

My Saratoga County Nature Guide

Name _____

Date _____



Saratoga County
4-H School Outreach
Learning by Doing

American Beaver State Animal of NY

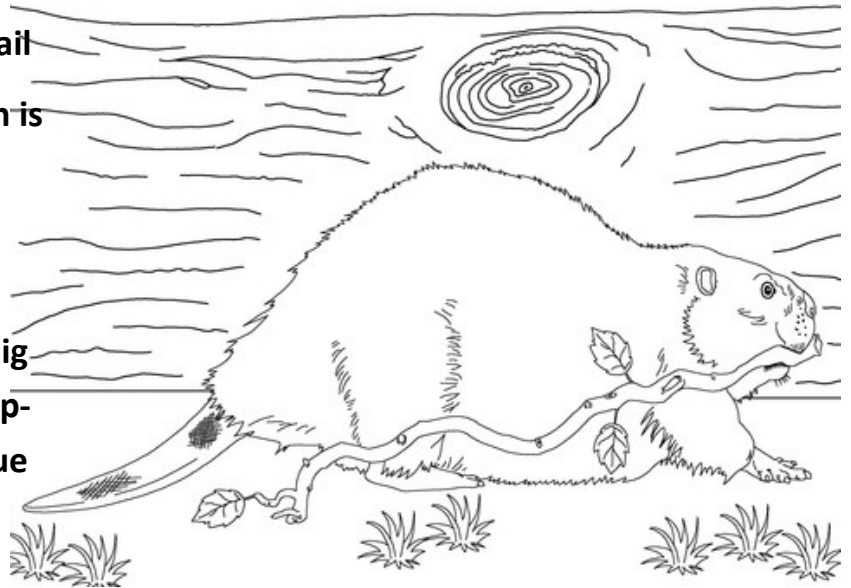
Weight between 26 and 65 pounds

Length 25 to 35 inches from head to tail

They eat tree bark and cambium, which is the outer layer of wood in a tree.

Beavers help wetlands.

Wetlands are ecosystems that act as big water filters by trapping debris from upstream and letting clean water continue downstream.



<http://www.supercoloring.com/coloring-pages/north-american-beaver-with-branch>



The Eastern Chipmunk is a small, brown, burrow-dwelling squirrel.

They are omnivores whose diet is mostly seeds, nuts and other fruits, and buds. Also eat insect and more.

Length 5 to 6 inches long

It has 2 tan and 5 blackish stripes down its back and 2 tan and 2 brownish stripes on each side of its face.

The tail is 3 to 4 inches long and is hairy but not bushy.

Chipmunks are most active during the early morning and late afternoon.

Eastern Chipmunk

<http://www.supercoloring.com/coloring-pages/chipmunk-eating-nut-on-tree-stump>

Eastern Bluebird State Bird of NY

Sounds and information

https://www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/Eastern_Bluebird

On line coloring pages

<http://www.supercoloring.com/coloring-pages/eastern-bluebird-pair>



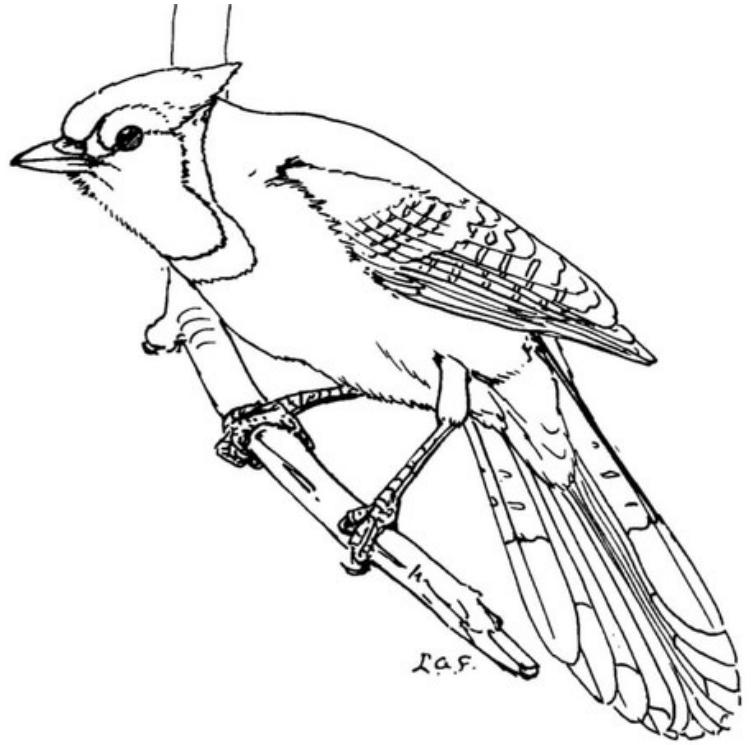
Blue Jay

Sounds and information

https://www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/Blue_Jay/

On line coloring pages

<http://www.supercoloring.com/coloring-pages/blue-jay>



On line coloring pages

<http://www.supercoloring.com/pages/black-capped-chickadee-songbird>

Sounds and information

https://www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/Black-capped_Chickadee

Black Capped Chickadee

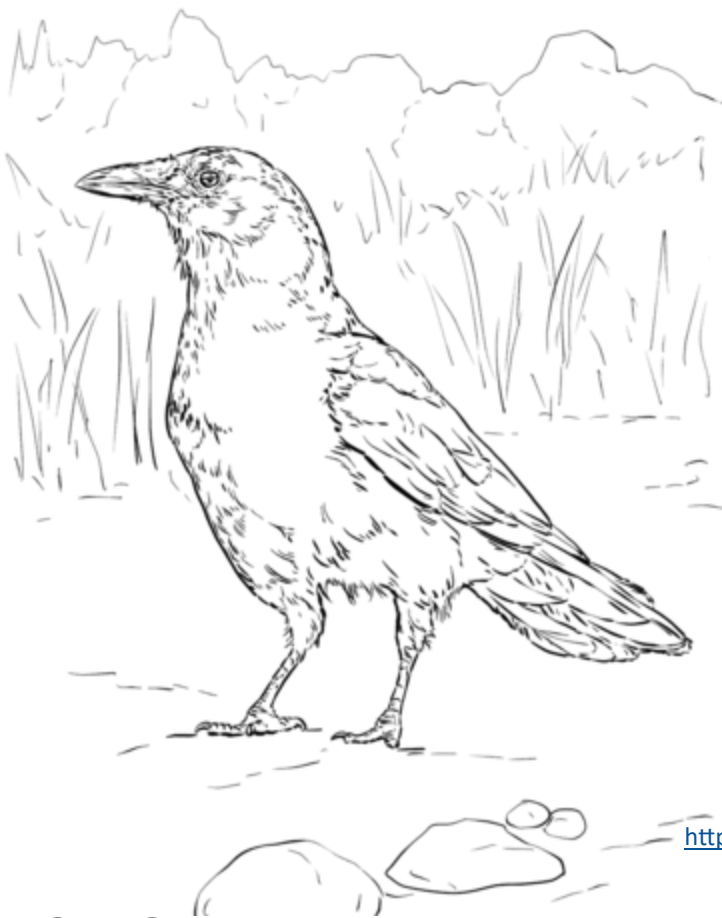
American Robin

Sounds and information

https://www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/american_robin

On line coloring pages

<http://www.supercoloring.com/coloring-pages/robin-in-flower-garden>



On line coloring pages

<http://www.supercoloring.com/coloring-pages/realistic-american-crow>

Sounds and information

https://www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/American_Crow

American Crow

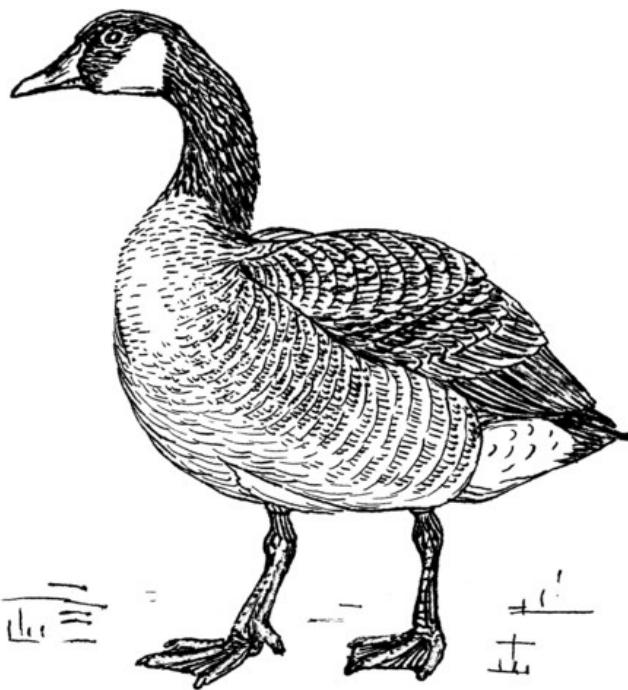
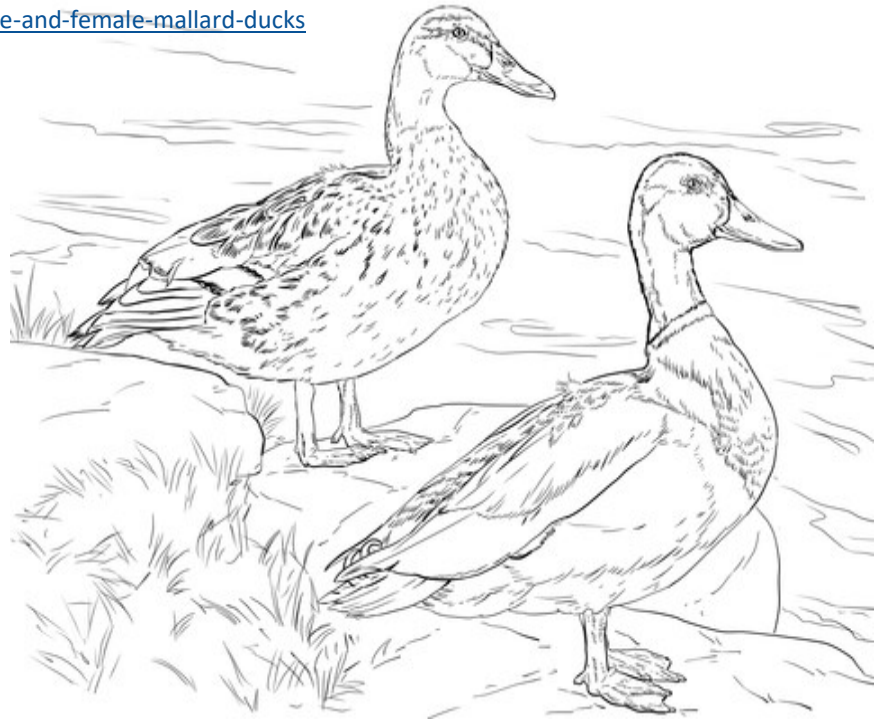
Mallard Ducks

Sounds and information

<https://www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/Mallard>

On line coloring pages

<http://www.supercoloring.com/coloring-pages/male-and-female-mallard-ducks>



On line coloring pages

<http://www.supercoloring.com/coloring-pages/canada-goose>

Sounds and information

https://www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/Canada_Goose

Pileated Woodpecker

Sounds and information

https://www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/Pileated_Woodpecker

On line coloring pages

<http://www.supercoloring.com/coloring-pages/pileated-woodpecker>



Downy Woodpecker

6 inches

Sounds and information

https://www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/Downy_Woodpecker

On line coloring pages

<http://www.supercoloring.com/coloring-pages/downy-woodpecker>



**These lookalikes
are boldly
patterned black-
and-white birds.**

**Downy is about the size of a House Sparrow, while
the Hairy is about the size of a robin.**

Hairy Woodpecker

9 inches

Sounds and information

https://www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/hairy_woodpecker

On line coloring pages

<http://www.supercoloring.com/coloring-pages/hairy-woodpecker>



White (Paper) Birch

On line coloring pages

<http://www.supercoloring.com/coloring-pages/white-birch>

Deciduous— (lose leaves in fall)

60 feet tall

Lifespan up to 40-50 years

Develops a smooth white bark that curls and peels (once mature).

Produces brown or green catkins in April and May. Small seeds that are smooth and oval, nestled between two wings .

White-tailed deer, Snowshoe Hares , Beavers, Voles, Shrews, Redpolls, Siskins and Chickadees use these trees as a food source.



Deciduous— (lose leaves in fall)

Lifespan 200 to 300 years

Diameter of 2 or more feet

60 to 80 feet tall

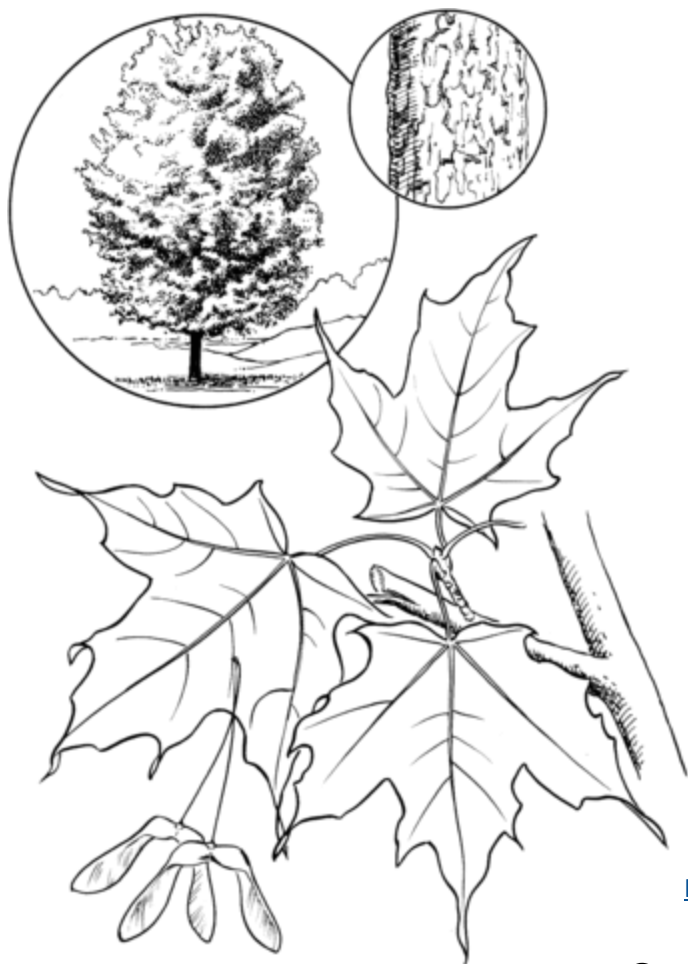
One of more than 100 species of maple trees

40 gallons of sap to produce one gallon of maple syrup.

Sugar maples are important to a variety of wildlife. Deer, moose, squirrels, and other animals feed on the seeds, buds, twigs, and bark, and many birds and animals find shelter in the trees' large, dense canopy.

On line coloring pages

<http://www.supercoloring.com/coloring-pages/sugar-maple-tree>



White Oak

On line coloring pages

<http://www.supercoloring.com/coloring-pages/white-oak>

Deciduous— (lose leaves in fall)

Height –80-100

3-4 feet in diameter

Lifespan up to 500-600 years!!

The acorns are one of the best sources of food for wildlife and are gathered, hoarded and eaten .Leaf buds also are eaten by several bird species, and all parts of the tree are a favorite food for deer.



Deciduous— (lose leaves in fall)

Height –60-75 feet

Lifespan up to 200 to 400 years.

Acorns from this tree are at the top of the food list for blue jays, wild turkeys, squirrels, small rodents, whitetail deer, raccoons and black bears. Deer also browse the buds and twigs in wintertime.

On line coloring pages

<http://www.supercoloring.com/coloring-pages/northern-red-oak>

Red Oak

Eastern White Pine

On line coloring pages

<http://www.supercoloring.com/coloring-pages/eastern-white-pine>

Conifer (produces cones with seeds

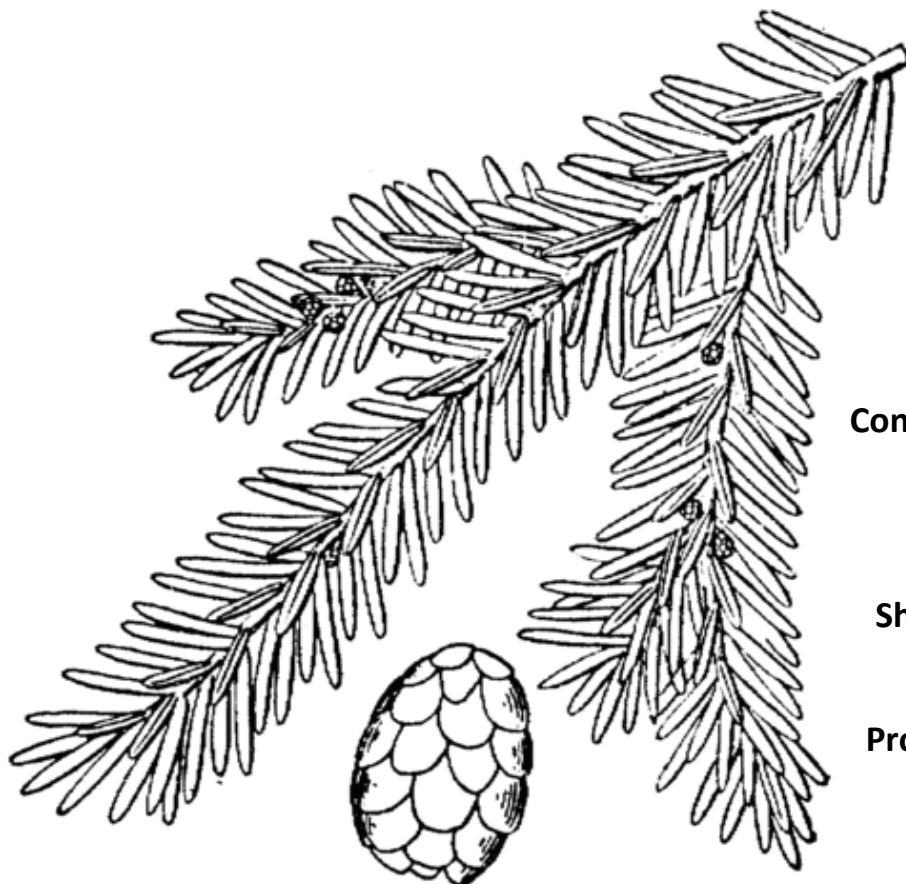
Evergreen (green all year)

**Provides valuable wildlife food and
winter shelter .**

height of 50–80

Lifespan easily 200 years in age

**Eastern White Pine the tallest tree
species in New England—and reach a
diameter of up to 40 inches.**



Conifer (produces cones with seeds)

Evergreen (green all year)

Lifespan 250-300 years

**Short, flat, blunt, flexible needles,
about 1/2 inch long.**

**Provides valuable wildlife food and
winter shelter**

On line coloring pages

<http://www.supercoloring.com/coloring-pages/eastern-hemlock-or-canadian-hemlock-tree>

Eastern Hemlock

Mosses are important because they help regulate water in the **forest** ecosystem by slowly absorbing and releasing rainfall while keeping nutrients in place.

Mushrooms are food for insects, turtles, birds, mice, squirrels, and deer. During winter periods, highly nutritious mushrooms can make up for loss of nutrients in deer's native forage.

A **fallen tree** gets filled with fungi and insects. As the tree decomposes, nutrients are recycled into the soil .

Insects, salamanders, snakes, mice, and shrews seek hide and live in rotting logs. Skunks, bears, and woodpeckers repeatedly return to these cafeterias for a quick and easy meal.

A **burl** is a large woody, rounded swelling, usually found on a tree trunk.

Often, the **stone walls** divided working fields , as stones were dug up when being plowed. The rocks found in this area are generally ones left behind during glacial melt.

There are many **large boulders** left by glacial melt that litter the ground throughout the area as well. They are called glacial erratics.

A **lichen**, is actually two organisms acting as one. Lichens are a fungus living with alga. Each has something the other needs. There are about 17,000 species of lichen worldwide.

The kind in the pictures is Foliose - leaf like, with flat sheets of tissue not tightly bound.

This Nature Guide can be printed or used online.

You will find information and links about many of the things you will see while participating in the Saratoga County Trail Challenge.

If you are unable to print, online coloring is available at the link provided.

Links to the bird information can be accessed on your smart phone so that you can hear bird sounds while you are outside.

Throughout the virtual (printable) field guide, click on the links to hear the bird sound before you go on your hike.

If you hear the bird on the Bingo sheet, it counts.

Check back each week for a new Bingo Challenge!