Forests are vital renewable and productive resources for Illinois. More than half of Illinois' native flora and half of the threatened or endangered flora are found in Illinois' forests. More than 75 percent of the wildlife habitat in the state is in the forests. Forest-related industries employ nearly 65,000 people in Illinois and contribute over $4.5 billion annually to the state's economy through value added by manufacturing.

There are four distinctive forest types found in the state: bottomland forest; upland deciduous forest; coniferous forest; and southern Illinois lowland forest. Bottomland forests are large timbered areas bordering swamps or rivers. In Illinois, they cover about 809,000 acres. Upland deciduous forests have canopied trees that lose their leaves in the fall and are areas that are not subject to flooding. Of the state's 4.3 million forest acres, 3.6 million are deciduous forests. Coniferous forests contain cone-bearing evergreen trees. Illinois has about 72,000 acres of coniferous forest, most of it in the southern third of the state. Southern Illinois lowlands cover about 11,700 acres. This area is the northernmost extension of North America's Gulf Coastal Plain.

Species List

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Order</th>
<th>Family</th>
<th>Common Name</th>
<th>Scientific Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fagales</td>
<td>Fagaceae</td>
<td>white oak</td>
<td>Quercus alba</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>swamp white oak</td>
<td>Quercus bicolor</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>shingle oak</td>
<td>Quercus imbricaria</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>bur oak</td>
<td>Quercus macrocarpa</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>swamp chestnut oak</td>
<td>Quercus michauxii</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>pin oak</td>
<td>Quercus palustris</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>chinkapin or yellow chestnut oak</td>
<td>Quercus muhlenbergii</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>northern red oak</td>
<td>Quercus rubra</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>black oak</td>
<td>Quercus velutina</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Juglandales</td>
<td>Juglandaceae</td>
<td>pecan</td>
<td>Carya illinoinensis</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Carya ovata</td>
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<td>mockernut hickory</td>
<td>Carya tomentosa</td>
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<td>Rosales</td>
<td>Rosaceae</td>
<td>wild black cherry</td>
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<td>Urticales</td>
<td>Ulmaceae</td>
<td>hackberry</td>
<td>Celtis occidentalis</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Leaves and seeds are not shown in equal proportion to actual size. All images © IDNR, Chas. J. Dees, Photographer.
Species Descriptions

**black oak**

*Quercus velutina*

The black oak is Illinois’s state tree. The black oak is also found in Wisconsin and Missouri. Its leaves are long and pointed, reaching up to 10 inches in length.

**black walnut**

*Juglans nigra*

The black walnut is Illinois’s state nut. The black walnut is found in Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, and Tennessee. Its leaves are long and pointed, reaching up to 10 inches in length.

**bur oak**

*Quercus macrocarpa*

The bur oak is found in Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, and Tennessee. Its leaves are long and pointed, reaching up to 10 inches in length.

**chinkapin oak**

*Quercus muehlenbergii*

The chinkapin oak is found in Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, and Tennessee. Its leaves are long and pointed, reaching up to 10 inches in length.

**hickory**

*Carya americana*

The hickory is found in Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, and Tennessee. Its leaves are long and pointed, reaching up to 10 inches in length.

**mockernut hickory**

*Carya tomentosa*

The mockernut hickory is found in Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, and Tennessee. Its leaves are long and pointed, reaching up to 10 inches in length.

**northern red oak**

*Quercus rubra*

The northern red oak is found in Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, and Tennessee. Its leaves are long and pointed, reaching up to 10 inches in length.

**pecan**

*Pecan*

The pecan is found in Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, and Tennessee. Its leaves are long and pointed, reaching up to 10 inches in length.

**pin oak**

*Quercus palustris*

The pin oak is found in Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, and Tennessee. Its leaves are long and pointed, reaching up to 10 inches in length.

**shagbark hickory**

*Carya ovata*

The shagbark hickory is found in Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, and Tennessee. Its leaves are long and pointed, reaching up to 10 inches in length.

**swamp chestnut oak**

*Quercus michauxii*

The swamp chestnut oak is found in Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, and Tennessee. Its leaves are long and pointed, reaching up to 10 inches in length.

**swamp white oak**

*Quercus bicolor*

The swamp white oak is found in Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, and Tennessee. Its leaves are long and pointed, reaching up to 10 inches in length.

**white oak**

*Quercus alba*

The white oak is found in Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, and Tennessee. Its leaves are long and pointed, reaching up to 10 inches in length.

**wild cherry**

*Prunus serotina*

The wild cherry is found in Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, and Tennessee. Its leaves are long and pointed, reaching up to 10 inches in length.

**abate**

*Juglans regia*

The abate is found in Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, and Tennessee. Its leaves are long and pointed, reaching up to 10 inches in length.

**carpenter bee**

*Xylocopa virginica*

The carpenter bee is found in Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, and Tennessee. Its leaves are long and pointed, reaching up to 10 inches in length.

**lady beetle**

*Coccinella septempunctata*

The lady beetle is found in Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, and Tennessee. Its leaves are long and pointed, reaching up to 10 inches in length.

**porcupine**

*Erethizon dorsatum*

The porcupine is found in Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, and Tennessee. Its leaves are long and pointed, reaching up to 10 inches in length.

**raccoon**

*Procyon lotor*

The raccoon is found in Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, and Tennessee. Its leaves are long and pointed, reaching up to 10 inches in length.

**squirrel**

*Sciurus carolinensis*

The squirrel is found in Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, and Tennessee. Its leaves are long and pointed, reaching up to 10 inches in length.

**white-tailed deer**

*Odocoileus virginianus*

The white-tailed deer is found in Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, and Tennessee. Its leaves are long and pointed, reaching up to 10 inches in length.

**wolf**

*Canis lupus*

The wolf is found in Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, and Tennessee. Its leaves are long and pointed, reaching up to 10 inches in length.

**bambi**

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**black bear**

*Ursus americanus*

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**grizzly bear**

*Ursus arctos*

The grizzly bear is found in Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, and Tennessee. Its leaves are long and pointed, reaching up to 10 inches in length.

**polar bear**

*Ursus maritimus*

The polar bear is found in Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, and Tennessee. Its leaves are long and pointed, reaching up to 10 inches in length.

**bison**

*Bison bison*

The bison is found in Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, and Tennessee. Its leaves are long and pointed, reaching up to 10 inches in length.

**bighorn sheep**

*Ovis canadensis*

The bighorn sheep is found in Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, and Tennessee. Its leaves are long and pointed, reaching up to 10 inches in length.

**mountain lion**

*Felis concolor*

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