Common Shrubs, Herbs & Mosses of Nova Scotia

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With special thanks to Peter Neily (DNR), Eugene Quigley (DNR), and Anne Mills
Common Shrubs (Woody Stem)

**Serviceberry**
Veins fade before reaching teeth
Point, short buds

**Wild Raisin**
Opposite leaves
Long, brown bud

**Blueberry**
Alternate leaves close together
**Striped Maple**

Opposite leaves
Green striped bark
Big fat maple leaves

**Honeysuckle**

Opposite leaves
Stem ends with bud and not leaf

**Lambkill**

Whorled cluster of leaves
No teeth
Leaves have rounded tip
Leaves have long petiole

**Striped Maple**

Opposite leaves
Green striped bark
Big fat maple leaves
False Holly

Random assembly of leaves
Often tar spots on leaves
Blunt leaf tip
Common Herbs (Non-Woody Stem)

Wild lily-of-the-valley
Small
No teeth
Parallel veins

Starflower
Leaves of different sizes
Many veins curl towards tip

Bunchberry
Leaves all same size
Few veins
Veins parallel
Goldthread
Three mini leaves
Golden roots

Sarsaparilla
Stem splits in three
Many leaves

Partridgeberry
Opposite
Lighter green stripe in middle
Blue-Bead Lily
Long, inflated leaves
Veins opposite

Indian Pipe
Pipe shape
White when live
Black when dead

Wood-Sorrel
Three heart-shaped mini leaves
Delicate-looking
Violet
Heart-shaped single leaf

Wood Aster
Slight teeth
Veins few and almost parallel
Many leaves from central point

Dwarf Raspberry
Three leaves
Creeping plant
Pointy teeth
Twin Flower
Twin leaves (opposite)

Creeping Snowberry
Very small
Alternate leaves

Indian Cucumber-Root
Sometimes two stories
Leaves all the same
Veins parallel
**Rosy Twisted Stalk**

- Horizontal stem
- Veins alternate
- Leaves clasping stem

**Teaberry**

- Usually 3-5 shiny leaves
- Mint smell inside leaves

**Ground Pine**

- Looks like mini tree
- Almost as wide as it is tall
Common Mosses & Lichens

Stair-Step Moss

Has 1-7 flat steps

Schreber’s Moss

Longer than 1 inch
Reddish stem
Near-flat structure

Haircap Moss

Long pointy leaves
Tall moss

Stair-Step Moss

Has 1-7 flat steps
**Hypnum Moss**

Plain looking  
Flat structure  
Wraps around stumps, rocks

**Broom Moss**

Curls at top like an old broom

**Wavy Moss**

Leaves have waves
Plume Moss
Bright feather-like leaves

Fern Moss
Usually neon green colour
Long trailing stem
Usually on stumps and trees

Shaggy Moss
Not a flat structure
Round, bushy look
Likes rich soil
**Pin Cushion Moss**

Lighter green colour, almost white
Feels and looks like pin cushion

**Bazzania Trilobata Liverwort**

One fork
Fish-scale like structures
Covers rocks, stumps

**Caribou Moss / Reindeer Lichen**

Bright grey, yellow, white or green
Shape of antlers
Cup Lichen

Cup structures
Usually light grey or white

Sphagnum Moss

Round tuft on top
Wings all around
Always in wet places