

# Conifers Around Holden Village

**Pacific silver fir, *Abies amabilis*.** Fleshy upright cones that fall apart on the tree; needles with enlarged round green bases and minutely notched tips (these cone and leaf characteristics are common to all "true" firs, *Abies*); leaves growing on the top as well as sides of the twigs; whitish lines of stomata visible only on the bottom of the leaves.

**Grand fir, *Abies grandis*.** Needles appearing to grow in two lines on the edges of the twigs, forming flat sprays; whitish lines of stomata visible only on the bottom of the leaves.

**Subalpine fir, *Abies lasiocarpa*.** Whitish lines of stomata visible on top and bottom of the leaves.

**Alaska or yellow-cedar, *Chamaecyparis nootkatensis*.** Here only an occasional scrubby tree in upper elevations; leaves malodorous; cones round, waxy.

**Common juniper, *Juniperus communis*.** Shrub at upper elevations; prickly awl-shaped leaves; seeds in small  $\frac{1}{4}$ " waxy "berries".

**Subalpine larch, *Larix lyallii*.** Soft green deciduous needles in clusters of around 20; only present at high elevation near the tree line, especially on north slopes.

**Engelmann spruce, *Picea engelmannii*.** Large forest tree, often where moist; needles prickly to the touch; cones papery and around 2" long; bark dark and flaky.

**Lodgepole pine, *Pinus contorta*.** Medium-sized forest tree, often in dense single-species stands; needles in bundles of 2; cones oval and blunt, around 2" long.

**Western white pine, *Pinus monticola*.** Tall forest tree, needles in bundles of 5; cones narrow, 6-12 inches long

**Ponderosa pine, *Pinus ponderosa*.** Large tree of dry forests; needles in bundles of 3; cones oval, prickly, 3-4" long.

**Whitebark pine, *Pinus albicaulis*.** Small tree near tree line; needles in bundles of 5, needles stiff; cones oval, to 2", usually falling apart on the tree.

**Douglas-fir, *Pseudotsuga menziesii*.** The most common forest tree in the vicinity of the village; deeply furrowed bark on older trees; buds long and pointed; cones with three-pronged bracts that resemble the tail and hind legs of a mouse extending from beneath the scales.

**Western hemlock, *Tsuga heterophylla*.** Common elsewhere, rare near the village; drooping terminal leader; long and short needles growing together; oval woody cones around  $\frac{3}{4}$ " long.

**Mountain hemlock, *T. mertensiana*.** Common at upper elevations near tree line; drooping terminal leader; cones oval or elongate 1  $\frac{1}{4}$ " to 2" long.

**Pacific yew, *Taxus brevifolia*.** Occasional small tree or large shrub; needles are flat and taper to a fine hair-like point.

**Western red-cedar, *Thuja plicata*.** Common forest tree in areas with adequate moisture; reddish fibrous bark, scale-like needles, brown oval  $\frac{1}{2}$ " cones.