

# TRAILSIDE EYE SPY

Check off each item as you see it along Alder Trail. Good Luck!

## NATURE PLAY AREA

Follow the handprint signs to this special area where you can hop, skip and jump around the woods as you explore! Play tic-tac-toe, test your balance, build a fort and use your imagination.



1.

## PARKITECTURE

“Parkitecture” is often used to describe the rustic architectural style seen in many national parks. Although the term was coined later, some of the work by the Civilian Conservation Corps, including Pioneer Shelter, is in this style as well.



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2.

## BEECH LEAVES

Beech trees add a hint of interest to a winter forest. Recognize these trees by their smooth, gray bark and thin, pointed buds. In spring, those buds will unfurl to reveal next year’s leaves.



7.

## DUCKWEED

Look closely at these tiny plants, often mistaken for algae, on the surface of the water. In reality, they are like miniscule lily pads, each one an individual plant providing food, shelter and oxygen to residents of the pond.

## GRAY SQUIRREL

These tree-climbing acrobats can be seen on days that aren’t too blustery cold, often wrapped in their bushy tails. *Can you spot this squirrel’s favorite nutty food, acorns, along the trail?*



3.

## ICE CRYSTALS

As we approach the end of winter, look for ice formations along the trail and on the pond. *Is it smooth or rough, white or clear? See if you can find any reflections in the ice and notice whether they are right side up or upside down.*



8.

## RED-BELLIED WOODPECKER

These architects of the forest create holes in trees as they search for food, resulting in cavities for other creatures to call home. Invite woodpeckers to your back yard by hanging a suet feeder.



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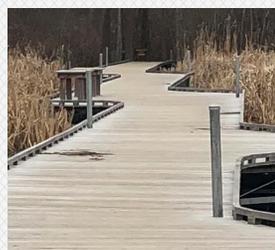
9.

## SAPSUCKER HOLES

Yellow-bellied sapsuckers create rings of small holes around the trunk of a tree. As sap begins to drip, these woodpeckers use their unique brush-like tongues to enjoy a sweet drink.

## ALDER POND BOARDWALK

Stop and look around as you cross Alder Pond, created in the 1930s by the CCC. Stand still and observe the water, imagining what creatures are waiting for spring beneath the ice. *Can you spy three wood duck boxes out on the pond?*



5.