

## Witch Hazel (*Hamamelis virginiana*)

Origin: Native.

Status in Park: Occasional, mostly on wooded slopes.

Characteristics: Grows up to 25 feet tall, 2-4 inches in diameter; often two or more crooked trunks; bark light brown, eventually broken into small scales; flowers with 4 yellow petals, each up to 2/3 of an inch long, September to November; fruit a capsule, about ½ long, brown, hairy, splitting open during the following autumn to release several small, shiny seeds.

Leaves: Alternate, simple; blades up to 6 inches long, asymmetrical base, edges with coarse teeth; dark green and somewhat hairy above, paler and hairy beneath.



Location of tagged tree:



Notes: This tree is the one that blooms latest in the year at Spring Creek. The asymmetrical leaf bases are important characteristics for identification. The tree is sometimes planted as an ornamental.