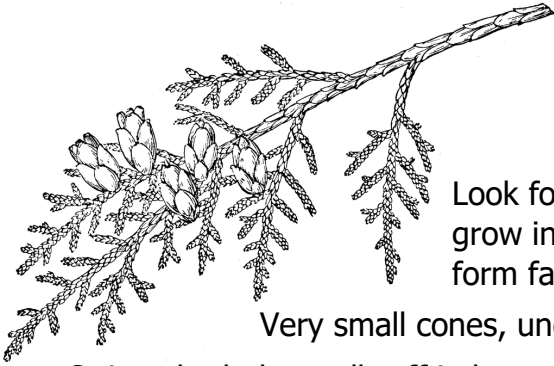


## Plants of the Month: March

# Western Red Cedar



*Thuja plicata*

Evergreen coniferous tree

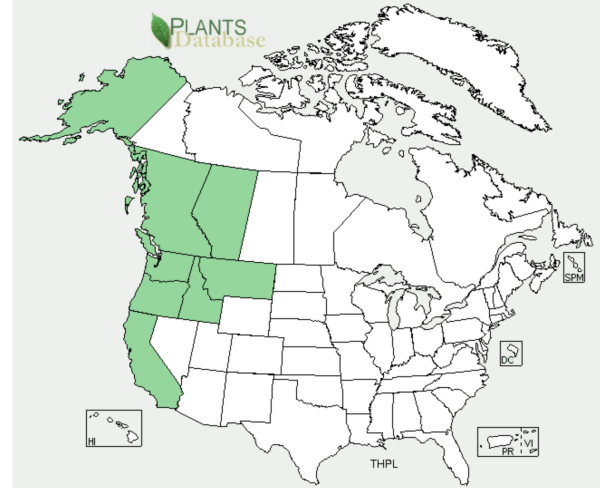
Look for: Tiny, flat, needles that grow in alternating pairs, that form fan-shaped sprays.

Very small cones, under 1 inch long.

Stringy bark that pulls off in long strips.

Can be up to 200 feet tall, 10 feet around. Can live 1000 years. Bark and needles have a distinctive smell.

Find it: Grows in moist areas, in shade of other trees. Often near Douglas Firs.



Uses: Deer eat the needles. Birds such as robins and cedar waxwings also eat cedar. Golden cheeked warblers make their nests from cedar bark. Historically, Native Americans used it to build houses, canoes, boxes, clothes. Modern Americans use it for roof shingles, fences, boxes, perfumes and insecticides.