

ROCK CREEK PARK PLANT & WILDLIFE LIST
PEIRCE MILL AREA

Smithsonian Associates Nature/History Hikes
with Melanie Choukas-Bradley,
Author of *A Year in Rock Creek Park*, *City of Trees*,
Finding Solace at Theodore Roosevelt Island
& forest bathing books
October 19, 20, 21, 2021

Woody Plants (*Non-Natives)
Trees unless identified as Shrub or Vine

<i>Acer negundo</i>	Box-Elder or Ash-Leaved Maple
<i>Acer platanoides</i>	Norway Maple*
<i>Acer rubrum</i>	Red Maple
<i>Acer saccharum</i>	Sugar Maple
<i>Acer saccharinum</i>	Silver Maple
<i>Ailanthus altissima</i>	Ailanthus or Tree of Heaven*
<i>Albizia julibrissin</i>	Mimosa or Silk-Tree*
<i>Amelanchier</i>	Shadbush or Serviceberry
<i>Asimina triloba</i>	Pawpaw
<i>Betula nigra</i>	River Birch
<i>Carpinus caroliniana</i>	American Hornbeam, Ironwood or Musclewood
<i>Carya cordiformis</i>	Bitternut Hickory
<i>Carya glabra</i>	Pignut Hickory
<i>Carya illinoensis</i>	Pecan (planted)
<i>Carya ovata</i>	Shagbark Hickory (planted)
<i>Carya laciniosa</i>	Shellbark Hickory (planted)
<i>Carya tomentosa</i> (<i>C. alba</i>)	Mockernut Hickory
<i>Catalpa speciosa</i>	Northern Catalpa (native to the midwest; naturalized)
<i>Cercis canadensis</i>	Redbud
<i>Cornus florida</i>	Flowering Dogwood
<i>Diospyros virginiana</i>	Persimmon
<i>Euonymus alatus</i>	Winged Euonymus or Burning Bush* (invasive shrub)
<i>Euonymus americanus</i>	Strawberry-Bush or Heart's-a-Bustin' (shrub)
<i>Fagus grandifolia</i>	American Beech
<i>Fraxinus americana</i>	White Ash
<i>Fraxinus pennsylvanica</i>	Green Ash
<i>Hamamelis virginiana</i>	Witch-Hazel (shrub or small tree with yellow late- autumn flowers)
<i>Hydrangea arborescens</i>	Hydrangea, Wild (shrub)
<i>Ilex opaca</i>	American Holly

<i>Juglans nigra</i>	Black Walnut
<i>Juniperus virginiana</i>	Eastern Red-Cedar, Virginia Juniper
<i>Kalmia latifolia</i>	Mountain Laurel (evergreen shrub)
<i>Lindera benzoin</i>	Spicebush (shrub)
<i>Liquidambar styraciflua</i>	Sweetgum (planted near Peirce Mill & Milkhouse Ford)
<i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i>	Tulip-Tree (Tulip Poplar)
<i>Lonicera maackii</i>	Maack's Honeysuckle* (invasive shrub)
<i>Magnolia grandiflora</i>	Southern Magnolia (planted)
<i>Magnolia macrophylla</i>	Bigleaf Magnolia (naturalized from the south)
<i>Magnolia tripetala</i>	Umbrella Magnolia
<i>Malus spp.</i>	Apples and Crabapples (young trees in orchard)
<i>Morus alba</i>	White Mulberry*
<i>Nyssa sylvatica</i>	Tupelo (Black or Sour Gum)
<i>Ostrya virginiana</i>	Hop-Hornbeam
<i>Paulownia tomentosa</i>	Paulownia, Princess or Empress Tree*
<i>Pinus echinata</i>	Shortleaf Pine
<i>Pinus rigida</i>	Pitch Pine
<i>Pinus strobus</i>	White Pine
<i>Pinus taeda</i>	Loblolly Pine
<i>Pinus virginiana</i>	Scrub or Virginia Pine
<i>Platanus occidentalis</i>	Sycamore
<i>Prunus serotina</i>	Black Cherry
<i>Pyrus communis</i> cultivars	Pears (Bartlett & Anjou)* (young trees in orchard)
<i>Quercus alba</i>	White Oak
<i>Quercus bicolor</i>	Swamp White Oak (possibly planted)
<i>Quercus coccinea</i>	Scarlet Oak
<i>Quercus falcata</i>	Southern Red Oak
<i>Quercus lyrata</i>	Overcup Oak (probably planted)
<i>Quercus michauxii</i>	Swamp Chestnut Oak or Basket Oak (planted)
<i>Quercus montana</i>	Chestnut Oak
(<i>Q. prinus</i>)	
<i>Quercus palustris</i>	Pin Oak
<i>Quercus phellos</i>	Willow Oak (possibly planted)
<i>Quercus rubra</i>	Northern Red Oak
<i>Quercus stellata</i>	Post Oak
<i>Quercus velutina</i>	Black Oak
<i>Rhodotypos scandens</i>	Jetbead* (shrub)
<i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i>	Black Locust
<i>Sassafras albidum</i>	Sassafras
<i>Smilax glauca</i>	Glaucous Greenbrier (vine with persistent leaves)
<i>Smilax rotundifolia</i>	Greenbrier, Common
<i>Staphylea trifolia</i>	Bladdernut (large shrub or small tree)
<i>Taxodium distichum</i>	Bald-Cypress (planted)
<i>Tilia americana</i>	American Basswood or Linden
<i>Toxicodendron radicans</i>	Poison-Ivy (vine or shrub)
(<i>Rhus radicans</i>)	

<i>Ulmus americana</i>	American Elm
<i>Vaccinium pallidum</i>	Lowbush Blueberry (shrub)
<i>Viburnum acerifolium</i>	Maple-Leaved Viburnum (shrub)
<i>Viburnum dentatum</i>	Arrowwood Viburnum (shrub)
<i>Viburnum prunifolium</i>	Blackhaw Viburnum (shrub or small tree)

Invasive Woody Vines

<i>Ampelopsis brevipedunculata</i>	Porcelain-Berry*
<i>Celastrus orbiculatus</i>	Oriental Bittersweet*
<i>Lonicera japonica</i>	Japanese Honeysuckle*
<i>Euonymus fortunei</i>	Climbing Euonymus*
<i>Clematis terniflora</i>	Japanese Virgin's Bower* (herbaceous or slightly woody)

Invasive Herbaceous Plants

<i>Polygonum cuspidatum</i> (<i>Reynoutria japonica</i>)	Japanese Knotweed* (3-angled fruit; shrub-like)
<i>Perilla frutescens</i>	Perilla, Beef-Steak Plant*

Wildflowers

<i>Chimaphila maculata</i>	Striped or Spotted Wintergreen (evergreen; small dry fruits now)
<i>Epifagus virginiana</i>	Beechdrops (parasitic plant; beech roots)
<i>Epigaea repens</i>	Trailing Arbutus (evergreen; blooms in early spring)
<i>Mitchella repens</i>	Partridgeberry (evergreen; red berries)
<i>Phytolacca americana</i>	Pokeweed or Pokeberry (purple-black berries)
<i>Verbesina alternifolia</i>	Wingstem (late summer blooms; round clusters of flat dry fruits)
& other <i>Asteraceae</i> spp.	Asters, Goldenrods, Eupatoriums, Bidens, White Snakeroot
<i>Oenothera biennis</i>	Evening-Primrose (yellow flowers; small capsules)

Evergreen Ferns

<i>Polypodium virginianum</i>	Common Polypody (Rock Polypody)
<i>Polystichum acrostichoides</i>	Christmas Fern

Selected Wildlife of Rock Creek Park (many other species in residence)

Beaver, Muskrat, Red Fox, Gray Fox, Coyote, White-Tailed Deer, Raccoon, Opossum, Eastern Cottontail, Gray Squirrel, Southern Flying Squirrel, Eastern Chipmunk, and other mammals. Spring Spawning Fish: Herrings—Alewife, Blue-Back Herring (both anadromous), Gizzard Shad (lives in Potomac), hope for

return of Hickory and American Shad (both anadromous). Snapping Turtle, Eastern Box Turtle, Eastern Painted Turtle (and other species), Northern Water Snake (and other species), Barred and Screech- Owls, Wood Duck, Mallard Duck, Belted Kingfisher, Wild Turkey, Great Blue Heron, Red-Shouldered, Red-Tailed and Cooper's Hawks, Bald Eagle, Woodpeckers, American Robin, Eastern Bluebird, Northern Cardinal, Carolina Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, White-Breasted Nuthatch, Carolina Wren, and many other birds. (Many species of songbirds that nest in Rock Creek Park have migrated south for the winter.)