



## A Simple Key to the Conifers of Grass River

1.  
No needles in winter, the **circular soft tufts of 1" needles** turn yellow & shed in fall, small 1/2" cones.....**Tamarack (p.37)**  
The tree keeps its needles all year long ..... Go to #2
2.  
Needles are **flattened** and **scale-like**.....**White Cedar (p.37)**  
Needles are not scale-like ..... Go to #3
3.  
Needles are in bundles of 2 or 5 ..... Go to #4  
Needles are single, shorter, not in bundles ..... Go to #5
4.  
Needles soft, 2-4", in **bundles of 5**, long cones 3-10" ..... **White Pine (p.39)**  
Needles long, in bundles of 2 ..... **Red Pine (p.39)**
5.  
Needles **stiff** on dark twigs, short 1/4", can be rolled between thumb and finger, cones 3/4", rough bark....**Black Spruce (p.38)**  
**Needles flat**, sticking out from sides of twig ..... Go to #6
6.  
Needles flat, about **1 inch long**, two silver lines on underside, cones upright 1-3", bark with horizontal lines & resin blisters, fragrant when crushed ..... **Balsam Fir (p.37)**  
Needles flat but **short, only 1/2"**, flexible, white beneath, small 3/4" cones, scaly bark ..... **Eastern Hemlock (p.39)**



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