

## More Tree Tales



### Which Woodpecker?

Downy, hairy and red-bellied woodpeckers leave scattered holes in trees (a) as they dig for insects and create nesting cavities. Yellow-bellied sapsuckers make horizontal lines of shallow holes in the bark (b) to feed on the sap that flows out. Pileated woodpeckers tear away large chunks of bark to get the insects underneath and make distinctive oval-shaped holes for nesting (c).



### Hemlock Woolly Adelgid

Have you seen any tiny tufts of "cotton" (a) on the needles of a hemlock tree? These are the egg sacs of the hemlock woolly adelgid (b), a tiny insect parasite that was accidentally brought to the United States from Asia in the 1920s. At Hungry Mother State Park, 650 hemlock trees, marked by silver tags (c), are being treated to protect them from the hemlock woolly adelgid. Rangers spray a chemical on the trunks of the trees every year or two, which absorbs into the trees and kills the hemlock woolly adelgids when they eat it.



### What do you think happened to these trees?

(a) \_\_\_\_\_ (b) \_\_\_\_\_ (c) \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

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The next generation of stewards will help preserve the world's plants, animals, natural lands and our heritage. What will you do to make a difference?



### Kids in Parks...

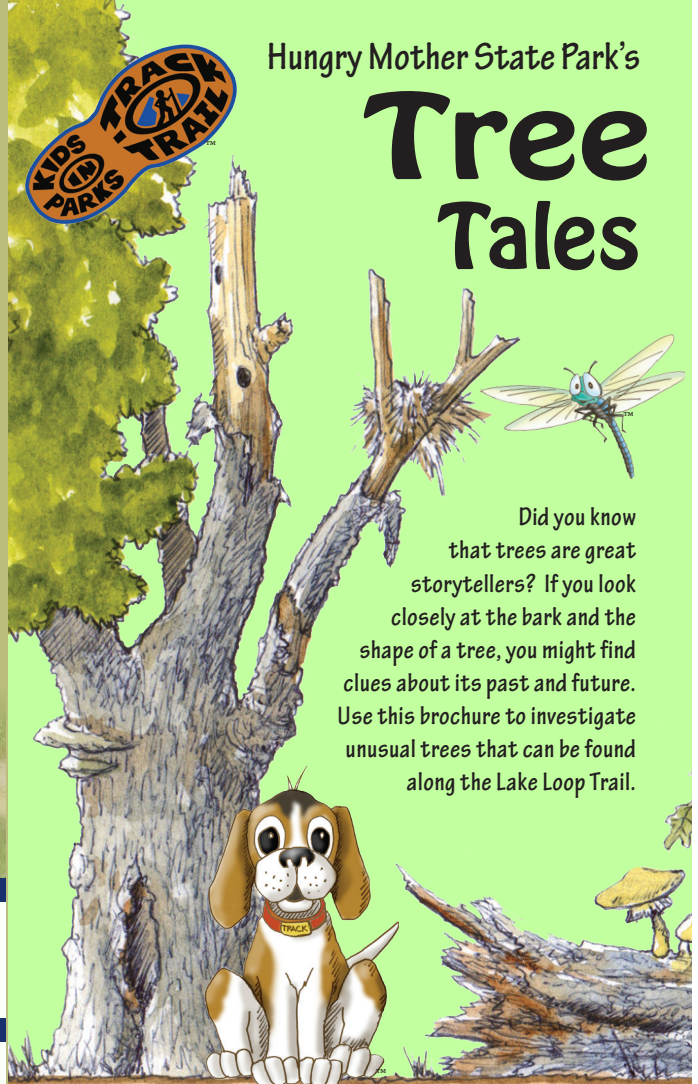
Providing a network of fun-filled adventures that get kids and families active outdoors and connected to nature.



TRACK Trail Partners



Kids in Parks Founding Partners



Hungry Mother State Park's

## Tree Tales

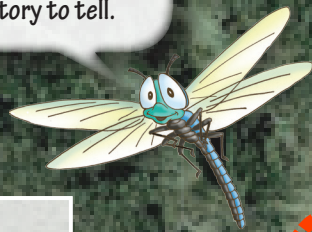
Did you know that trees are great storytellers? If you look closely at the bark and the shape of a tree, you might find clues about its past and future. Use this brochure to investigate unusual trees that can be found along the Lake Loop Trail.

**Note:** Nature is in a constant state of change, continuously building up and breaking down materials. Some features along the trail may not appear exactly as they are described in this brochure.



## What happened to that tree?

A tree's shape tells the story of its life. Bad weather, animals, fungi, other plants and humans can all leave their mark on a tree. As you walk the trail, look for these unique trees... each one has a story to tell.



### Adventitious Roots

After crossing the small bridge beyond the parking lot, look to your left for a tree with roots that look like an octopus. Roots that sprout from unusual areas of a tree are called "adventitious roots". They are typically a result of flooding or erosion. Can you find any other signs of flooding nearby?



### Burls and Galls

Proceed from the island back to the main trail. At the junction, look to the left for a tree with baseball-sized bumps on the trunk. These bumps are called "burls" or "galls". They can be caused by insects, fungus, or physical injuries to the bark. Have you seen any other trees with galls?

### Trailhead



### Signs of Beavers

When the trail forks, turn left, following signs for the amphitheater. After crossing the bridge onto the small island, look to your left for stumps with cone-shaped tops near the water. These trees have been chewed down by beavers. Can you see the beaver's teeth marks in the trunk?



### Swell or not swell?

Just before the next trail junction, look to the right for trees that appear swollen at the base. This is called "butt swell" or the "buttress". It occurs naturally on most trees as a response to moist soil, but can also be a sign of disease. Which do you think is the case with this group of trees?



### Initial Problems

As you descend the stone stairway, look to the left for a tree that people have carved initials into. Although it seems harmless, carving into a tree's bark can disrupt the flow of nutrients and water from the roots to the leaves, causing long-term damage and even death for some trees. Do you think that carving your initials into a tree trunk is a good idea?



### Woodpecker Holes

Continuing down the trail, look to the left for a tree that has lost several large limbs near the top. The exposed wood was most likely invaded by insects, which then attracted woodpeckers to the tree. Do you know what kind of woodpecker made the large, oval-shaped holes?