









Leaves Around Us

A **riparian forest** consists of trees that are next to a stream or river. **Sidecut Metropark** is next to the **Maumee River**, so it is a riparian forest!











Although there are many variations, all trees use their leaves to eat. Since they don't eat food, they make their own! Energy from sunlight is transformed by the green leaves into a simple sugar in a process called **photosynthesis**.

Below are some of the tree species you will find in the riparian forest at Sidecut Metropark Research what these trees look like and focus on their leaves. Match the tree name to the picture of each tree and leaf. Then, go on a scavenger hunt and try to find all of these tree species.









Tree list: River Birch, Hickory, Serviceberry, Sycamore, American Beech, Eastern Redbud, Black Gum, Black Cherry, Aspen, Ohio Buckeye, Black Walnut, Pin Oak.

| Name Of Tree | Picture of Tree | Picture of Leaf |
|--------------|---|---|
| 1. |  |  |
| 2. |  |  |
| 3. |  |  |



| | | |
|----|---|---|
| 4. |  |  |
| 5. |  |  |
| 6. |  |  |
| 7. |  |  |
| 8. |  |  |



| | | |
|-----|---|---|
| 9. |  |  |
| 10. |  |  |
| 11. |  |  |
| 12. |  |  |

Answer Key: 1. Black Gum, 2. Aspen, 3. Black Walnut, 4. Sycamore, 5. American Beech, 6. Pin Oak, 7. Hickory, 8. River Birch, 9. Serviceberry, 10. Eastern Redbud, 11. Black Cherry, 12. Ohio Buckeye