

TREE AGE IDENTIFICATION

This tree is 20 years old. It's been through fire and drought, plague and plenty. And all of this is recorded in its rings.

Each spring and summer a tree adds new layers of wood to its trunk. The wood formed in spring grows fast, and is lighter because it consists of large cells.

In summer, growth is slower; the wood has smaller cells and is darker. So when the tree is cut, the layers appear as alternating rings of light and dark wood.

Find a log somewhere throughout the park and count its rings. How old is the tree trunk? Do you know something in history that also happened that year?



Name of Scavengers: _____

Age of Tree: _____

Historical Event: _____

Enter your answers in the bonus section at
pittsburghymca.org/scavengerhunt