

# Citizen Botanists Needed

## Winter Field Guide Revision

**A**ndrea Pipp, program botanist with the Montana Natural Heritage Program, and Ralph Scott, biologist and scientific illustrator, are working to revise the 1962 booklet “Winter Field Key to the Native Shrubs of Montana,” by Morris, Schmutz, and Stickney.


Despite the title, this booklet contains all of Montana’s native deciduous trees, two evergreen taxa, sub-shrubs, and deciduous vines. The revision will expand the booklet to include Montana’s exotic trees, shrubs, and vines, plus ecological and management information that is more current, and a revised dichotomous key, text, photographs, and drawings.

In order for this project to succeed, they need people to collect branches and other relevant parts of identified woody plants and mail them to Ralph, who will photograph the specimen for publication. Your efforts will be acknowledged in the revised booklet.

### Here is how you can help:

- From the table (opposite), select a woody plant that grows in your area or somewhere you travel.
- Follow the collecting and mailing instructions to ensure we get good material.

If you need help identifying a native species, use the 1962 guide posted on the Montana Natural Heritage Program website ([www.mtnhp.org](http://www.mtnhp.org)). For additional information, contact Andrea at 444-3019, [apipp@mt.gov](mailto:apipp@mt.gov).

Don’t delay – winter will soon be over, along with the opportunity to capture this season! 

### Collecting Instructions

1. Clip twigs from tip (terminal bud) back at least 8-12 inches. If required, clip longer branches to show the following: thorns, spines, berries, seeds, fruits, dried leaves, and lateral branches. Collect healthy twigs and buds. If you find an insect gall, collect that too!
2. Label your specimen with the scientific name and attach a twig collecting card. If wet or frozen, let twigs dry. Place dry twigs in a large zip-loc freezer bag.
3. Keep a field notebook and record the following data:

**Species name**

**Date collected**

**Location:** County and local place name (Park, Forest, City, etc.). If you have a GPS, make a Way Point of the specimen’s location. We would like longitude, latitude, and (especially) elevation.

**Photos:** If your woody plant is tall, take a close-up photograph of the specimen’s main stem or trunk bark. For trees, a photo at 4 feet above ground level is fine. For woody shrubs, photos taken at 1-3 feet may be required. Set the resolution as high as your device will allow. Size the photos at a 4x6-inch format. Photos will be better for processing if sent by email rather than as prints.

4. Use the card (see insert) to record data and attach a copy individually to each specimen. Send specimens to Ralph Scott, 2726 Shaia Way, Billings, MT 59101. Phone: 256-3031; email: [magpiemt31@gmail.com](mailto:magpiemt31@gmail.com). Please Include your name, phone number, mailing and email addresses in case Ralph needs to contact you for further information about your specimen(s).

### Winter Woody Plant Twig Data Card

Species: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Collected: \_\_\_\_\_

Locality Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Latitude: \_\_\_\_\_ Longitude: \_\_\_\_\_ Elevation: \_\_\_\_\_

Collector Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Collector Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Other Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

  
COPY AND CLIP

Life Form	Scientific Name
Shrub	<i>Acer glabrum</i>
Tree	<i>Acer platanoides</i>
Shrub	<i>Alnus incana</i>
Tree	<i>Alnus rubra</i>
Shrub	<i>Alnus viridis</i>
Shrub	<i>Amelanchier alnifolia</i>
Shrub	<i>Amelanchier utahensis</i>
Shrub	<i>Amorpha canescens</i>
Shrub	<i>Artemisia arbuscula</i>
Shrub	<i>Artemisia cana</i>
Shrub	<i>Artemisia frigida</i>
Shrub	<i>Artemisia nova</i>
Shrub	<i>Artemisia tridentata</i>
Shrub	<i>Artemisia tripartita</i>
Shrub	<i>Atriplex canescens</i>
Shrub	<i>Atriplex confertifolia</i>
Shrub	<i>Berberis aquifolium</i>
Shrub	<i>Berberis nervosa</i> ( <i>Mahonia nervosa</i> )
Tree	<i>Betula glandulosa</i>
Tree	<i>Betula occidentalis</i>
Tree	<i>Betula papyrifera</i>
Vine	<i>Bryonia alba</i>
Shrub	<i>Caragana arborescens</i>
Shrub	<i>Ceanothus sanguineus</i>
Shrub	<i>Ceanothus velutinus</i>
Vine	<i>Celastrus scandens</i>
Shrub	<i>Cercocarpus ledifolius</i>
Shrub	<i>Chrysothamnus nauseosa</i>
Shrub	<i>Chrysothamnus viscidiflorus</i>
Vine	<i>Clematis columbiana</i>
Vine	<i>Clematis ligusticifolia</i>
Vine	<i>Clematis occidentalis</i>
Shrub	<i>Crataegus douglasii</i>
Shrub	<i>Cytisus scoparius</i>
Shrub	<i>Dasiphora fruticosa</i> ( <i>Potentilla fruticosa</i> )
Vine	<i>Echinocystis lobata</i>
Shrub	<i>Elaeagnus angustifolia</i>
Shrub	<i>Elaeagnus commutata</i>
Shrub	<i>Frangula purshiana</i>

Life Form	Scientific Name
Vine	<i>Grayia spinosa</i>
Shrub	<i>Gutierrezia sarothrae</i>
Shrub	<i>Holodiscus discolor</i>
Vine	<i>Humulus lupulus</i>
Shrub	<i>Kalmia microphylla</i> ( <i>K. polifolia</i> )
Shrub	<i>Krascheninnikovia lanata</i>
Shrub	<i>Ledum glandulosum</i>
Subshrub	<i>Leptodactylon pungens</i>
Shrub	<i>Lonicera caerulea</i>
Shrub	<i>Lonicera ciliosa</i>
Shrub	<i>Lonicera involucrata</i>
Shrub	<i>Lonicera utahensis</i>
Shrub	<i>Menziesia ferruginea</i>
Shrub	<i>Oplopanax horridus</i>
Vine	<i>Parthenocissus quinquefolia</i>
Shrub	<i>Paxistima myrsinites</i> ( <i>Pachystima myrsinites</i> )
Shrub	<i>Philadelphus lewisii</i>
Shrub	<i>Physocarpus malvaceus</i>
Shrub	<i>Physocarpus monogynus</i>
Subshrub	<i>Polygonum cuspidatum</i>
Tree	<i>Populus alba</i>
Shrub	<i>Prunus americana</i>
Shrub	<i>Prunus cerasus</i>
Shrub	<i>Prunus emarginata</i>
Shrub	<i>Prunus mahaleb</i>
Shrub	<i>Prunus pensylvanica</i>
Shrub	<i>Purshia tridentata</i>
Shrub	<i>Quercus macrocarpa</i>
Shrub	<i>Rhamnus alnifolia</i>
Shrub	<i>Rhododendron albiflorum</i>
Shrub	<i>Rhus aromatica</i> ( <i>R. trilobata</i> )
Shrub	<i>Rhus glabra</i>
Shrub	<i>Ribes americanum</i>
Shrub	<i>Ribes aureum</i>
Shrub	<i>Ribes cereum</i>
Shrub	<i>Ribes hudsonianum</i>
Shrub	<i>Ribes inerme</i>
Shrub	<i>Ribes lacustre</i>
Shrub	<i>Ribes montigenum</i>

Life Form	Scientific Name
Shrub	<i>Ribes oxycanthoides</i>
Shrub	<i>Ribes viscosissimum</i>
Tree	<i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i>
Shrub	<i>Rosa acicularis</i>
Shrub	<i>Rosa gymnocarpa</i>
Shrub	<i>Rosa nutkana</i>
Shrub	<i>Rosa woodsii</i>
Shrub	<i>Rubus arcticus</i>
Shrub	<i>Rubus discolor</i>
Shrub	<i>Rubus parviflorus</i>
Shrub	<i>Rubus ursinus</i>
Shrub	<i>Sambucus cerulea</i>
Shrub	<i>Sambucus nigra</i>
Shrub	<i>Sarcobatus vermiculatus</i>
Tree	<i>Sorbus aucuparia</i>
Shrub	<i>Sorbus scopulina</i>
Shrub	<i>Sorbus sitchensis</i>
Shrub	<i>Spiraea douglasii</i>
Shrub	<i>Spiraea lucida</i> ( <i>S. betulifolia</i> )
Shrub	<i>Spiraea splendens</i>
Shrub	<i>Symphoricarpos occidentalis</i>
Shrub	<i>Symphoricarpos orbiculatus</i>
Shrub	<i>Tamarix ramosissima</i>
Shrub	<i>Tetradymia canescens</i>
Shrub	<i>Toxicodendron rydbergii</i>
Tree	<i>Ulmus americana</i>
Tree	<i>Ulmus pumila</i>
Shrub	<i>Vaccinium caespitosum</i>
Shrub	<i>Vaccinium globulare</i>
Shrub	<i>Vaccinium membranaceum</i>
Shrub	<i>Vaccinium myrtilloides</i>
Shrub	<i>Vaccinium myrtillus</i>
Shrub	<i>Vaccinium occidentale</i>
Shrub	<i>Vaccinium scoparium</i>
Shrub	<i>Vaccinium uliginosum</i>
Shrub	<i>Viburnum edule</i>
Shrub	<i>Viburnum lantana</i>
Shrub	<i>Viburnum lentago</i>
Shrub	<i>Viburnum opulus</i>
Subshrub	<i>Vitis riparia</i>