Plant Doppelgangers

Some of these doppelgangers may be leaving you stumped! Use these tips to help identify these tricksters. Please use caution when identifying plants, as some may cause skin irritations, and remember to stay on trail and leave all parts of the plant for wildlife (berries are for the birds).





Poison ivy Look for: 3 leaflets, sometimes deeply toothed and glossy, hairy tendrils on vine



Virginia creeper Look for: 5 leaflets, rounded tendrils on vine



Poison hemlock Look for: smooth stems with purple speckles and rounded clusters of allwhite flowers



Queen Anne's lace Look for: hairy, green stems and flat clusters of flowers with red in the center of the cluster



Black raspberry Look for: powdery-white to purple, rounded stems with large thorns



Blackberry Look for: green, angled stems with small thorns



Staghorn sumac Look for: toothed leaflets on hairy branches with red fruit



Poison sumac Look for: smooth leaflets on smooth branches with green to white fruit



Wild Grape Look for: leaves with toothed edges and berries with multiple, oval seeds



Common Moonseed Look for: smooth, lobed leaves and berries with a moon-shaped seed



Elderberry Look for: large, umbrella clusters of small berries on a woody stem with compound leaves



Pokeweed Look for: long, drooping clusters of large berries on a hot pink stem with simple leaves