roads and in the campgrounds. Its beautiful dark pink, pea-like flowers provide the park with its first glimpse of spring color. Redbuds can also be recognized by their broad heart-shaped, long stemmed leaves. The zigzag pattern of the twigs can also aid in identification.



Honey Mesquite (*Prosopis glandulosa*) Originally unique to southwest Oklahoma, the mesquite is

a shrub or small tree that can form semi-impenetrable thickets. The leaves, compound with two sets of 7-17 leaflets, are very narrow and fine, which causes the leaves to have a feathery appearance. The twigs are armed with long spines. The Mesquite flowers are light yellow and grow in long cluster, and are an important source of honey. The pods are eaten by livestock and wildlife. Mesquite is mainly found in the flatland areas of the park.



Black Locust (*Robinia pseudoacacia*) Black Locust is found on the park’s North Shore. It is a fast-growing tree that spreads rapidly by root sprouts. The leaves are compound with 7-19 leaflets. The flowers, which grow in drooping clusters of 4-8 inches, attract honeybees who, in turn, produce honey from the nectar. Black Locust originally grew only in eastern Oklahoma, but spread across the state when used in shelter-belts or as erosion control.



Common Hoptree (*Ptelea trifoliata*) Hoptree is a shrub or small tree with a compound leaf composed of three stalk-less leaflets. These leaflets are elliptical in shape with either fine teeth or no teeth on the leaf edges. When crushed, the leaves have a strong odor of citrus. Hoptrees prefer the drier rocky slopes of the park. The fruits were once used as a



substitute for hops in brewing beer, hence the name “Hoptree.”

Smooth Sumac (*Rhus glabra*) This common shrub is found along roadsides throughout the park. Its long 1-1.5 foot compound leaves are large upright clusters of red berries make this plant easy to identify. This species of sumac is often mistaken for its relative, Poison Sumac. The berries of Smooth Sumac are eaten by birds and can be made into a drink similar to pink lemonade. In the fall, this shrub turns scarlet red, giving the park a dash of brilliant color.



Western Soapberry (*Sapindus drummondii*) The Soapberry is the first of our trees to turn color in the fall, dotting the park with patches of yellow-gold. It grows mainly in areas of moist soil and prefers the park’s flatlands. Soapberry has alternate compound leaves with 10-11 lance-shaped leaflets that are slightly curved. The berry, when ripe, is yellowish-orange and is clear. It is poisonous, and was used to make a soap-like substance by Indians.



Skunkbush (*Rhus aromatica*) Skunkbush is a common shrub seen in the open rocky areas of the park. It often grows in thickets and does indeed have a faintly skunky