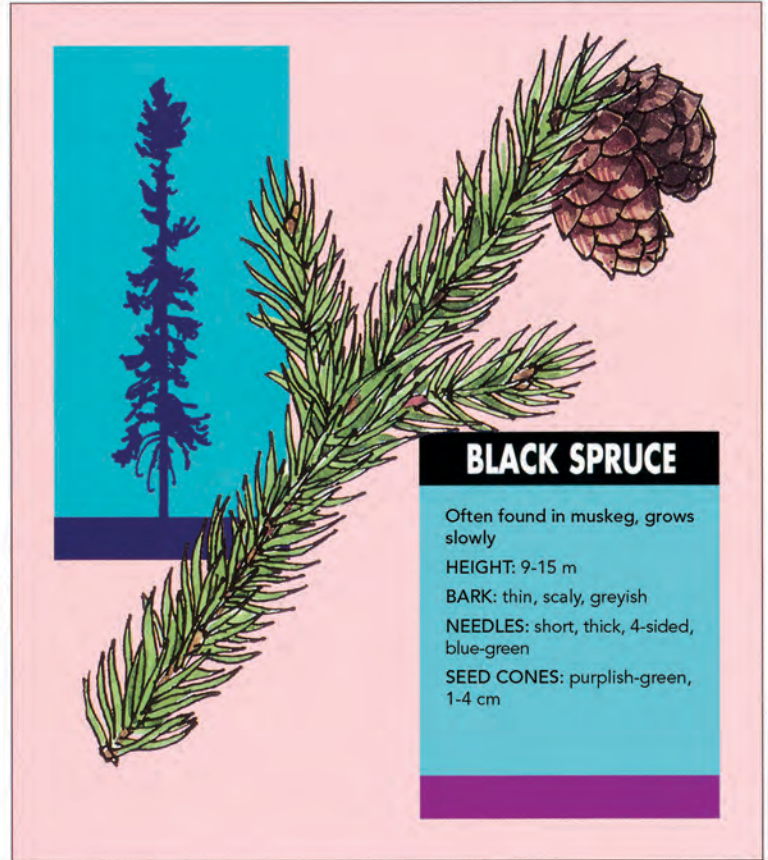


COMMON ALBERTA TREES



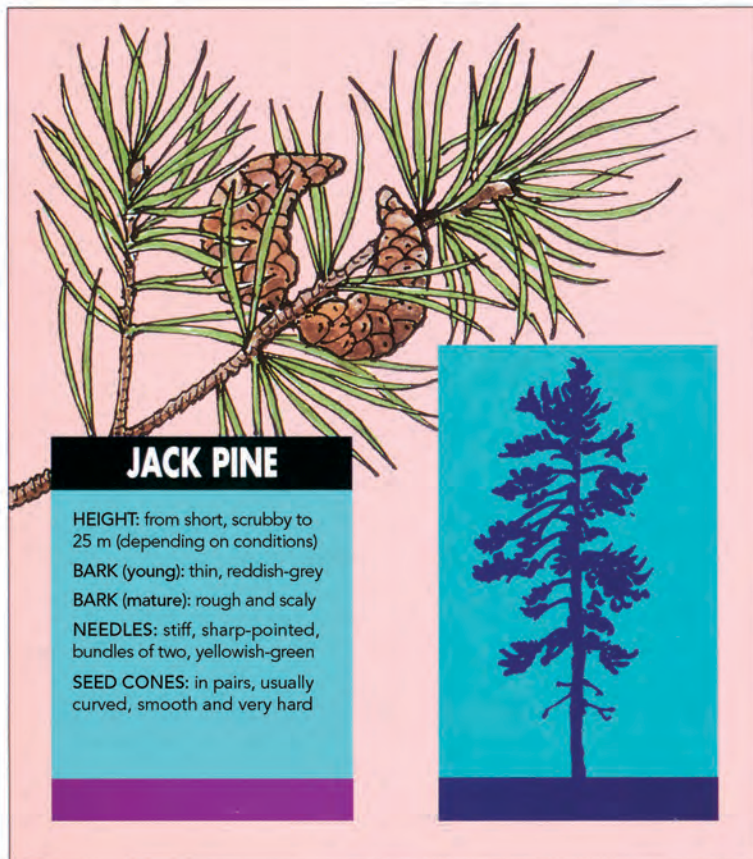
ASPEN POPLAR

HEIGHT: up to 30 m
BARK (young): smooth, whitish
BARK (mature): rough, dark-grey
BUDS: terminal bud sharp, pointed, buds dark brown
LEAVES: alternate, simple, oval, sharp-pointed, fine-rounded teeth
FLOWERS: inconspicuous, small in dense catkins



BLACK SPRUCE

Often found in muskeg, grows slowly
HEIGHT: 9-15 m
BARK: thin, scaly, greyish
NEEDLES: short, thick, 4-sided, blue-green
SEED CONES: purplish-green, 1-4 cm



JACK PINE

HEIGHT: from short, scrubby to 25 m (depending on conditions)
BARK (young): thin, reddish-grey
BARK (mature): rough and scaly
NEEDLES: stiff, sharp-pointed, bundles of two, yellowish-green
SEED CONES: in pairs, usually curved, smooth and very hard



WHITE SPRUCE

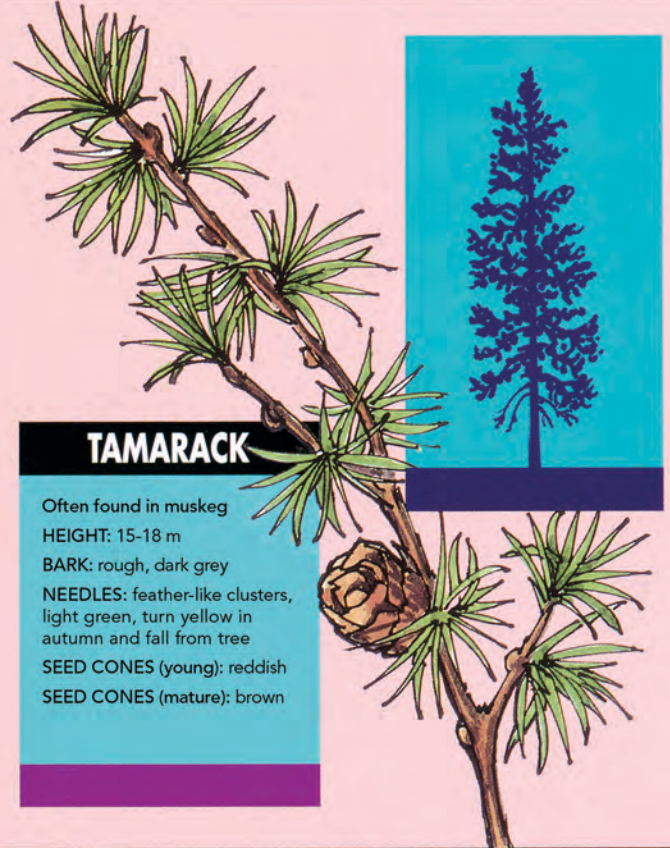
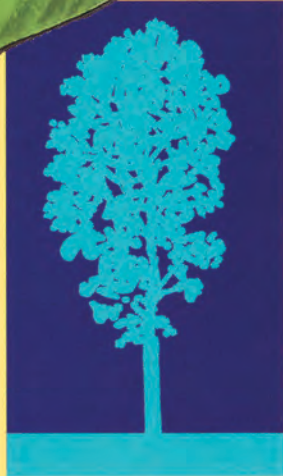
HEIGHT: large tree, up to 45 m
BARK: rough, scaly, brownish to silver-grey
NEEDLES: rough, 4-sided, stiff, sharp, bright green
SEED CONES: usually at the end of young twigs, brown

COMMON ALBERTA TREES



BALSAM POPLAR

HEIGHT: up to 21 m
BARK: dark grey, rough, deeply furrowed
BUDS (winter): large and curved, with sticky, balsam-smelling gum
LEAVES: alternate, simple, oval or heart-shaped, sharp pointed
FLOWERS: inconspicuous, small in dense catkins



TAMARACK

Often found in muskeg
HEIGHT: 15-18 m
BARK: rough, dark grey
NEEDLES: feather-like clusters, light green, turn yellow in autumn and fall from tree
SEED CONES (young): reddish
SEED CONES (mature): brown



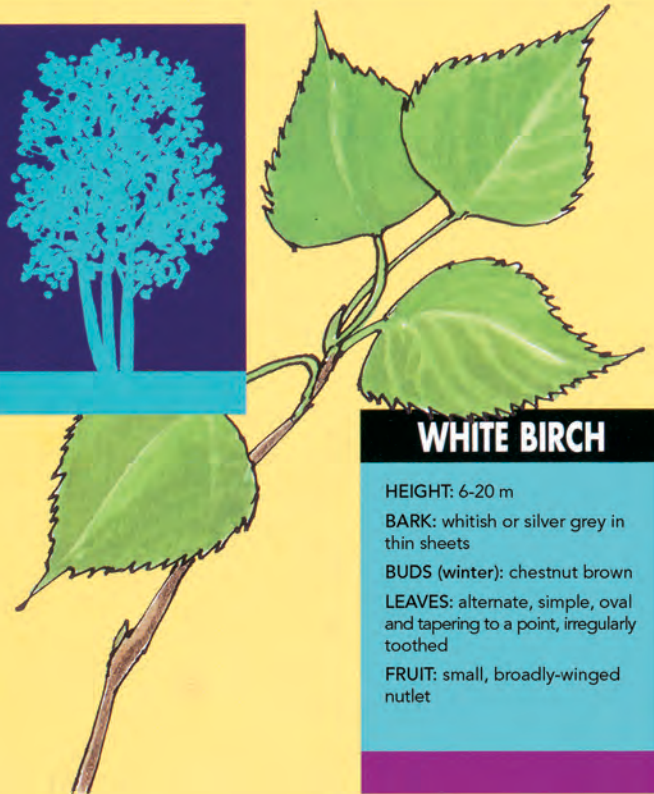
LOGEPOLE PINE

Alberta's provincial tree
HEIGHT: 30 m or more
BARK: thin, yellowish-brown, somewhat scaly
NEEDLES: bundles of two, in clusters near end of the branch
SEED CONES: cone-shaped, woody, yellowish-brown

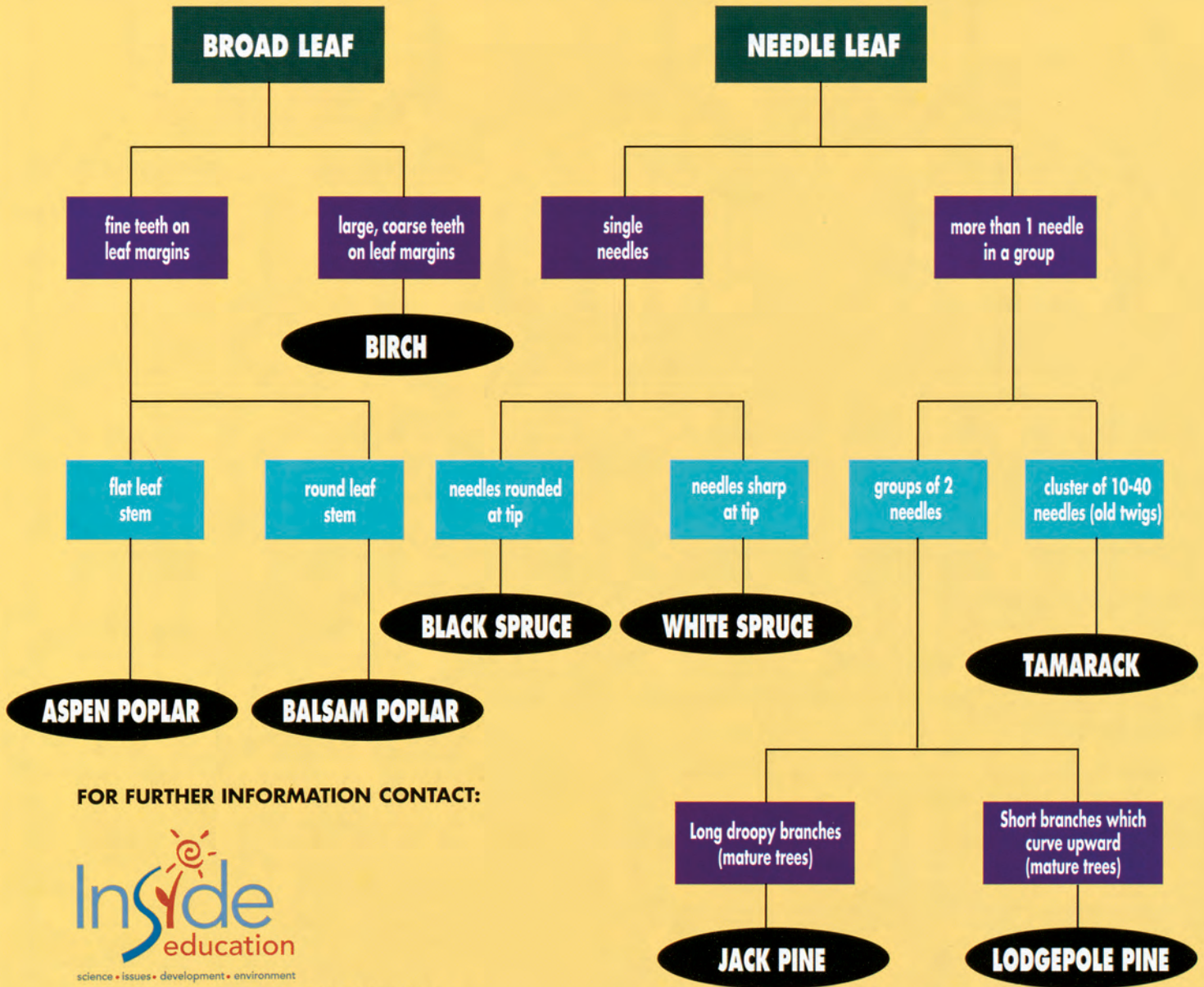


WHITE BIRCH

HEIGHT: 6-20 m
BARK: whitish or silver grey in thin sheets
BUDS (winter): chestnut brown
LEAVES: alternate, simple, oval and tapering to a point, irregularly toothed
FRUIT: small, broadly-winged nutlet



A TREE KEY OF COMMON NATIVE ALBERTA TREES



FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:



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FOREST REGIONS OF ALBERTA



- Boreal Forest** – “The Great Northern Forest” is the world’s largest terrestrial (land-based) ecosystem. This *circumpolar* forest is fire-dominated, meaning that many of the species and ages of the trees are heavily influenced by forest fires. Common species to this forest include white and black spruce, trembling aspen (aspen poplar) and jack pine.
- *Montane Forest** – This forest occurs on east-west trending ridges that extend out from foothills. The landscape is characterized by a pattern of open forests and grasslands. Chinook winds are common in the area, making it occasionally snow-free in the winter. Common species to this forest include Douglas-fir, lodgepole pine, ponderosa pine and trembling aspen.
- *Alpine/Subalpine Forest**
Subalpine – This region occurs between the Montane and the alpine forest. Freezing temperatures occur in each month, and winter precipitation is highest here. Common species to this region include Engelmann spruce, alpine fir and lodgepole pine
Alpine – Includes vegetated areas, bare rocks, snowfields and glaciers above the treeline. Few trees exist here as it is the coldest region and much of it has no soil.
- Aspen Parkland** – The Aspen Parkland Region forms a broad transition zone between the hotter, dry grasslands to the south and the cooler, moist forests to the north. It exists only in the prairie provinces of Canada. The vegetation found in this region reflects this transition - it consists of an unstable mix of fairly dry grasslands and moist aspen forests.

(*Adapted from Alberta Environmental Protection, *Natural Regions Report #1: A Framework for Alberta’s Special Places*. 1994.)

Forest Regions of Canada

Forest Regions

- Boreal - Predominately Forest
- Boreal - Forest and Barren
- Boreal - Forest and Grass
- Subalpine
- Montane
- Coast
- Columbian
- Deciduous
- Great Lakes - St. Lawrence
- Acadian
- Grasslands
- Tundra

Principal Tree Species

- White spruce, black spruce, balsam fir, jack pine, white birch, trembling aspen
- White spruce, black spruce, tamarack
- Trembling aspen, willow
- Engelmann spruce, alpine fir, lodgepole pine
- Douglas-fir, lodgepole pine, ponderosa pine, trembling aspen
- Western red cedar, western hemlock, Sitka spruce, Douglas-fir
- Western red cedar, western hemlock, Douglas-fir
- Beech, maple, black walnut, hickory, oak
- Red pine, eastern white pine, eastern hemlock, yellow birch, maple, oak
- Red spruce, balsam fir, maple, yellow birch
- Trembling aspen, willow, bur oak

