

# Terms to Help With Identification



## Plant Life Cycle

**Annual** – grows, flowers and dies in one year, typically with simple root system

**Perennial** – grows more than one year with extensive root system

**Deciduous** – plant that sheds its leaves seasonally

## Growth Form

**Erect** – upright

**Prostrate** – growing along ground

**Rosette** – circular cluster of leaves at ground level, like a dandelion plant

**Shrub** – woody plant that lives for multiple years

**Herb** – non-woody, usually annual plant

**Spike** – in a grass or grass-like plant, a cluster of tightly packed seeds, forming a dense seedhead

## Reproduction

**Vegetative** – asexual reproduction via plant parts other than seeds (rhizomes, stolons, bulbs, etc.)

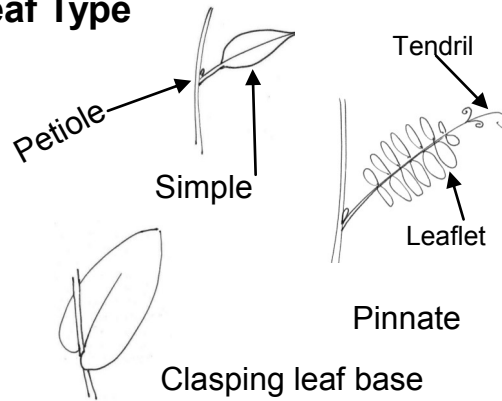
**Rhizome** – horizontal stem growing underground

**Stolon** – horizontal stem growing aboveground

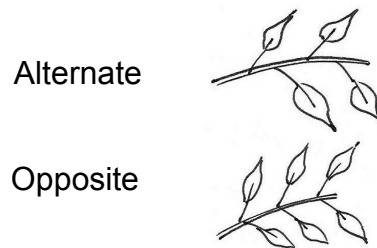
# Tips to Help With Identification



## Leaf Type



## Leaf Arrangement



## Leaf Edges

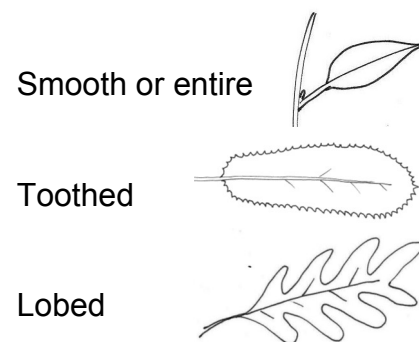


Image credits: Tim Hyland  
These cards were adapted from a design by National Park Service.