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## LEAVES OF THREE . . . LET IT BE!

Poison ivy is found in most Illinois state parks. Don't be fooled by the size of the plant! Poison ivy can grow as a small plant, a small bush or a vine climbing up the side of a tree. You can identify poison ivy by the three leaflets with edges either smooth or notched.

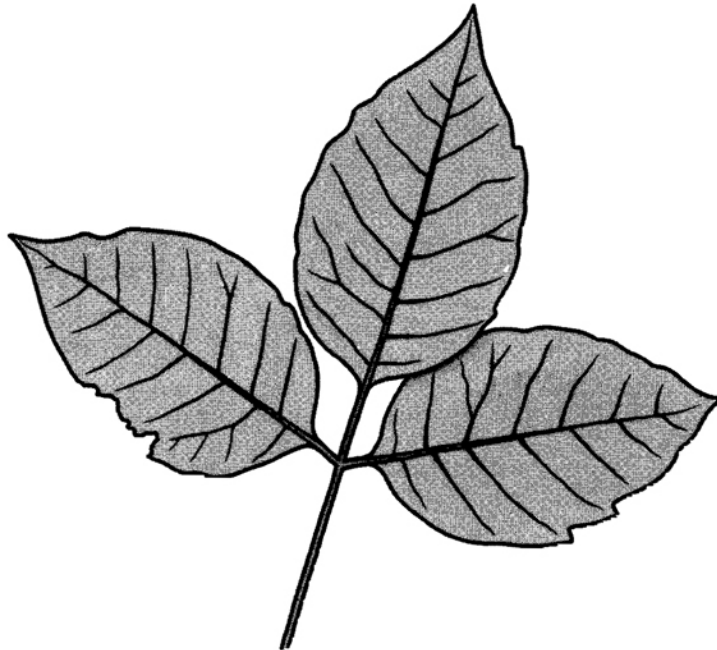
If you brush against poison ivy you may get a rash. Oils in the leaves cause itchy blisters to form on your skin. If you think you have come in contact with this plant, tell a parent or adult. If the rash is severe you may want to see a doctor.

**LEARN TO IDENTIFY AND AVOID THIS PLANT!** While along the trail, look for poison ivy and record your observations here.

1. IS IT A PLANT, BUSH OR VINE?

2. WHERE IS IT GROWING?

3. DESCRIBE THE LEAFLETS.



**DID YOU KNOW . . .** poison oak is a plant from the western United States and not found in Illinois! Poison sumac is associated with bog habitats and is found in northeast Illinois.