

SALEM RECREATION

# EARTH DAY SCAVENGER HUNT BINGO

## CT NATIVE PLANTS



White Oak Tree



Bluets



White Birch Tree



Red Twig Dogwood



Skunk Cabbage



American Beech



Musclewood



Shagbark Hickory



Summersweet Clethra



Mountain Laurel



Flowering Dogwood



Sassafras



Trout Lily



Wild Blue Lupine



Beach Plum



Nannyberry



Sugar Maple Tree



Switch Grass



Ostrich Fern



Spreading Sedge



Hobblebush



Butterfly Milkweed



Eastern Red Cedar Tree



Pinxterbloom Azalea

Hunt for native plants and show us you found the plant by taking a selfie, grabbing a leaf, drawing a flower, or...! Find 5 in a row to win a prize!

**Submit by Monday, May 20.** Prizes will be available on or after Monday, May 27 at the Annual Memorial Day Parade & Ceremony or Town Hall



**Skunk Cabbage**  
(Wildflower)

Heat-producing inflorescence plant with oblong, ovate leaf blades and unpleasant smell, attracting flies and other insects. Purple, hooded flowers with hidden stalk covered with numerous petal-less blossoms. Grows in wet areas.

**Fun Fact:** Honeybees may use them as a place to warm up



**Red Twig Dogwood**  
(Shrub)

Tall shrub with flat, umbrella-like cluster of small 4 or 5 petaled white flowers and oval leaves with prominent veins that gently curl and bright red stems. Simple, smooth leaf blades and fleshy fruit with thin, smooth bark. Red stems and blueish fruits.



**White Birch Tree**  
(Deciduous Tree)

Fast growing trees with white, chalky, exfoliating bark. Alternate, ovate, simple leaves with pointed tip and paler underside. Male catkins (flowers) droop down and female catkins sit upright.

**Fun Fact:** Peeling off too much white birch bark can kill the tree



**Bluets**  
(Perennial)

Small, delicate plant grown in compact tufts, sometimes covering broad expanses. Tiny pale blue flowers with yellow centers, tubular, four-lobed, solitary and terminal with spatula-shaped leaves in basal rosettes and small unbranched stems.

**Fun Fact:** Flowers are edible!



**White Oak Tree**  
(Deciduous Tree)

Irregular, wide-spreading branches with white or light gray, flaky bark. Leaves have 5-9 rounded lobes with dull, blue-green mature leaves and yellow-green flowers and elongated acorns with bowl-like, bumpy cap.

**Fun Fact:** The White Oak is Connecticut's State Tree!



**Mountain Laurel**  
(Evergreen Shrub)

Round, light pink to white, clustered flowers with elliptic, alternate, leathery, glossy evergreen leaves on long, narrow stems. All parts of the plant are poisonous.

**Fun Fact:** Mountain Laurel is the state flower of Connecticut and Pennsylvania.



**Summersweet Clethra**  
(Deciduous Shrub)

Multi-stemmed shrub with many fragrant pink, white, or rose flowers and glossy green to dark green, oval-shaped leaves with serrated margins and dark brown seed pods.

**Fun Fact:** Attracts bees, butterflies and hummingbirds and are deer and rabbit resistant.



**Shagbark Hickory**  
(Deciduous Tree)

Alternating deep yellow-green elliptical leaves with 5, sometimes 7, leaflets and serrated leaf margins with apple aroma when crushed. Bears rounded, edible nuts with thick shell. Old, gray-brown bark shags into long, strongly recurved plates



**Musclewood**  
(Deciduous Tree)

Slow-growing, understory tree with globular form and smooth, gray trunk. Larger branches of mature trees exhibit distinctive muscle-like fluting. Serrated, elliptic-oval, dark green leaves

**Fun Fact:** Wood was once used to make bowls, tool handles and ox yokes by early Americans



**American Beech Tree**  
(Deciduous Tree)

Wide-spreading, short-trunked tree with simple, alternate, glossy, dark green leaves with prominent veins and serrated leaf margins. Smooth, gray wrinkled bark. Flowers in April/May.

**Fun Fact:** Provides food and nesting sites for birds, insects, and small animals



**Wild Blue Lupine**  
(Perennial Wildflower)

Upright, elongated clusters of purple, pea-like flowers on an erect stem with palmately compound leaves divided into 7-11 leaflets.

**Fun Fact:** Also known as "sundial lupine" because it's leaves can rotate up to 90° to track the sun



**Trout Lily**  
(Perennial Wildflower)

Occurs in moist woodlands. Gray-green leaves mottled with brown or gray that look like the markings on brook trout. Solitary and nodding flower with 6 recurved, yellow lanceolate tepals composed of 3 petals and 3 petal-like sepals.

**Fun Fact:** Some colonies are 200 to 300 years old



**Common Sassafras**  
(Deciduous Shrub or Tree)

Alternately arranged, medium green, spicy smelling leaves with zero to three lobes, blunted tips and smooth margins and small clusters of yellow flowers and dark blue berry-like cluster of fruits in red cups on red stalk with deeply furrowed red-brown bark with flat, corky ridges.



**Flowering Dogwood**  
(Deciduous Tree)

Horizontal branching tree with simple, oval to ovate, green leaves with large, flattened, small, yellowish green flowers with four white bracts followed by bright, shiny, oval-shaped tightly clustered red fruits. Dark gray, brown or black alligator-like bark and reddish-purple twigs.



**Ostrich Fern**  
(Deciduous Fern)

Tall, green sterile fronds emerge at base of plant as "fiddleheads" and unfurl until they depreciate over the summer and lose their leaflets in the fall. Found in moist soils in shady areas.

**Fun Fact:** Ferns do not flower and spread through its rhizomes or roots.



**Switch Grass**  
(Perennial Grass)

Drought-tolerant grass with flowers attached to branches. Forms dense columnar foliage clump that slowly spreads. Bluish cast in summer and topped by finely-textured, pink-tinged, branched flower panicles

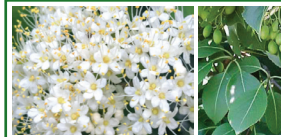
**Fun Fact:** Has extreme flammability rating



**Sugar Maple Tree**  
(Deciduous Tree)

Large shade tree with dense branching and medium to dark green foliage with 5-lobes and small yellowish green flowers and a pair of winged seeds. Mature bark fashions thick, irregular, recurved plates with clear sap.

**Fun Fact:** It takes 40 gallons of sap to make 1 gallon of syrup



**Nannyberry**  
(Deciduous Shrub)

Large, upright, multi-stemmed shrub with reddish- to grayish-brown bark and small, non-fragrant flowers with 5 whitish petals in flat-topped cluster. Small round blue-black drupes. Long-pointed, oval, finely toothed, glossy dark green leaves. Grows in wet soil along borders of the forest.



**Beach Plum**  
(Deciduous Shrub)

Rounded, multi-stemmed shrub with dark green, glossy, oblong leaves with simple, finely toothed leaf blades and horizontal bands of lenticles along stems and 5-petaled white flowers in small clusters and edible drupes.

**Fun Fact:** Fruit can be used to make jam; seeds are poisonous.



**Pinxterbloom Azalea**  
(Deciduous Shrub)

Dense, bushy shrub with smooth, simple, elliptic bright green leaves alternately arranged with pale pink flowers with 4 lobes and long stamens sticking out of corolla in clusters of 5 to 16 flowers in May.

**Fun Fact:** Attracts butterflies and hummingbirds and toxic to dogs, cats, and horses



**Eastern Red Cedar Tree**  
(Evergreen Tree)

Dense with broadly pyramidal or columnar shape, often fluted at base. Gray-green to blue-green or dark green fragrant, scale-like foliage, turning brown-green in winter. Female trees produce round, blackish-green berry-like cones with waxy coating.



**Butterfly Milkweed**  
(Perennial Wildflower)

Large, flat-topped clusters of yellow-orange to bright orange 5-petaled flowers at top of flowering stem with mostly alternate, pointed, smooth-edged dark green leaves and clear latex.

**Fun Fact:** Milkweed is the only host plant for monarch caterpillars and butterflies



**Hobblebush**  
(Deciduous Shrub)

Finely toothed, opposite, heart-shaped leaves with prominent veins and rounded lobes. Flat-topped clusters of fragrant white flowers maturing into clusters of scarlet to ripe deep purple berries.

**Fun Fact:** Edible berries taste like raisins or dates and may be eaten raw or cooked



**Spreading Sedge**  
(Perennial Grass)

Separate male and female spikes. Upper, erect spikes on short, stiff stalks with lower spikes drooping on slender spikes. Basal and alternate leaves on lower, floppy stem with rough edges and translucent whitish stem leaf sheaths. Often found in wet soil of seeps or next to streams.