Benchmark Assessment Tally Sheet

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6 Tree Species Richness

Sample Crew:_____ **Date:**_____ **Town Forest:**_____ **Sample site location**_____

Native Tree Species	Abundant	Occasional to locally abundant		Native Tree Species	Abundant	Occasional to locally abundant
American beech				Musclewood		
American elm				Northern white cedar		
American mountain-ash				Paper birch		
Balsam fir				Pin cherry		
Balsam poplar				Pitch pine		
Bartram's shadbush				Quaking aspen		
Basswood				Red maple		
Bitternut hickory				Red oak		
Black ash				Red pine		
Black cherry				Red spruce		
Black gum				Red spruce		
Black oak				Scrub Oak		
Black spruce				Shagbark hickory		
Black willow				Showy mountain ash		
Boxelder				Silver maple		
Bur oak				Slippery elm		
Butternut				Striped maple		
Chestnut oak				Sugar maple		
Cottonwood				Swamp white oak		
Eastern hemlock				Sweet birch		
Eastern red-cedar				Sycamore		
Gray birch				Tamarack		
Green ash				White ash		
Heart-leaved paper birch				White oak		
Hophornbeam				White pine		
Mountain maple				Yellow oak		
Other species observed:						

Species in shaded boxes may indicate the presence of an uncommon natural community.

Conclusion: The process of determining the tree species richness of an area generally does not yield hard and fast information upon which specific management practices can be based. However, the species richness does give clues about the health of the forest as indicated by its biological diversity. At best, determining tree species richness will raise your awareness of the present conditions and cultivate your intuitions for future management considerations. If three or more native tree species are identified as *abundant* and there are five additional species that are *occasional to locally abundant*, then check "Healthy" in the box at the right. If not, check 'May need work' and summarize the work that might be required.

Healthy	☐
May Need Work	☐