

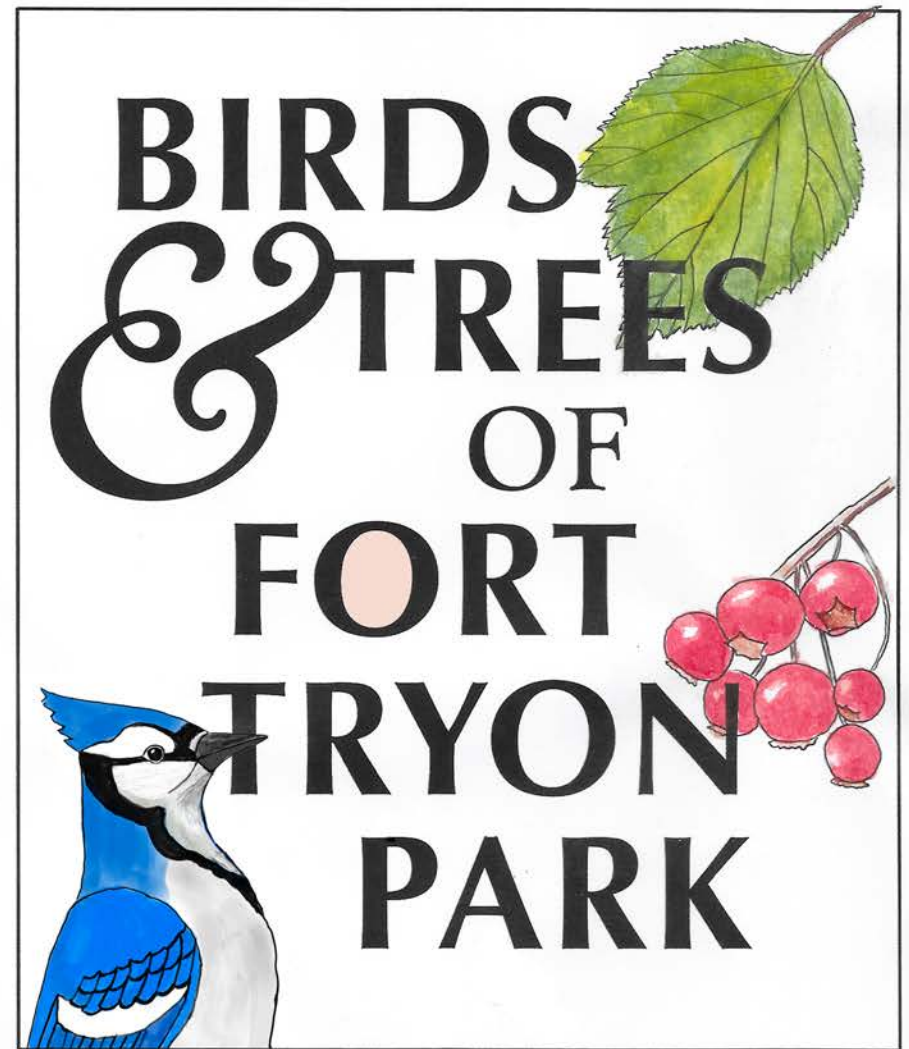
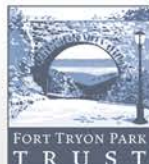
So Much to Explore and Discover in Fort Tryon Park!

The Fort Tryon Park Trust conservancy partners with NYC Parks in the ongoing restoration, preservation, and enhancement of Fort Tryon Park, a 67-acre Scenic Landmark. We secure private funding to ensure the park's world class horticulture and historic structures receive the specialized care they require. We also provide dynamic public programs for the public's health, education and enjoyment. To learn more about our work, and to find additional Fort Tryon Park natural history and educational resources visit:

FortTryonParkTrust.org.



www.forttryonparktrust.org



A COLORING BOOK
FOR NATURALISTS,
Young and Young-at-Heart

LESLIE DAY & TRUDY SMOKE
For the Fort Tryon Park Trust

Birds & Trees of Fort Tryon Park

A Coloring Book for Naturalists,
Young and Young-at-Heart

Fort Tryon Park is a 67-acre Scenic Landmark Park, filled with thousands of trees! Some of the park's trees are over 100 years old and were here before the land was made into a public park. Fort Tryon is filled with these beautiful trees and birds that depend upon each other. Trees provide birds with shelter, nesting sites, and food. Some birds eat the tree's flowers. Many eat the fruit: the part of the plant that holds the seeds and that helps spread the seeds so that new trees will grow. Fruit comes in the form of fleshy berries, dry seedpods, samaras (winged seeds like elm seeds), and nuts like acorns.

Let's take a walk outside and see how many of these trees and birds you can find. Stop at each tree and look up. Look at the leaves, fruit, and birds. Look down and see if you can find leaves, fruit, or birds feeding on them on the ground. Pick a leaf up and look closely at its color, size, and shape. Use the leaf's outline to help you identify it. Do you see a bird on the tree? What color is it? Is it eating the fleshy berries or dry seedpods, samaras, or nuts? Are the berries red, blue, or purple? Use the colors you see in the leaves, fruit, and birds to choose the colored pencil, crayon, or marker to color your bird and leaves. We have included colored pictures of each bird on the back of this book to help guide you. You can also look up the bird, leaves, and fruit online to see what colors they are.

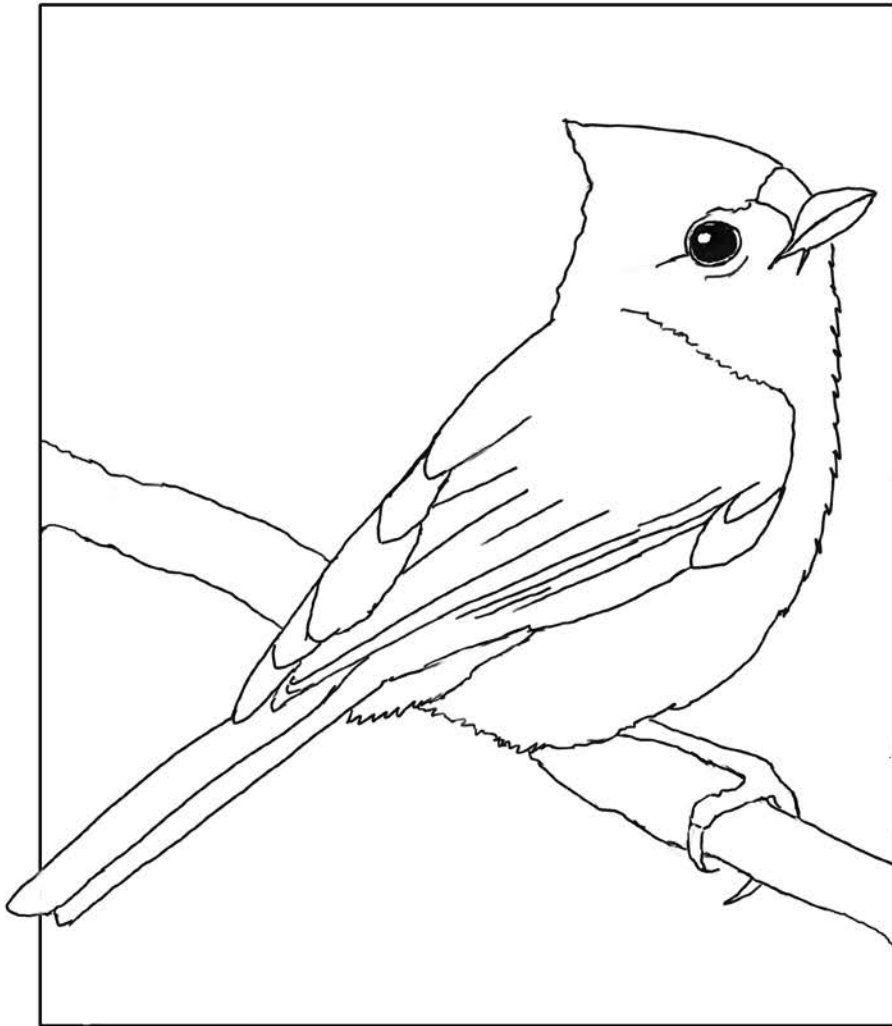
Fort Tryon Park has dozens of different types of trees and over 150 bird species that journey through the park each year. In this book you will see the leaves and fruit of ten species of native trees found in Fort Tryon Park and the birds that feed on their fruit. You can add details to your drawing, depending on what you notice on the trees. Are there insects eating the leaves? Are there butterflies feeding on the flowers? Are there birds building a nest or feeding their young?

Happy exploring in Fort Tryon Park!

Leslie Day and Trudy Smoke

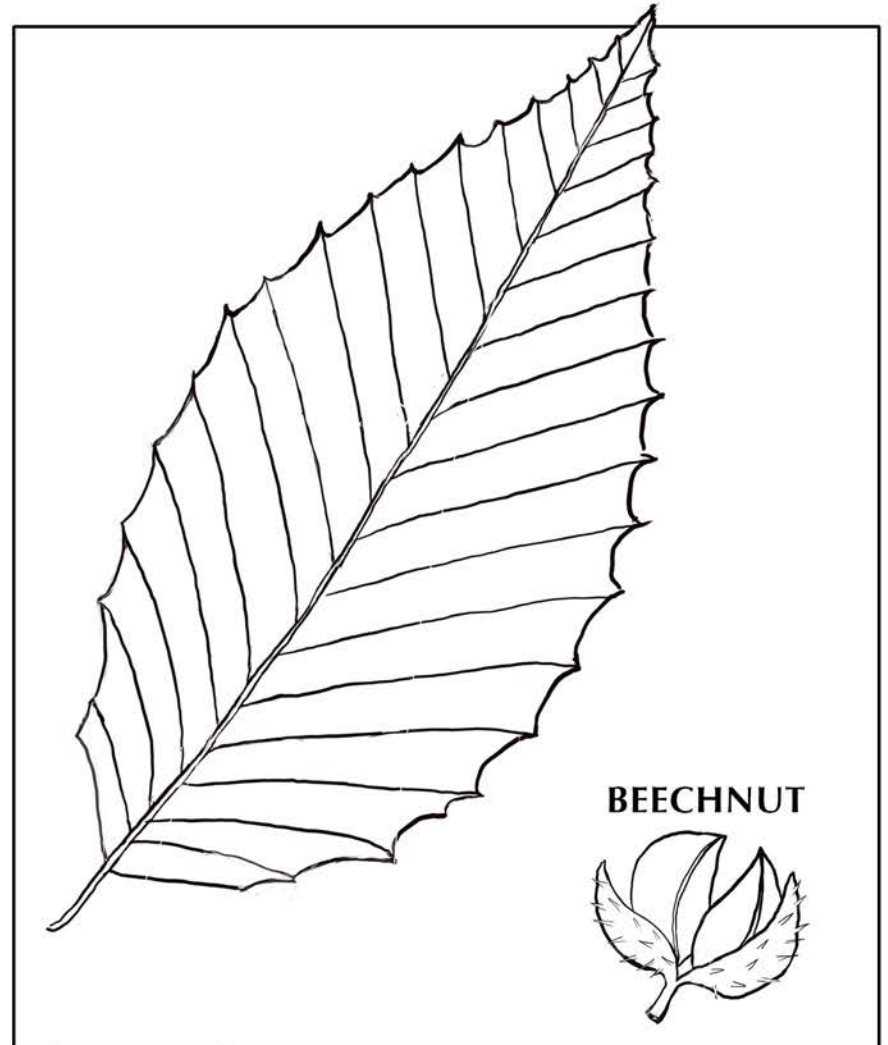


TUFTED TITMOUSE



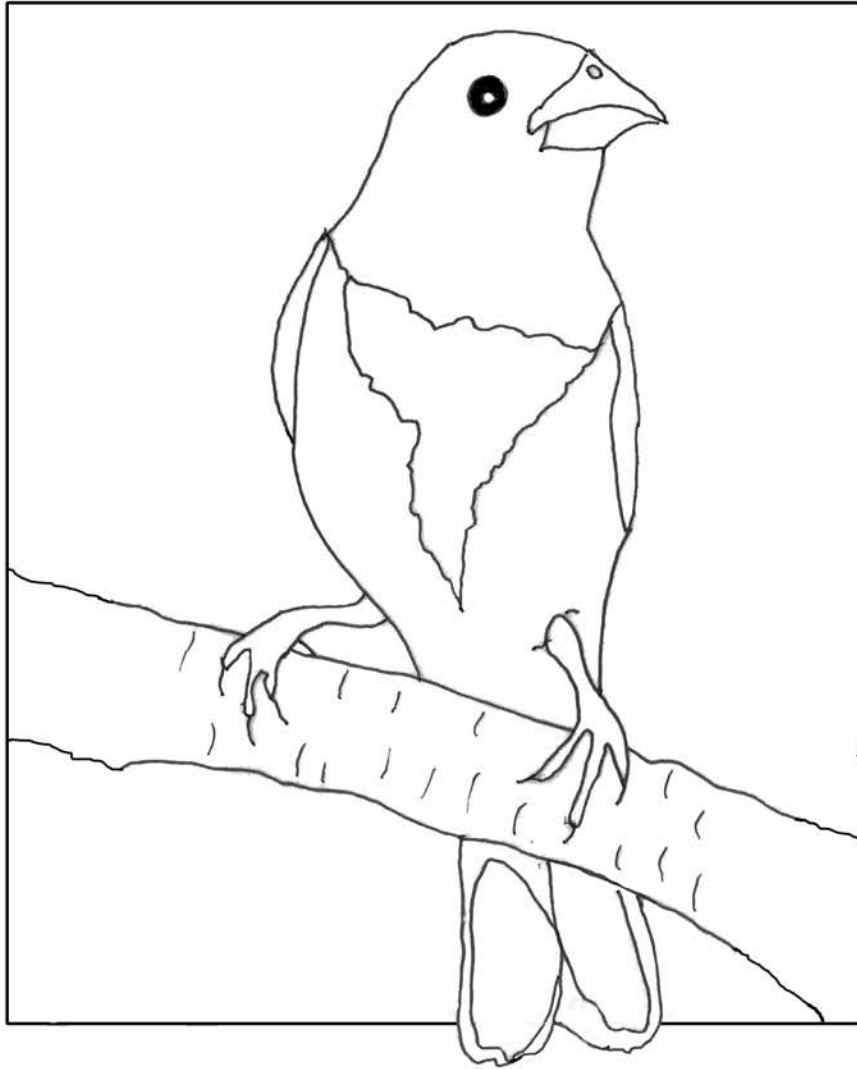
Tufted titmice are tiny birds with white faces, large round dark eyes, black beaks, grey legs, reddish-brown sides, and a crest like a party hat on top of their heads. Look for them in small flocks foraging for seeds on the ground or hanging upside down on pinecones and seedpods. In autumn, as the beechnut falls to the ground from its capsule, the tufted titmouse carries it to a branch, holding it down with its feet, and hammering it open with its sharp little bill.

AMERICAN BEECH



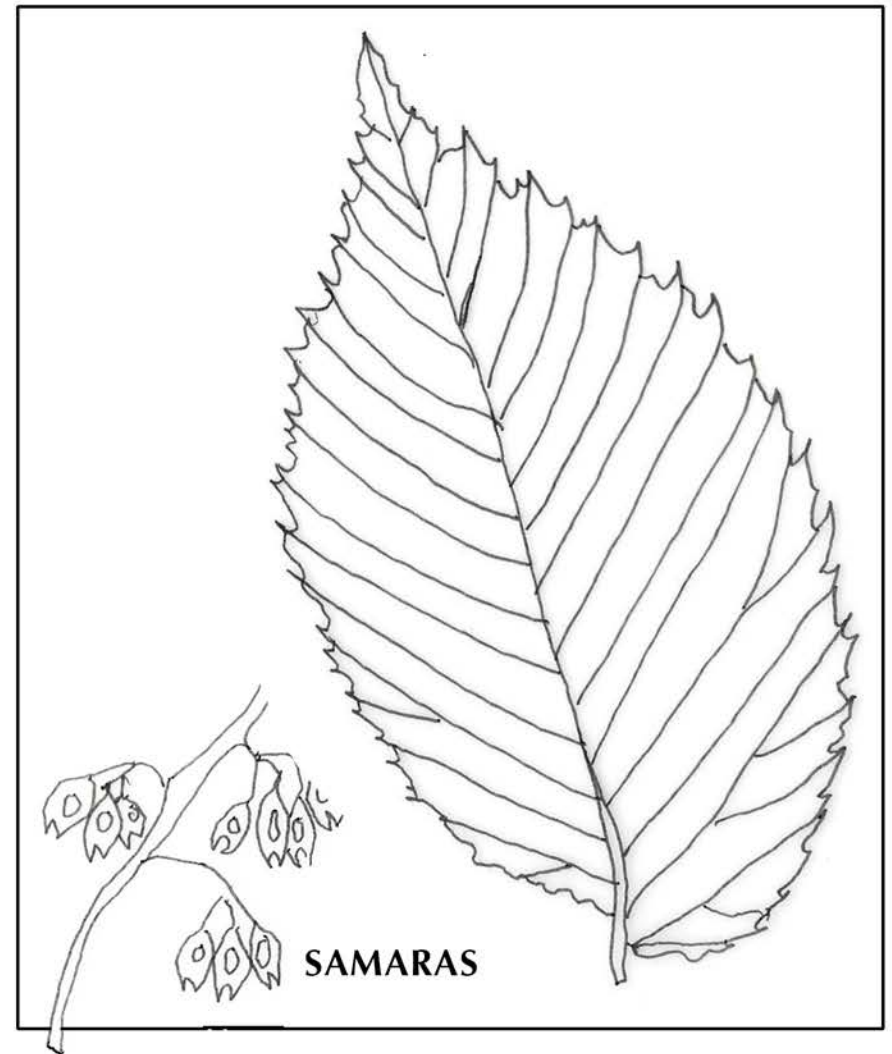
The American beech is a tall tree with thin pale grey bark. The shiny green leaves have toothed edges. The fruit, a beech nut, is a prickly capsule that breaks open when the nuts are ripe. The nuts are eaten by tufted titmice, white breasted nuthatches, blue jays, and woodpeckers. **Where to Find:** There are two large American beech trees on the Broadway Expanse of Fort Tryon Park, one just inside the Bennett Avenue/ Broadway entrance on the west side of the grassy field, and one a little further north on the west side of the slope near Sherman Avenue.

ROSE-BREASTED GROSBEAK



A harbinger of spring, the male has a black head, brown eyes, pinkish-tan bill, a rose-red patch on his white chest and abdomen, and black wings along his sides. The insides of his tail feathers are white, edged in black. His legs are gray. The female looks completely different. Her back and head are brown, with a white streak over her eyes, and her chest and abdomen are dotted with brown streaks. Rose-breasted grosbeaks are omnivores that feed on insects, berries, and seeds.

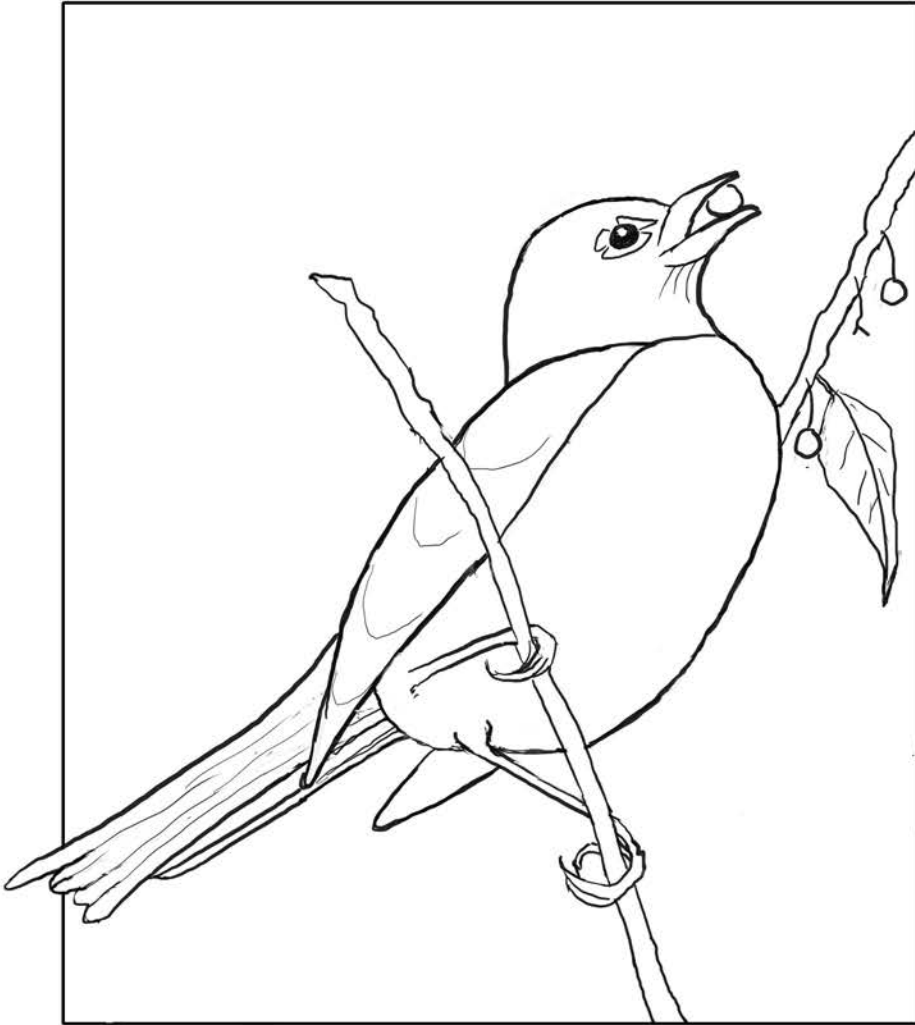
AMERICAN ELM



A tall and stately tree with bright green, toothed leaves. The tiny pink flowers that bloom in early spring produce seeds engulfed in round, green samaras, with beaked tips, surrounded by fringes of white hairs. These green samaras appear before the leaves. The seeds are eaten by rose-breasted grosbeaks, indigo buntings, American robins, and many other birds.

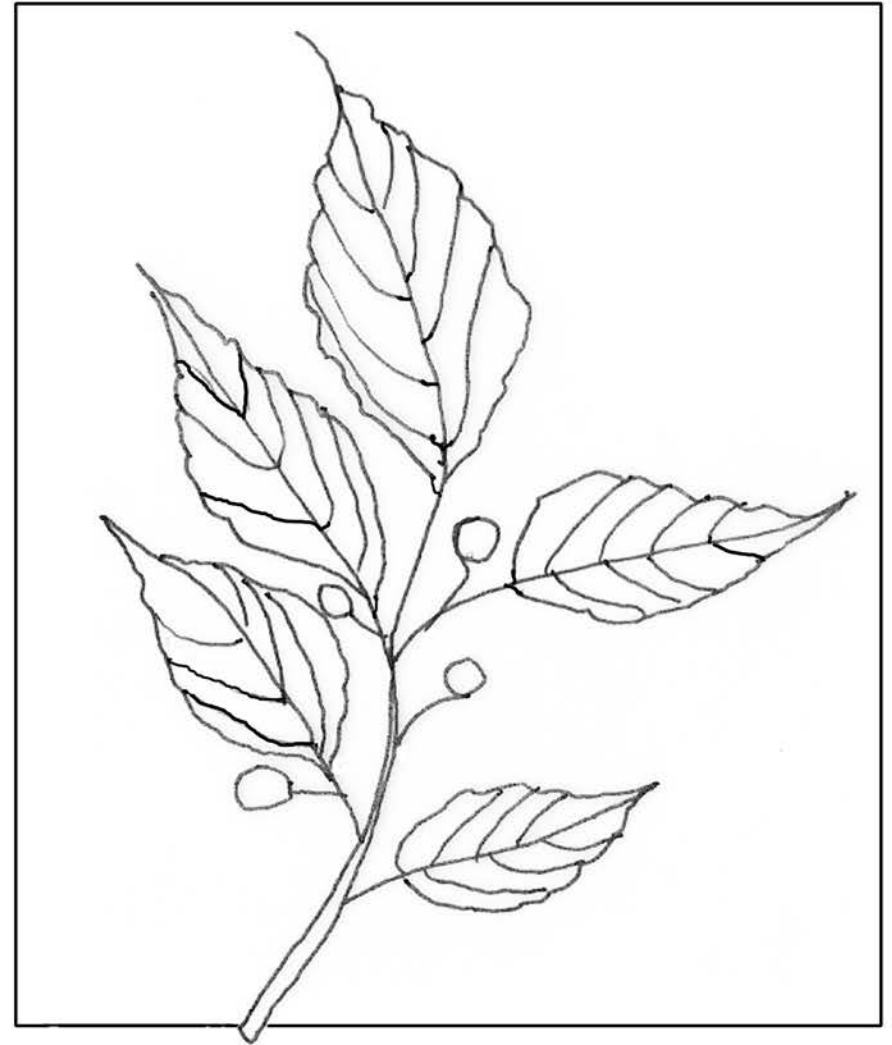
Where to Find: The largest and oldest American elm in the park is found at the northern end of the Stan Michels Promenade.

AMERICAN ROBIN



The robin's head and tail are almost black, the back is gray, and the eyes have a partial white eye-ring. The breast is brick-red, and the bill is yellow with a black tip. Females are paler than males. American robins often stay in Fort Tryon Park in small flocks through winter feeding on berries like the hackberry. In early spring many more robins arrive, building their nests in trees throughout the park, where they will find the insects and worms they need to raise their young.

COMMON HACKBERRY



An important tree for wildlife, its leaf is bright green with small teeth along the edges. The berry ripens to a reddish purple in the autumn. Its bark is covered in warts and ridges and is the tree's most recognizable characteristic. The leaves are host to many butterfly and moth caterpillars including those of the mourning cloak and the hackberry emperor butterflies. American robins, northern flickers, cardinals, and cedar waxwings also eat hackberries in the fall and winter.

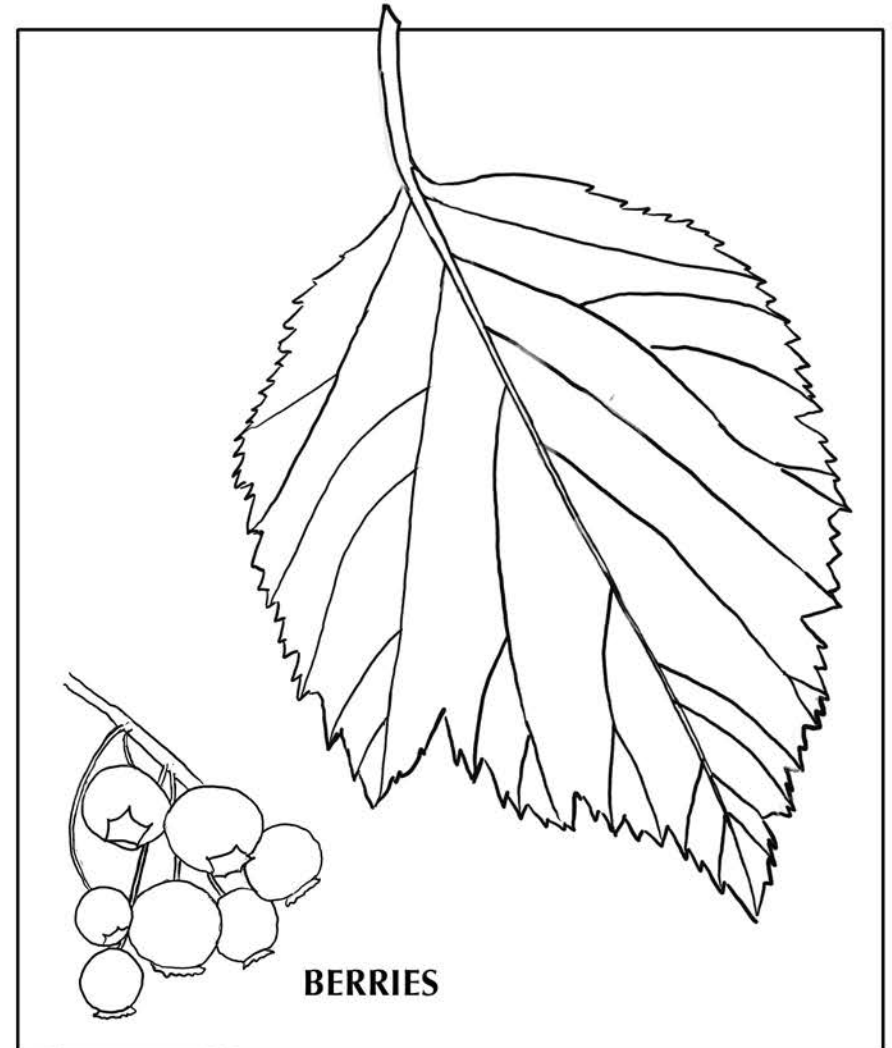
Where to Find: The western side of Alison's Walk, north end of the Heather Garden.

CEDAR WAXWING



One of our most beautiful native birds, cedar waxwings have a lustrous, silky, tawny back, chest, and “party hat” crest, a black mask across their eyes edged in white, blue-gray wings with waxy red tips, and a dark grey tail, tipped in bright yellow. The belly is pale yellow. The male has a black throat, and the female’s throat is brown. You can see small flocks in the park feeding on hawthorn berries and other kinds of berries throughout the fall, winter, and early spring.

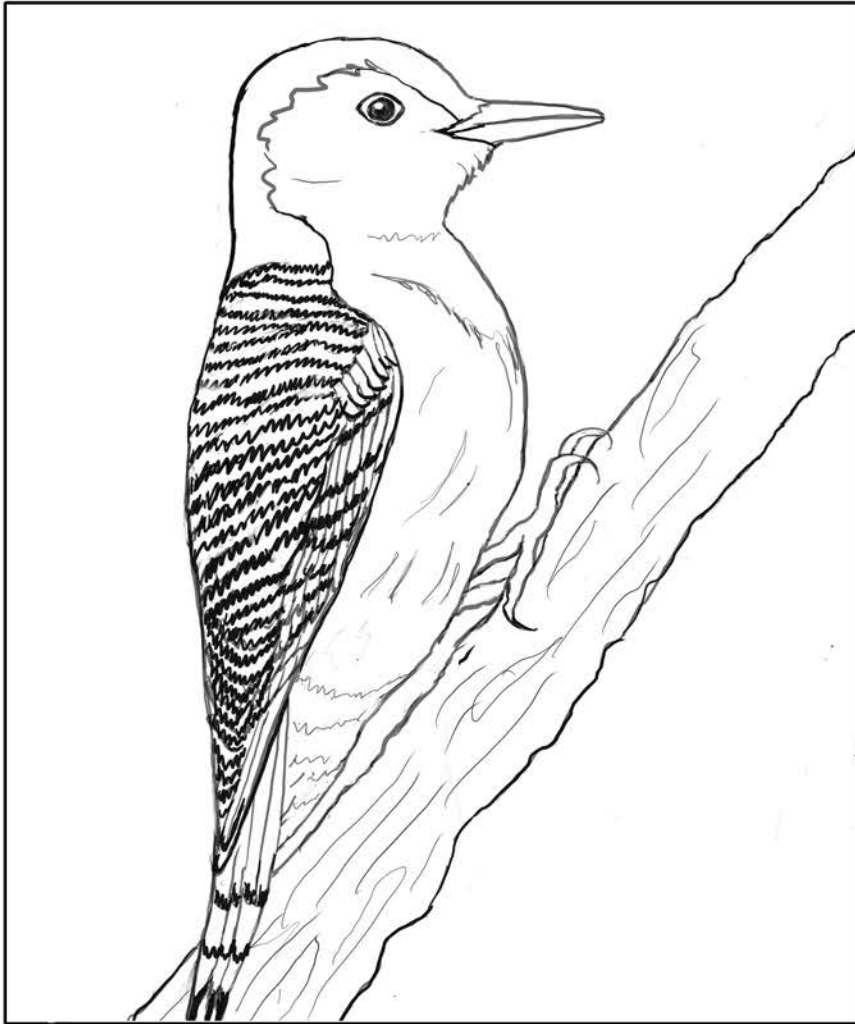
HAWTHORN TREE



A small, but very important tree for animals of the park, its green toothed leaves often have small lobes. Clusters of small white flowers in spring produce bright red berries in fall that remain on the tree throughout the winter and are eaten by many birds including cedar waxwings, black-capped chickadees, robins, mockingbirds, and tufted titmice. Caterpillars of butterflies and moths feed on the leaves. Honeybees and native bees feed on the flowers’ nectar.

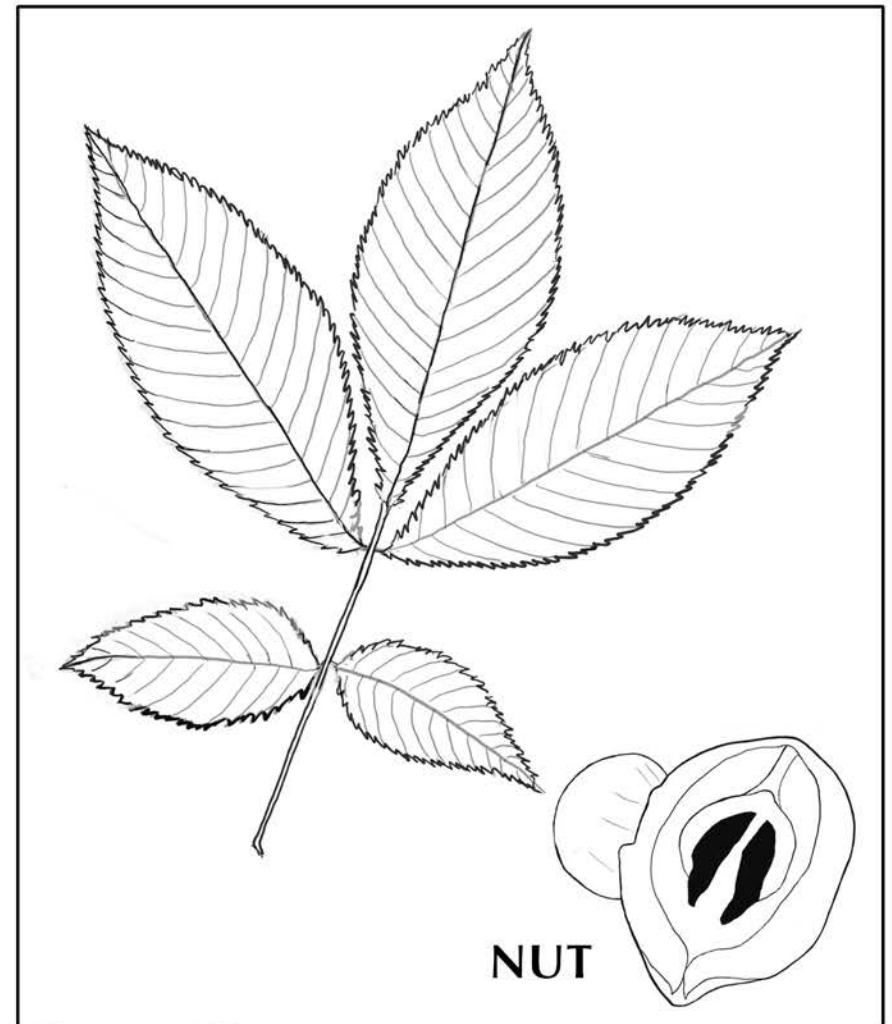
Where to Find: Western side of Allison’s Walk, Heather Garden, above the Billings Lawn.

RED-BELLIED WOODPECKER



One of our largest woodpeckers, the red-bellied is named for the hard to see pale red spot under its abdomen. The male has a brilliant orange-red crown that goes from his bill to his nape, the back of his neck. The female has a pale red nape and a red spot over her bill. Both male and female have a pale grey face, chest, and abdomen and both have the black and white “zebra-back” pattern of many woodpeckers. They live in Fort Tryon Park year-round. They are omnivores, feeding on invertebrates, berries, fruit, seeds, and nuts including the pignut hickory nut, which they hammer open with their powerful bills.

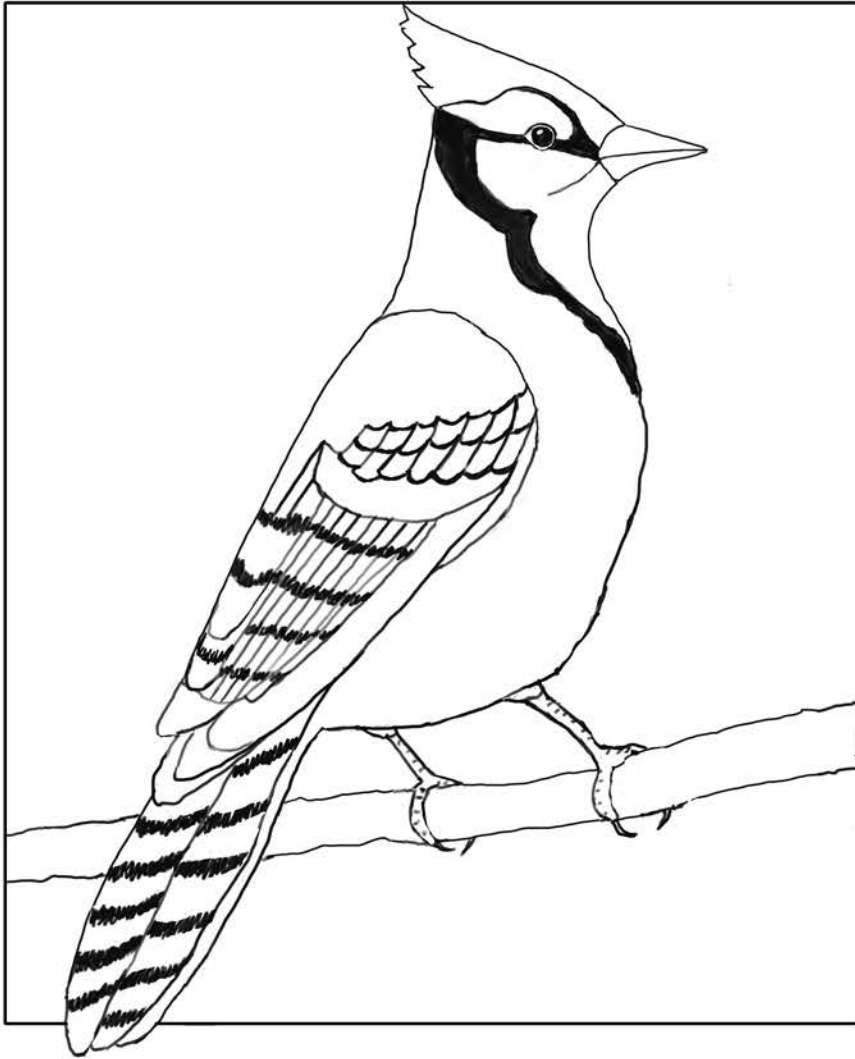
PIGNUT HICKORY TREE



The pignut hickory tree has a compound leaf with 5 leaflets. The lowest 2 leaflets are much smaller than the upper three. The rich green leaves of spring and summer turn a golden yellow in autumn. The pignut hickory nuts, when cut in half, look like pig snouts, hence the name. In the fall, these nuts are valuable food for wildlife, such as the red-bellied woodpecker, blue jay, the grey squirrel, and the tiny flying squirrel. All these wonderful animals live in Fort Tryon Park.

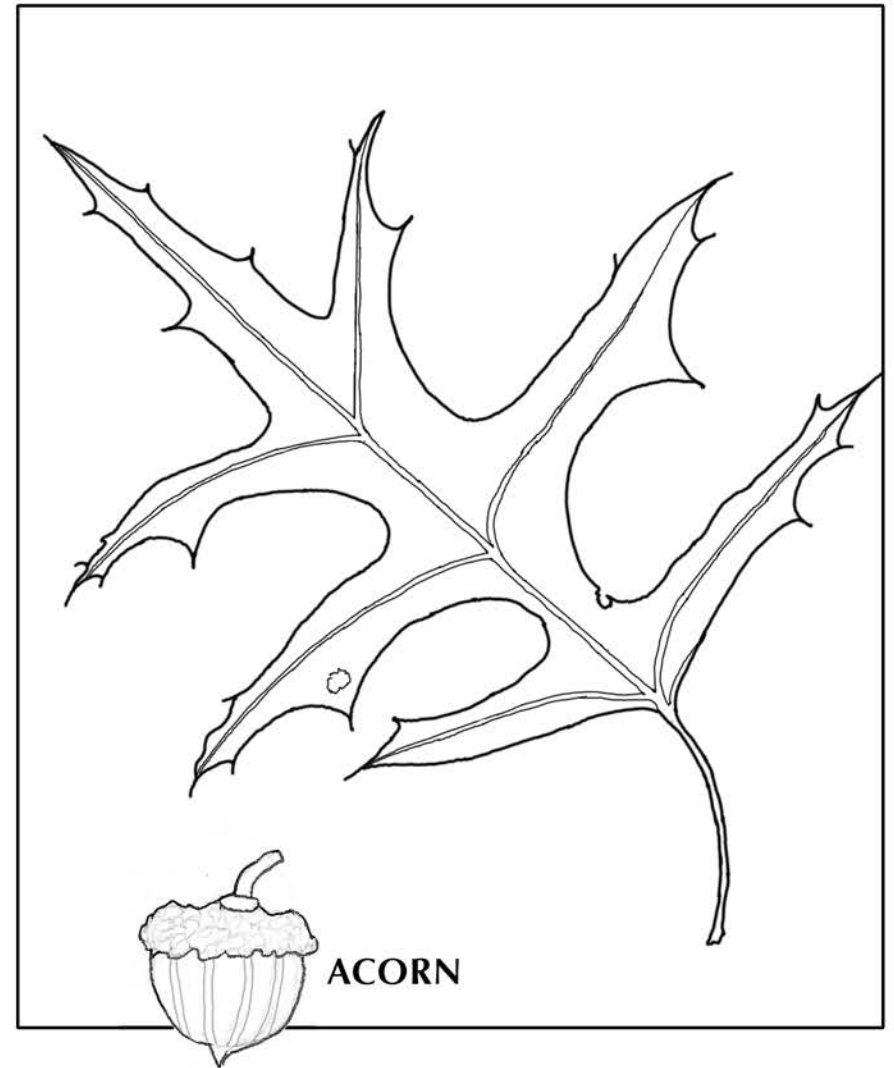
Where to Find: On the path as you walk north from the Heather Garden to the Met Cloisters and in the forest northeast of the Met Cloisters.

EASTERN BLUE JAY



Male and female blue jays look alike. Their triangular “party hat” crests are brilliant blue. Their eyes, bills, legs, feet, and the “necklace” around their faces are black. Their throat, chest, and abdomen are greyish white, and their backs are a grayish purple. The wings and tail feathers are barred with bright blue, black, and white. Blue jay pairs bond for life and live in the park year-round. They are the most important planters of acorns and can carry 100 acorns a day, partially burying them to save for winter.

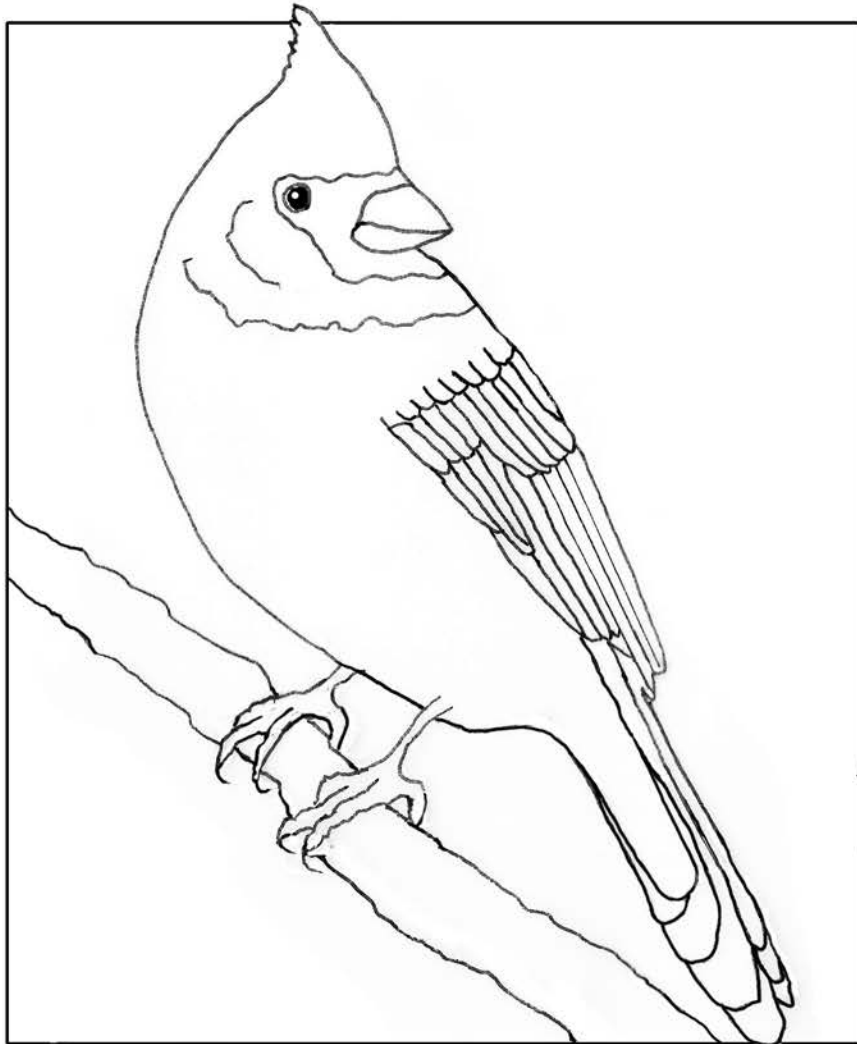
PIN OAK



The pin oak leaf is dark green with light colored veins. The small acorns have dark and light green stripes. Acorns are the primary source of food during winter for many birds including blue jays, nuthatches, chickadees, cardinals, and woodpeckers. Mammals of the park like skunks, gray squirrels, flying squirrels, raccoons, and opossums also rely on them for food.

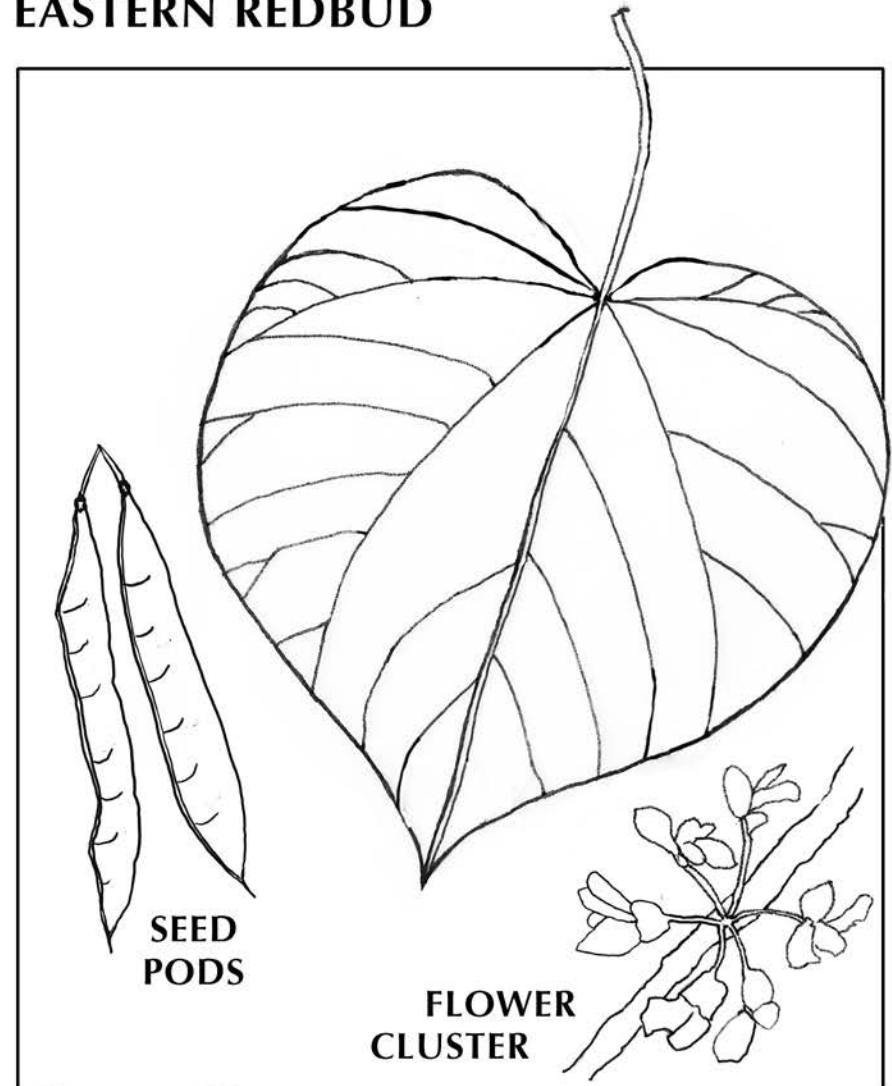
Where to Find: Just north of the Heather Garden on the path toward the Met Cloisters.

NORTHERN CARDINAL



Except for his black mask and throat, the male cardinal is a completely red bird. His thick conical bill, "party hat" crest, head, back, underparts and tail are a brilliant red. His legs and feet are a pinkish grey. The female is tawny above and below with a red bill, reddish crest, wings, and tail. A bonded pair stays together for life. Cardinals are omnivores, feeding on flowers, berries, insects, and seeds. They live year-round in Fort Tryon Park.

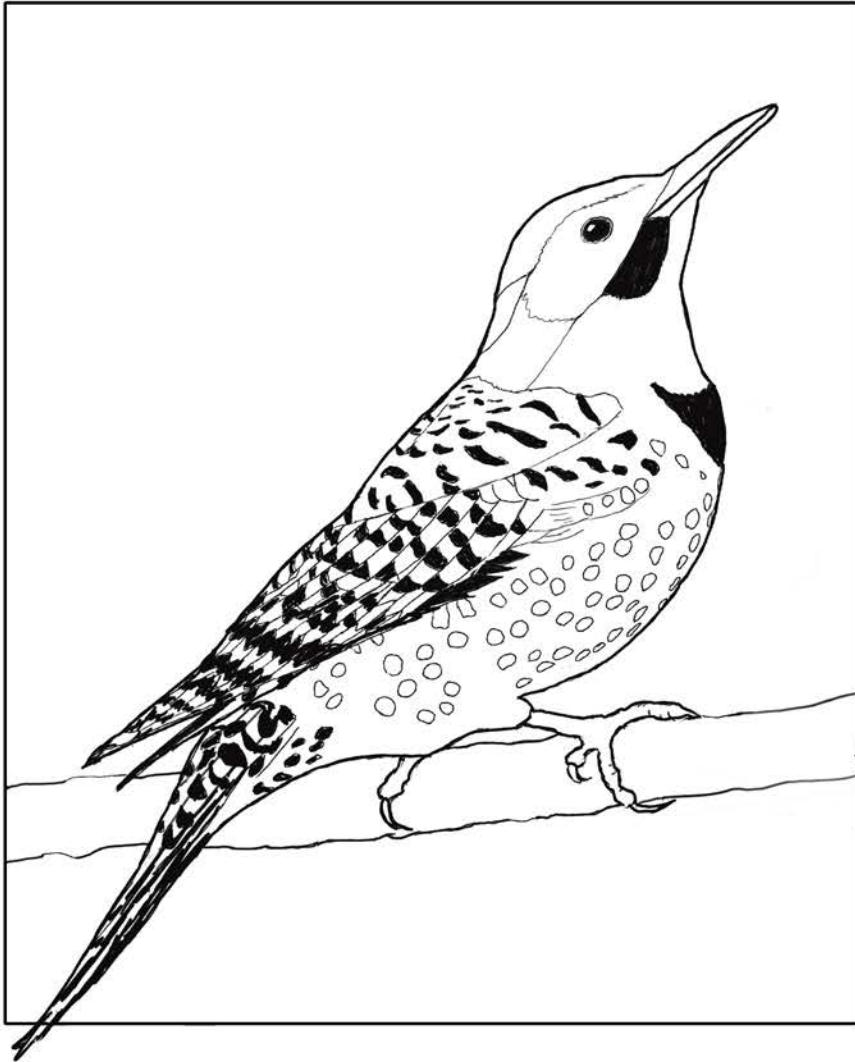
EASTERN REDBUD



In early spring, before the leaves emerge, clusters of pink and lavender pea-like flowers appear along the branches and trunk. The eastern redbud leaf is heart-shaped, a deep green in summer and yellow in fall. The flowers are eaten by cardinals at a time when few seeds, berries, or insects are available. The flat brown pods hold seeds eaten by cardinals, and other birds.

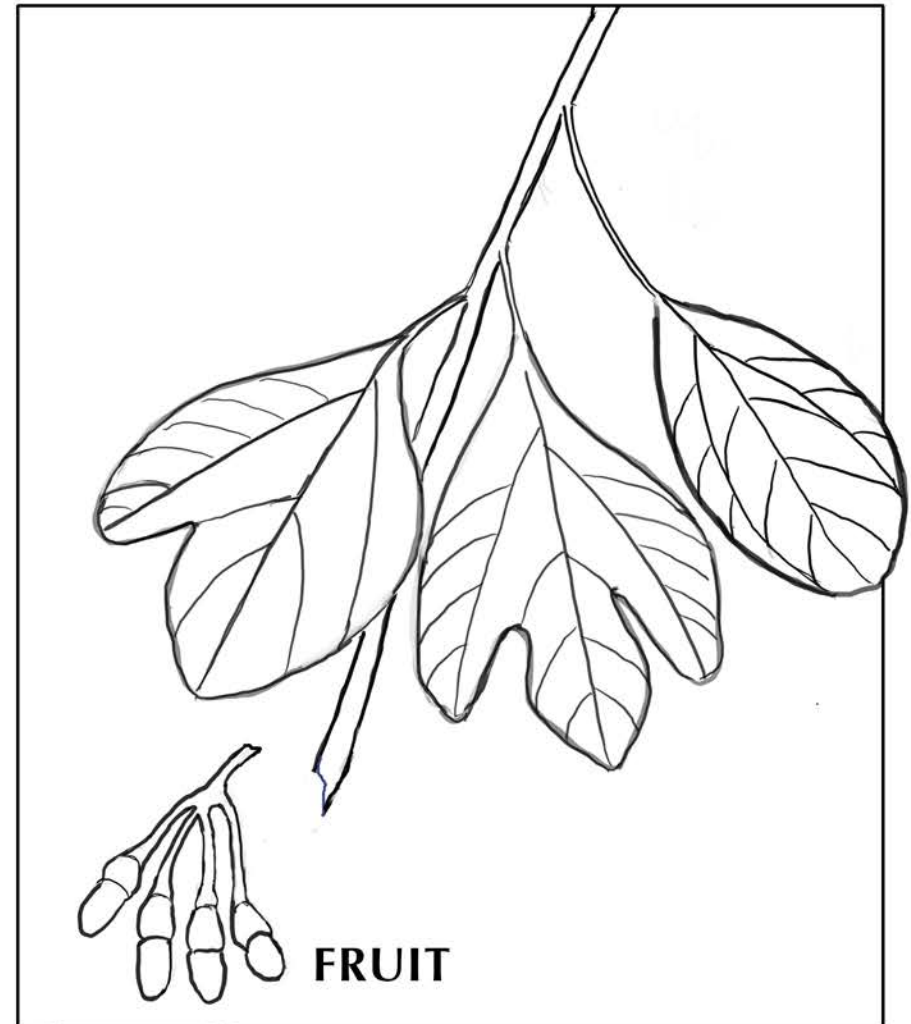
Where to Find: On the west side of the Cafe Lawn path, and throughout the park.

NORTHERN FLICKER



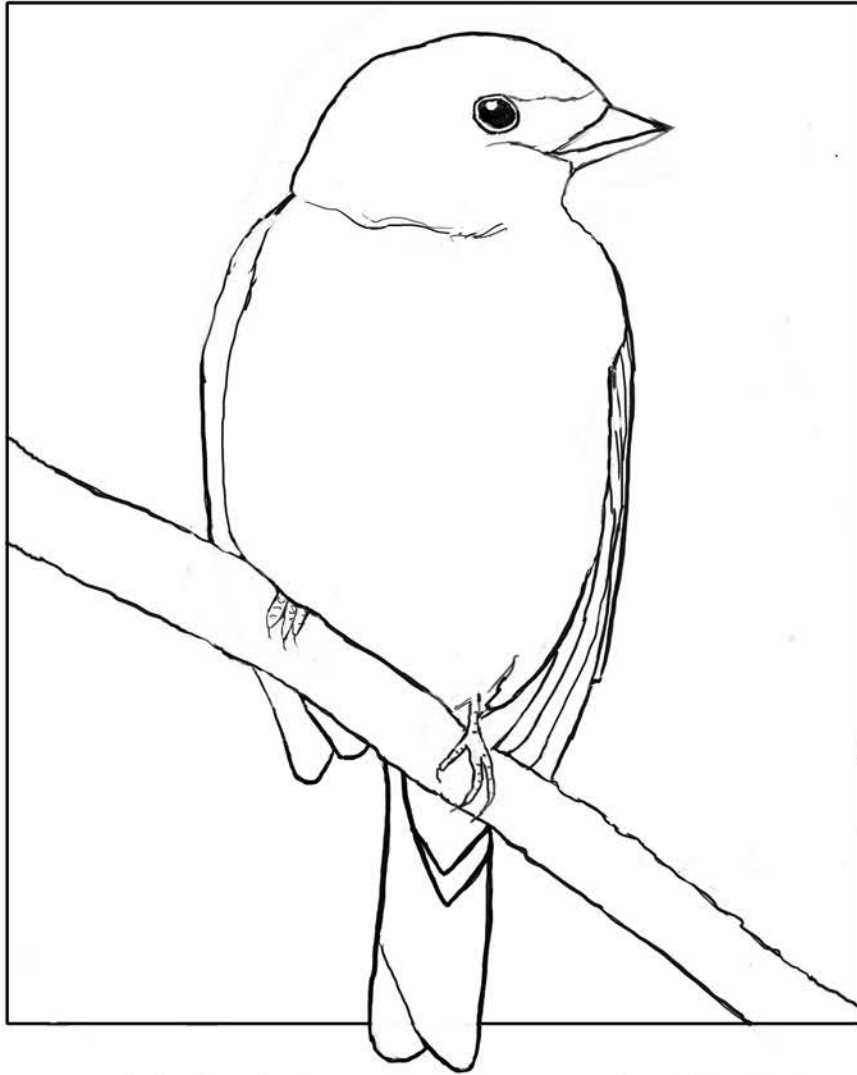
Known as golden-shafted flickers because of the beautiful golden feathers that line the undersides of their wings and tails, males have a black “mustache” stripe on either side of the bill and both males and females have a red patch on the back of their heads. Many of these large woodpeckers migrate to Fort Tryon Park in early spring and feed on sassafras and other berries and use their strong bills to dig into the soil for beetles, ants, and termites. Flickers, catbirds, downy woodpeckers, and robins feed on the sassafras berries in winter.

SASSAFRAS TREE



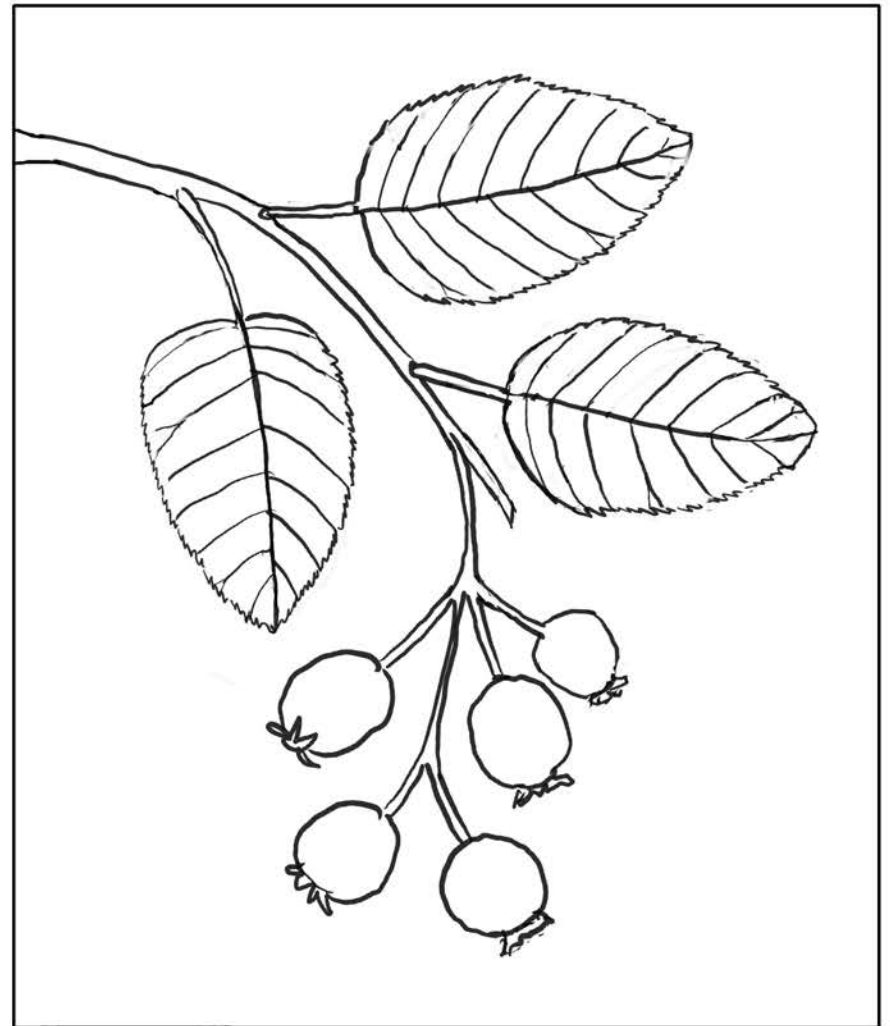
A small tree with bright green leaves that have 3 shapes: egg, two-lobed mitten, and three-lobed ghost! If you crush the leaf in summer, it smells spicy, citrusy, and sweet. Leaves host the caterpillars of the tiger swallowtail and the spicebush swallowtail. The sassafras has male and female trees, but only the tiny yellow female flowers produce the fruit - a dark blue fleshy berry held in a bright red cup perched on a red stalk.
Where to Find: On the steep path going to the Met Cloisters, just south of the Anne Loftus Playground.

INDIGO BUNTING



The male indigo bunting is a small, solid, sparrow-sized bird with the most brilliant shades of cerulean blue on his body, and a darker blue on his head. He has a shiny silver beak. Females are brown. This beautiful bird can be seen in Fort Tryon Park when it migrates up in April and May to feed on seeds, berries, and insects, and stays until early fall when it migrates south.

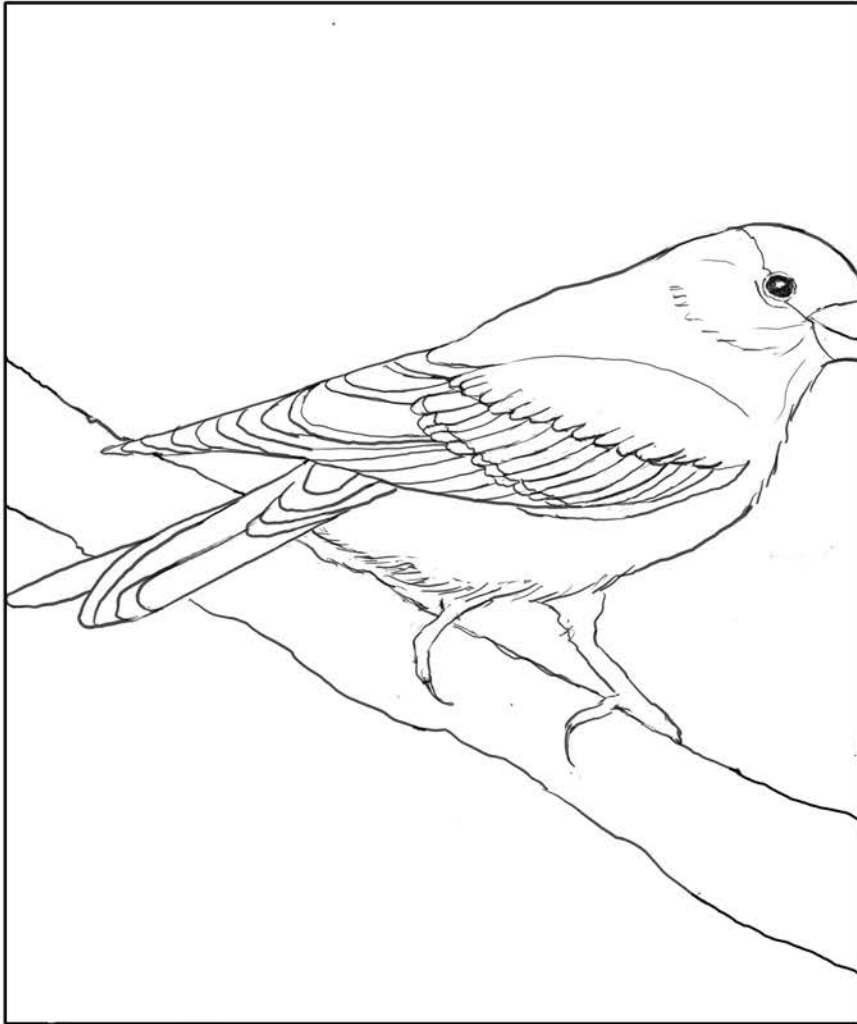
SERVICEBERRY TREE



A little tree that is one of the first to flower in early spring, providing nectar for hungry pollinators and leaves that are host to the caterpillars of many butterflies and moths, including the Viceroy and red-spotted purple. The flowers produce bright red berries in early summer that turn bluish purple when ripe and are eaten by indigo buntings, cedar waxwings, robins, mockingbirds, orioles, song sparrows, and catbirds.

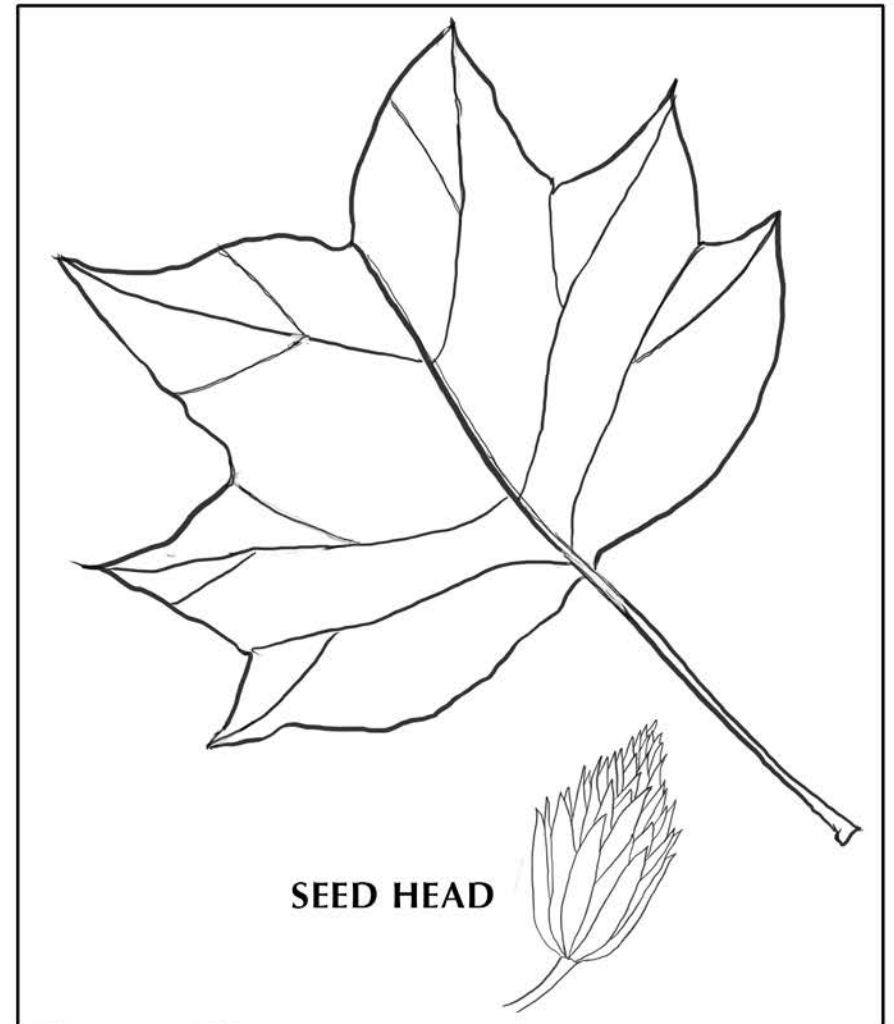
Where to Find: Along the Broadway Expanse of Fort Tryon Park on the slope just past the first set of stairs walking north from the Bennett/ Broadway entrance.

AMERICAN GOLDFINCH



During the breeding seasons of spring and summer, the male is a small, brilliant yellow bird with a black cap and forehead, white rump, black wings, and a black tail with white edges. Females are a dull, pale yellowish tan. In winter, the males lose their bright yellow feathers and resemble females. Small flocks of these gorgeous little birds can be seen throughout the park year-round feeding on tree and flower seeds in the Heather Garden and the many smaller gardens of the park.

TULIP TREE



Our tallest native tree: it can grow to 150 feet! Easy to identify by the square shape of the bright green leaf with 4-6 lobes, and a notch between the top two lobes, making it look like a cat's face with ears, or a tulip! The flowers have greenish-yellow petals splashed with orange. The cone-shaped fruit is filled with winged seeds called samaras that are eaten by American goldfinches, cardinals, and tufted titmice.

Where to Find: Two tall tulip trees are on the Broadway Expanse of Fort Tryon Park, on either side of the first set of stairs inside the Bennett/Broadway entrance.

Color Guide



Rose-Breasted
Grosbeak



Eastern
Blue Jay



Northern
Cardinal



Tufted
Titmouse



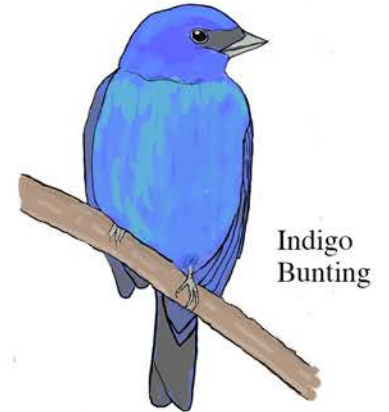
American
Goldfinch



American
Robin



Red-Bellied
Woodpecker



Indigo
Bunting



Northern Flicker



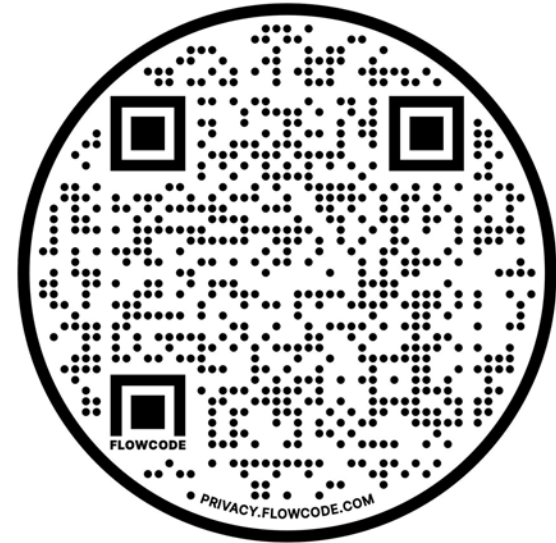
Cedar Waxwing

DRAW & COLOR YOUR OWN



Use this space to draw your own favorite bird or leaf from what you discover in Fort Tryon Park.

EXPLORE FORT TRYON PARK WITH A MAP



Use this QR code to access
a detailed map showing the areas
of the park mentioned in this book.

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