

**Confederation Trail
Fern Checklist**



Common Name	Location	Description
Lady Fern	moist woods	sori curved, leaflets alternate, often dark red midrib
Chamomile Grape Fern	clearings, hardwoods	flowers, small fern
Leathery Grape Fern	sandy thickets, dryer clearings, woodlands	flowers, small fern, leathery frond, barely above ground level
Rattlesnake Fern	moist shaded woods	flowers, lacy triangular frond
Eastern Hay-scented Fern	rocky open woods, slopes, pastures, roadsides	sori round & at edge of leaflets, midrib hairy, pale green
Spinulose Shield Fern	swamps, wet woods	sori, frond triangular, midrib scaly at base
Crested Shield Fern	swamps, wet woods	sori, leaflets horizontal, more or less equal length
Evergreen Wood Fern	moist shaded woods, rocky slopes	sori
Oak Fern	moist woodlands	sori, small fern, leaflets often drooping from midrib
Ostrich Fern, Fiddleheads	woods, meadows in fine grained soils	tall, flowers dark, shorter than fronds, fronds widest at tip
Sensitive Fern	open woods, streamsides, ditches	flowers, fern mid-size to small, leaflets not divided, light green
Cinnamon Fern	wet woods, pastures, swamps	flowers, tall fern, pale tufts of hair at base of each leaflet
Interrupted Fern	moist woods, thickets, bottomlands	flower at centre of fertile fronds
Royal Fern	wet rocky woods, stream bands & shores	flower at tip of fertile fronds, leaflets to ground & widest in middle
Christmas Fern	woods, rocky slopes	sori, scaly midrib, leaflets not divided, thumb-like lobe near midrib
Braun's Holly Fern	woods	sori, very scaly midrib, leaflets divided, thumb-like lobe not as obvious
Bracken Fern	open dry areas & edges	sori, large fern, leaf edges rolled on underside
New York Fern	moist mixed woods	sori, leaflets get smaller toward base
Marsh Fern	wet meadows	sori
Northern Beech Fern	moist woods	sori, lowest two leaflets pointing down

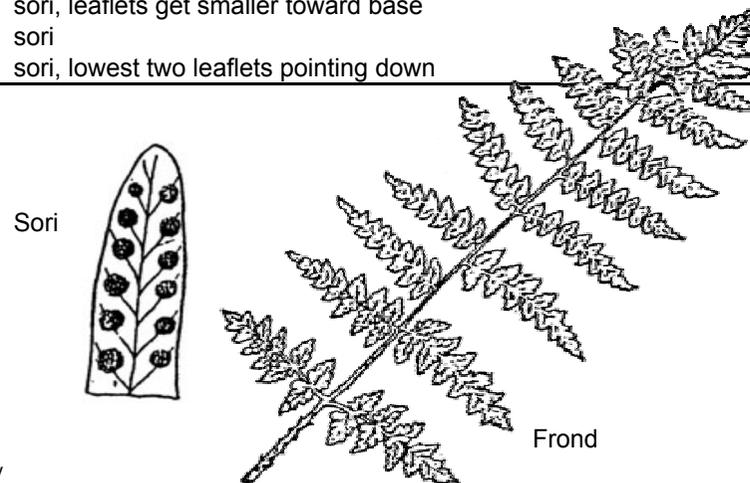
Fern Facts

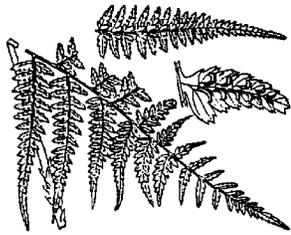
There are about 20 common ferns on PEI as listed above. The trail crosses most types of fern habitat so you have a chance of seeing them all.

Fern leaves are called fronds and the small branches within each frond are called leaflets or pinnae. Leaflets are either alternate or opposite along the central stem which is called the midrib.

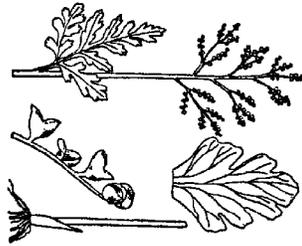
Ferns reproduce via "flowers" on a separate stem or via seeds or "sori" attached to the backs of some of the leaflets depending upon which of the botanical families they belong to.

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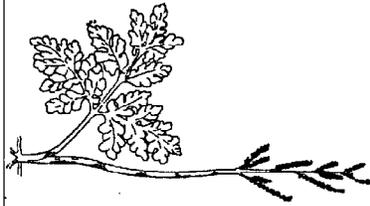




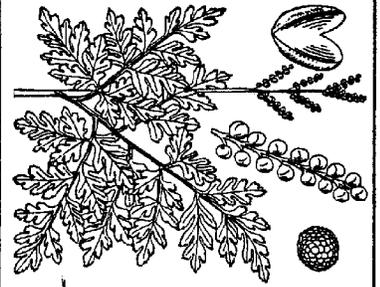
Lady Fern



Chamomile Grape Fern



Leathery Grape Fern



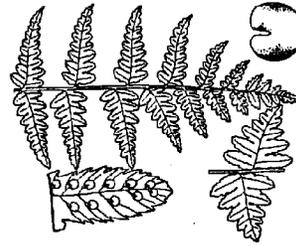
Rattlesnake Fern



Eastern Hay-Scented Fern



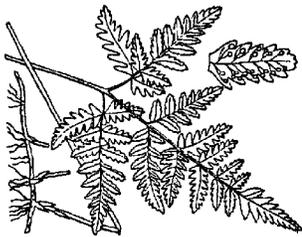
Spinulose Shield Fern



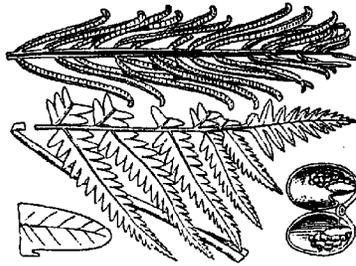
Crested Shield Fern



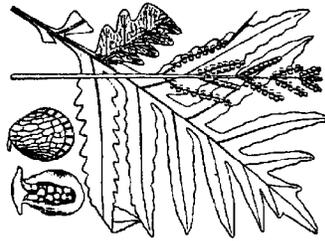
Evergreen Wood Fern



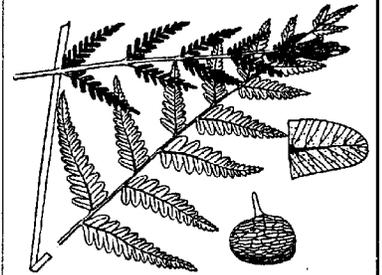
Oak Fern



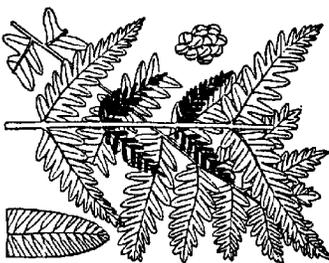
Ostrich Fern



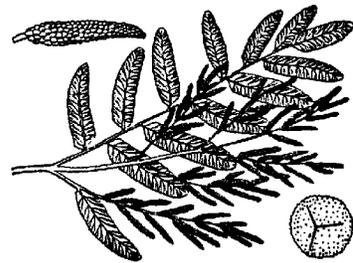
Sensitive Fern



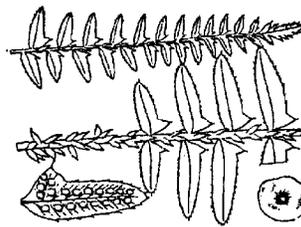
Cinnamon Fern



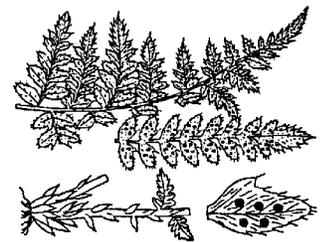
Interrupted Fern



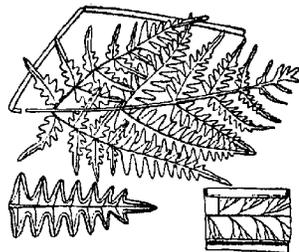
Royal Fern



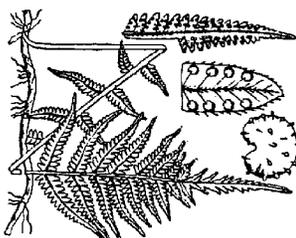
Christmas Fern



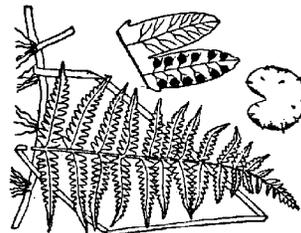
Braun's Holly Fern



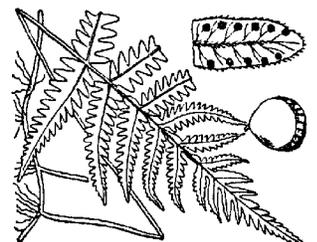
Bracken Fern



New York Fern



Marsh Fern



Northern Beech Fern