Sugar Maple Identification

**Bark**
Light gray, flaky, "frosted flake" bark, often has black patches near the base.

**Opposite Branching**
Most branches and twigs will have a 'buddy' opposite of them. This is easiest to see on small twigs near the end of a branch.

**Fruit**
Maple seeds, called samaras, are produced in the fall. A few seeds may still be visible underneath the tree.

**Leaves**
Leaves are located opposite one another on the branch. In winter, the buds are visible where the leaves will grow in the spring.

**Twigs and Buds**
Twigs are slender, smooth, and reddish brown. Buds are pointed with small scales.