Hemlock
*Tsuga* sp.

Before the Arboretum was established, most of the land was cleared for farming purposes; an exception was Hemlock Hill. Although some trees had been cut for lumber, the area had never been entirely cleared because its steep rocky slopes were unsuitable even for pasturage.

The native Eastern hemlock (*Tsuga canadensis*) thrives in cool, moist woodlands along the banks of streams and creeks, and often on the north-facing slope of a hillside. Beyond Bussey Hill lies Hemlock Hill, where an old grove of hemlocks (*)& gives the shaded hillside a prehistoric feel.

Join us for the **Conifers in Winter Tour.**
January 22nd at 1pm
See if you can find the 5 different species of *Tsuga* on the Conifer Path (#).
In 1997, a tiny, fuzzy insect was discovered on the Arnold Arboretum’s Hemlock Hill: **hemlock wooly adelgid**. This insect poses little threat to the trees in its native habitat of China and Japan. For Eastern hemlocks, however, the wooly adelgid can kill its host in a matter of years, rapidly sucking out a tree’s energy resources and preventing new growth. To date, over 500 trees have been lost in the Arboretum to this **invasive species**, despite removal and/or treatment of infested trees.

You can find a tall Eastern hemlock just behind the visitor center. Does it have hemlock wooly adelgid? Look for white fuzzy white patches along the branches. Does this tree look healthy? **Can you find the other conifers pictured above?**