Magelssen Bluff GO PLANT SCAVENGER HUNT





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Forest Floor ... CONTINUED

PELLAEA: Typically have pinnate or pinnae-like leaves that can be either evergreen or deciduous, depending on the species and climate. Fronds are often leathery, helping them withstand dry conditions. They often grow in rocky crevices, cliffs and shaded woodland areas and prefer well-drained soils.



RATTLE SNAKE ROOT: Typically under 1 foot tall, they have basal leaves are broad and ovate with distinctive white veins, often with a velvety texture. They produce small, white to greenish flowers that form in dense spikes and bloom from late spring to early summer. They prefer shaded, moist woodland areas, often found in rich, deciduous forests.



ROUGH CHERVIL: Typically grows 1-3 feet tall. Leaves are deeply divided and feathery, resembling parsley, with a rough texture and a slightly hairy surface. Lower leaves are larger and more lobed than upper leaves. They produce small white flowers in umbrella-shaped clusters (umbels) during late spring and early summer. The plant bears small, oval fruits that are dry and split open when mature. They are commonly found in a variety of habitats, including woodlands, meadows and along roadsides, often in moist, shaded areas.



SNAKEHEAD: A perennial herbaceous plant, also known as Houttuynia Cordata, grows up to 6 inches long with heartshaped leaves. They produce small, white flowers with a yellow center. They often form dense colonies and can spread rapidly due to their creeping rhizomes. They are commonly found in wetlands, along stream banks and in marshy areas. They prefer full sun to partial shade and thrive in moist, well-drained soils but can tolerate varying water levels.



SOLOMON'S SEAL: A perennial plant that typically grows 1-3 feet tall. They have arching stems with alternate, oval to lance-shaped leaves that can be up to 6 inches long. They produce small, tubular, white to greenish flowers that hang in pairs from the leaf axils. They are commonly found in woodlands, shaded areas and along forest edges. They prefer partial to full shade and thrive in well-drained, rich, and moist soils.



Berries + Such

BLACK CAPS: A shrub that typically grows 3-6 feet tall. They have dark green, lobed leaves with a palmate shape. Small, greenish-yellow flowers appear in clusters in spring. In mid-to-late summer, they grow glossy, black berries, known for their tart flavor and high antioxidant content. They prefer well-drained soils and thrive in both sun and partial shade.



CURRANT: Deciduous shrubs that typically grow 3-6 feet tall, depending on the species. They produce small clusters of edible berries that can be red, black or white, depending on the variety. Leaves are lobed and can vary in shape but are generally green and may turn yellow in the fall. They thrive in a variety of environments, including forests, hedgerows and gardens. They prefer full sun to partial shade. Well-drained, loamy soils are ideal and they prefer slightly acidic conditions.



RED BANEBERRY: A perennial bushy plant with large, highly-divided leaves and a short, thick, rounded cluster of small white flowers in leaf axils or at stem ends. In flower, the stamens give each cluster a feathery appearance. The branched, 1-3 foot stems bear two or three large compound leaves, each thrice divided. Leaflets are deeply sawtoothed. The fruit is an attractive, but poisonous, red berry.



SWEET GUM: Typically grow 60-100 feet tall with a straight trunk and a broad crown. Their bark is graybrown and can be deeply furrowed, providing a distinctive texture. Leaves are star-shaped with 5-7 lobes that turn vibrant yellow, orange and red in the autumn. They produce small, inconspicuous flowers in the spring, followed by spiky, ball-like fruiting bodies that contain seeds. They thrive in a variety of soil types but prefers moist, well-drained areas. They are commonly found in mixed hardwood forests, along stream banks and in floodplains.



Sources: U.S. Department of Agriculture Mushroom Observer Missouri Botanical Garden