

Staghorn Sumac

Rhus thypina

-Staghorn Sumac derives its name from the fact that its crooked branches resemble antlers.

-Staghorn Sumac is a tall shrub. It can grow to the height of 25 feet. The fact that it is so thickly leaved, along with the height, make this a wonderful shrub.

-Got grandkids? When I was a small child growing up in Langlade County, I would lay under Staghorn Sumacs for hours in the summer. It was almost like my own personal jungle. The leaves are so thick on the tree, and the form of the shrub is such that there is plenty of room for play underneath, that it was one of my favorite places to be.

-In my opinion, it is a great and inexpensive fort. Plus, it proved a valuable place to go when I was mad enough to think that I was going to run away from home. I'd grab a package of Saltines and out the door I'd go to hide in the Staghorn Sumac. I certainly wasn't the smartest kid of the whole block.



The large buds, suddenly pushing out late in the spring from dry sticks which had seemed to be dead, developed themselves as by magic into graceful green and tender boughs, an inch in diameter; and sometimes as I sat at my window, so heedlessly did they grow and tax their weak joints, I heard a fresh and tender bough suddenly fall like a fan to the ground, when there was not a breath of air stirring, broken off by its own weight. In August, the large masses of berries, which, when in flower, had attracted many wild bees, gradually assumed their bright velvety crimson hue, and by their weight again bent down and broke the tender limbs.

-Henry David Thoreau

-Walden