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The leaves are green above and nearly white below with fine hairs. Smooth-edged and oval they come to a blunt tip. Many leaves form at the tip of the branches.

Magnolia virginiana

Sweetbay

Swamp Magnolia

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Magnolia virginiana

Sweetbay

Swamp Magnolia



The flowers are cup shaped with up to 12 white petals and are so fragrant that they can

perfume an entire neighborhood in the late spring. Like all magnolias the fruit is an upright cone of seeds.

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The bark is smooth and gray, and the small tree has a bushy aspect with multiple trunks and branching at many levels. Magnolia virginiana



Swamp Magnolia

Magnolia virginiana

Sweetbay

Swamp Magnolia

A water-lover this magnolia is often found in lowlands and swamps, growing as far north as Massachusetts. Known as the "Beavertree" in colonial days, its succulent roots were used as bait for the beavers who use the wood for their dams.

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