

# Back Bay Fens Fall Scavenger Hunt

How many of these items can you spot?



1. Green Leaf



2. Acorn



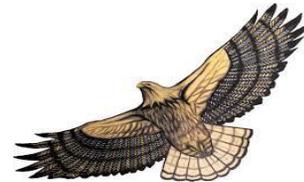
3. Chipmunk



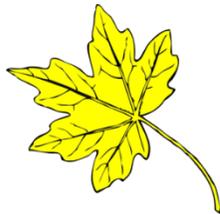
4. Brown Leaf



5. Wading Bird



6. Soaring Bird



7. Yellow Leaf



8. Nest in a tree



9. Tree with rough bark



10. Swimming Bird

Please turn over for information on the Scavenger hunt items

1. **Green Leaf** – Chlorophyll is a chemical in leaves that helps them make food for the tree through photosynthesis. Chlorophyll is also **what makes leaves green**. A green leaf's main functions are photosynthesis and gas exchange. Sunlight is trapped by chlorophyll to change carbon dioxide into sugars (food for the tree) and oxygen.
2. **Chipmunk** – Some chipmunks dig burrows to live in, complete with tunnels and chambers, while others make their homes in nests, bushes, or logs. Can you find an animal's home?
3. **Wading Bird** – Wading birds like Great Blue Heron use their long legs to wade through the water looking for fish, amphibians, reptiles, small mammals, insects, and small birds to eat.
4. **Yellow Leaf** – Leaves also contain yellow and orange pigments called carotenoids. This chemicals can be found within leaves all summer but are covered up by the large amounts of the green pigment chlorophyll.
5. **Tree with Rough Bark** – The bark of a tree is similar to human skin. The bark protects the tree from injury and disease.
6. **Acorn** – Acorns are the seeds of an Oak tree. Many animals like deer, gray squirrels chipmunks, wild turkeys, rabbits, and blue jays, to name a few, depend on acorns for food.
7. **Brown Leaf** – Like yellow leaves, this color leaf is a sign of fall. The leaf is no longer green because it has lost all of its chlorophyll.
8. **Soaring Bird** – A common soaring bird in the Back Bay Fens is a Red- tailed Hawk. With their long, broad, rounded wings, they fly looking for food such as ground squirrels, rabbits and mice.
9. **Nest in Tree** – Birds are not the only animals that make nests in tree; gray squirrels do also.
10. **Swimming Bird** – Geese and ducks make the Back Bay Fens their home. Both these types of bird have webbed feet that allow them to swim.

### **Additional Facts**

**Deciduous trees** – As the weather gets colder and the days become shorter, there isn't enough sunlight for a tree's leaves to make sugar (food). The trees that lose all their leaves in the fall are called **deciduous trees**. For example, Oaks and Maples are among some of the deciduous trees in Massachusetts.

**Evergreen trees** – As approaches, evergreen trees keep their green color all year around. For example, Pines and Hemlocks are among some of the evergreen trees in Massachusetts.