

Pennypack Trust ReForester Arboretum Guide

About: The Arboretum contains living tree specimens of the most common species you will encounter in your ReForester plots. They will be tagged with blue flagging and yellow tags to signify they are Arboretum specimens. Examine the trees and learn the features that aid in their identification, not only in the summer, but in the Winter as well. This resource is designed exclusively for ReForesters, so we will not be advertising its existence to other groups to limit foot traffic off-trail.

Location: Wood's Edge Trail, Pennypack Ecological Restoration Trust, 2955 Edge Hill Rd..

Park at the Edge Hill Rd Pennypack Trust parking lot. Walk over towards Edge Hill Rd and to the right, you will find the beginning of Wood's Edge Trail which runs along the fence line on Edge Hill Rd that continues down to the Huntingdon Rd stop sign. The tagged trees are on the first half of this trail and most will require you to step off trail.

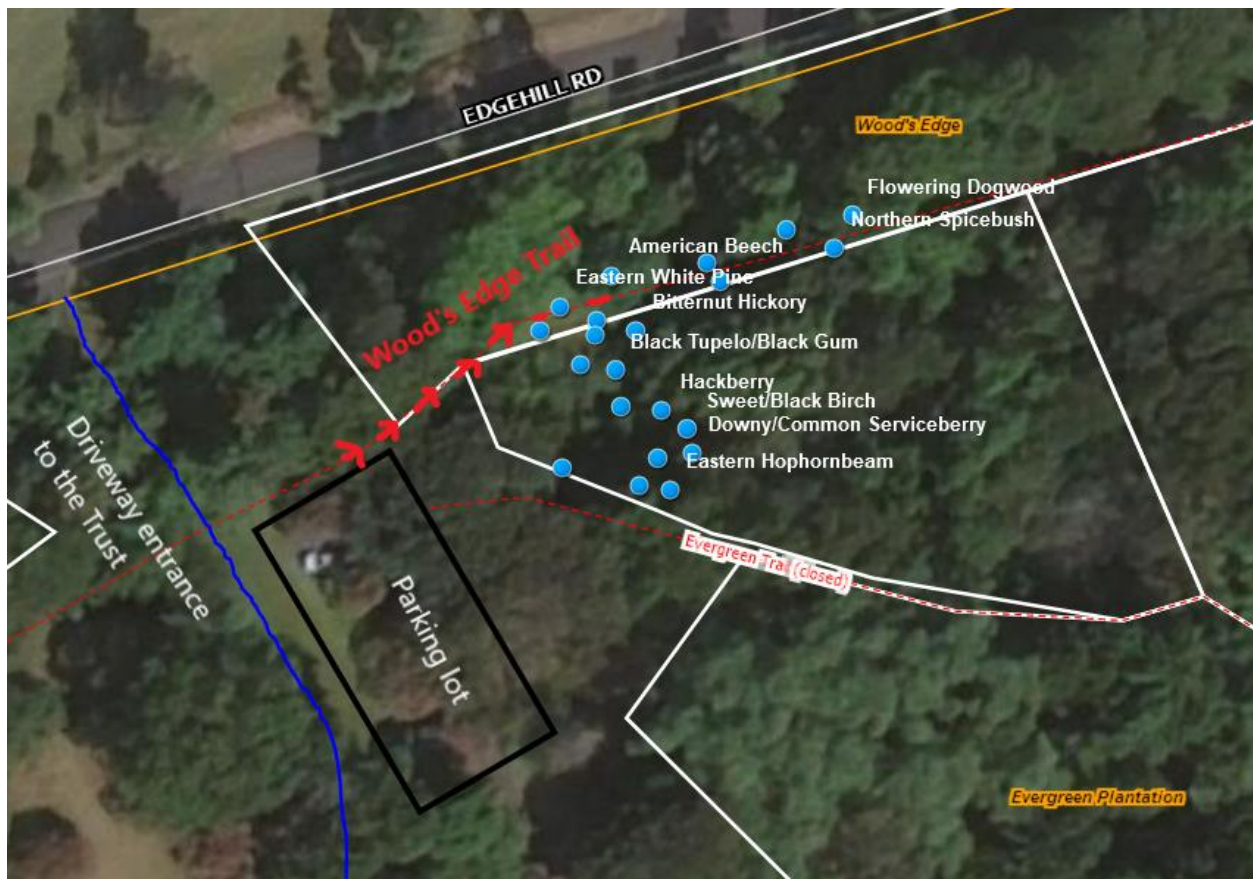


Figure 1. Location of Pennypack Trust Arboretum along Wood's Edge Trail next to the parking lot at 2955 Edge Hill Rd. entrance. The blue dots are the tagged trees. Most are on the east side of the trail and require stepping off trail.

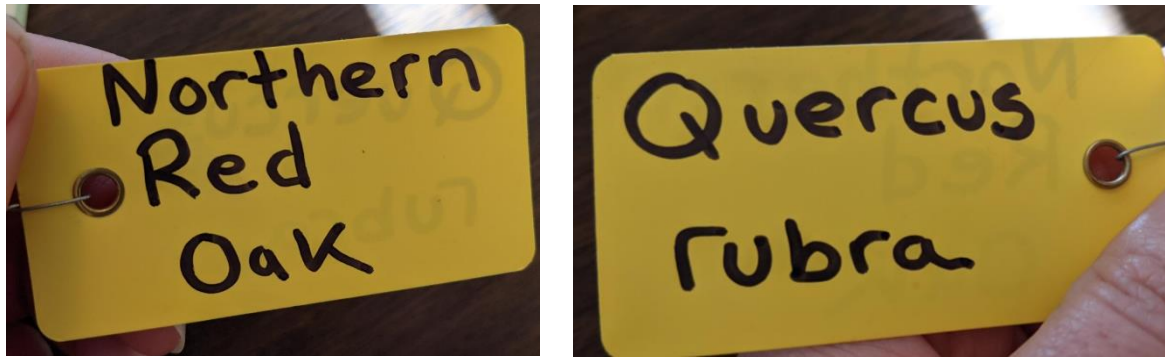


Figure 2. Yellow name tags marking trees in outdoor Arboretum. Look for blue flagging too.

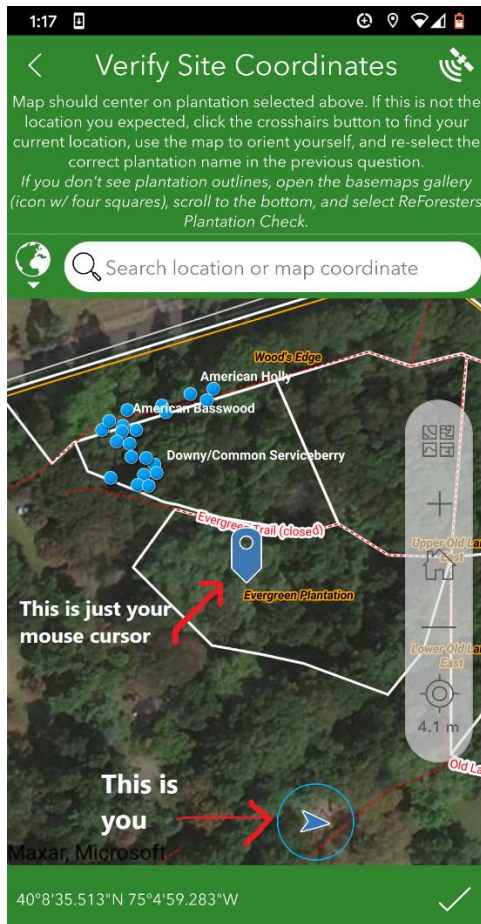
Navigating to Arboretum using the Survey123 App

Once you have found the Arboretum site, you may start seeing the yellow tags and find trees without further help. If you want to navigate to specific species, on your phone, use the map function on your Survey123 Reforester report form to see the mapped trees. You will need cellular service/data on.

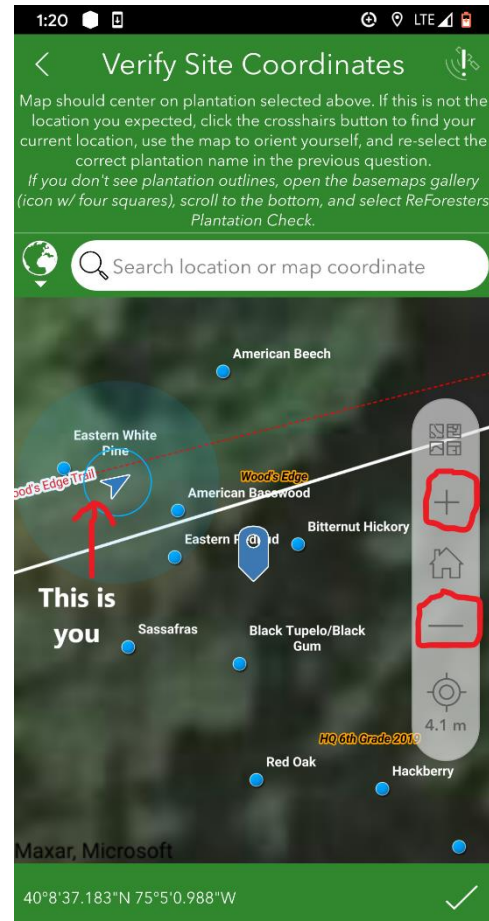
1. Park in the Pennypack Trust parking lot at 2955 Edge Hill Rd.
2. Open Survey123 on your phone (continue without signing in). Select Reforester form as usual and hit the blue “Collect” button to open a draft of the form. You will not be saving this form, just using the map function embedded in the form.
3. Scroll on the form to the “Verify Site Coordinates” section and select the square map button.

 A screenshot of a mobile phone screen displaying the Survey123 app interface. At the top, there's a green header bar with a white 'X' icon, the text "ReForesters Check", and a signal strength icon. Below the header is a white input field for "Plantation Name" with a red asterisk indicating it's required. Below that is a dropdown menu with a downward arrow. Further down is the "Verify Site Coordinates" section, which includes instructions about centering the map and finding the current location. At the bottom of this section, there are two circular buttons: one with a crosshair icon and another with a square map icon. The square map icon button is circled in red.

- The map will show a pulsing blue arrow where you currently are. Wait a few moments for the white outlines of the ReForester plots to load. Sometimes, it may have issues loading for various reasons (See section on “Trouble loading Survey123 map”).



- Use your fingers to move around the map and find the Arboretum (see Figure 1). Use your fingers or the zoom in/out (+/-) buttons to look at the names and locations of the trees (blue dots) up close.



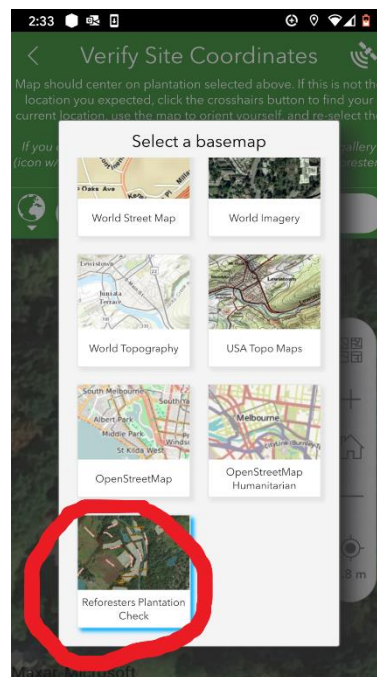
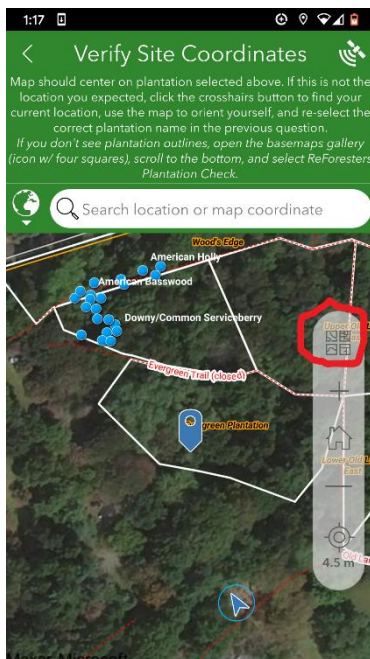
- Walk to Wood's Edge trail. Notice that the blue arrow moves to show where you move. Depending on your phone, the blue arrow may not be super accurate, but it's a decent approximation. Navigate to the trees in the map as you like.

Trouble Loading the Survey123 Map?

Sometimes when you try to open the Reforesters Map on Survey123, the white outlines Reforester plots and the blue mapped tree points will not load. Your map should show the features shown in Step 4 of “Navigating to Arboretum using the Survey123 App” when properly loaded.

If not, try the following solutions:

1. Check that your cell phone has reception and the data is on. If it was off, turn it on, exit Survey123 fully and reopen the app to start again. Being outdoors can help.
2. Move around and zoom in and out a bit within the map using the (+/-) buttons, sometimes that helps them load.
3. Select the square button on the side bar menu on the right side of the map. Click on the map labelled “Reforesters Plantation Check”.



4. Try closing entirely out of the Survey123 app and reopening.

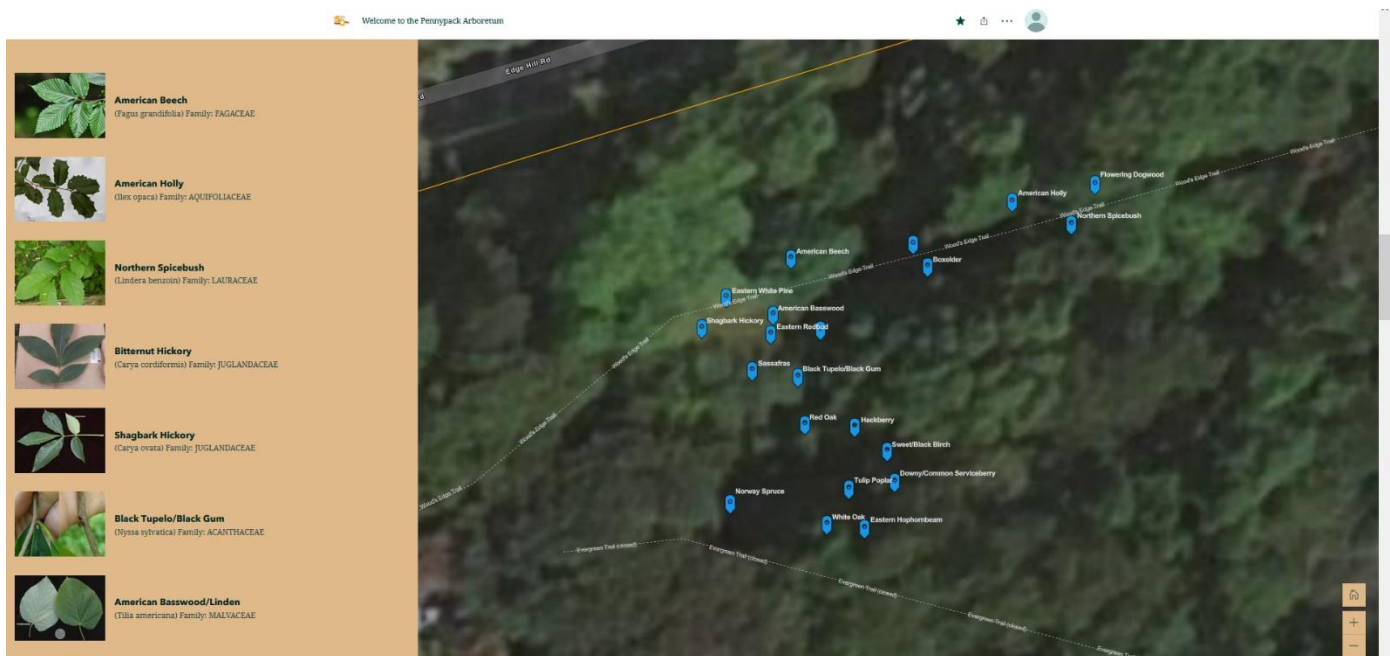
Using the Arboretum Tree Guide

The guide showcases all the trees in the Arboretum, with photos and descriptions of features that are important for their identification. View on your phone or your computer to study from home or open this webpage on your phone when you are at the outdoor Arboretum to help in learning the tree species characteristics.

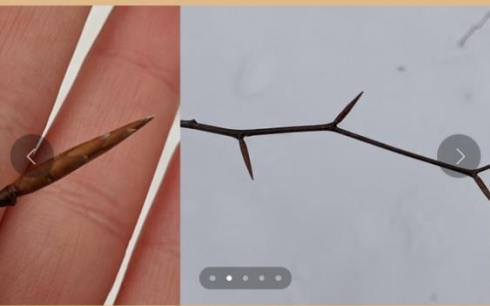
Access the webpage through any web browser: <https://arcg.is/1aXvPa>

How to use:

1. Scroll down the webpage to the Map menu. View the location of trees at the Arboretum. Select a tree from the left side menu to learn more details.



2. Learn about the features that would help you identify the tree. Click the arrows to cycle through the photos. Click on the photo to enlarge for a closer look.



American Beech
(*Fagus grandifolia*) Family: FAGACEAE

Buds: Sharply pointed, light brown with visible scales on the twig in a zig-zag pattern.

Leaves: Alternately arranged. Simple, elliptical shape, toothed margin and distinct parallel veins. Bright green on top, duller green below. Leaves turn yellow in Fall. Dried brown leaves often persist on trees throughout winter.

Bark: Very smooth, gray, even when tree is older.

Fruit: Light brown, with a spiky husk.



3. If you are in the outdoors Arboretum, see if you can spot the features on the living specimen. Feel free to gently handle and observe the trees. Use the Survey123 app to help you find specific trees.