

Oregon White Oak

Quercus garryana
Beech Family (Fagaceae)

General Description: A distinctly recognizable tree, about 65ft tall, its dark silhouette on the open prairies is unmistakable. The tree usually has a rounded crown. Found most commonly in prairies with well-drained, rocky glacial till soils. Also found in riparian and wetland areas.

Key Characteristics: Bark is brown to gray, thin; thicker and more coarsely grooved with age. Twigs are stout and somewhat hairy with prominent lenticels. Alternate leaf buds, approximately 1/4"-1/2" long. Raised, kidney-shaped leaf scars. Terminal buds, longer than laterals, are twisted at the ends and multiple bud scales fold over each other like a pair of clasped hands.

Photo: Zachary Fleig