COMMON ALDER
Alnus serrulata

Located in swamps, wet woods and along stream margins throughout the Division.

A shrub, 1.8 to 3.7 m high, which often forms thickets along waterways. Leaves are oval or egg-shaped with a triangular shaped base; broadest at or above the middle of the leaf; 5 to 13 cm long; edges with teeth. Flowers bloom from February through May; male catkins drooping. Fruits are cone-like and do not droop. Several varieties are recognized

The buds, catkins and seeds may be eaten by game and song birds; twigs and foliage eaten by beaver, hare, deer, moose and other browsers. In addition, the dense thickets provide cover from predators.

Notes