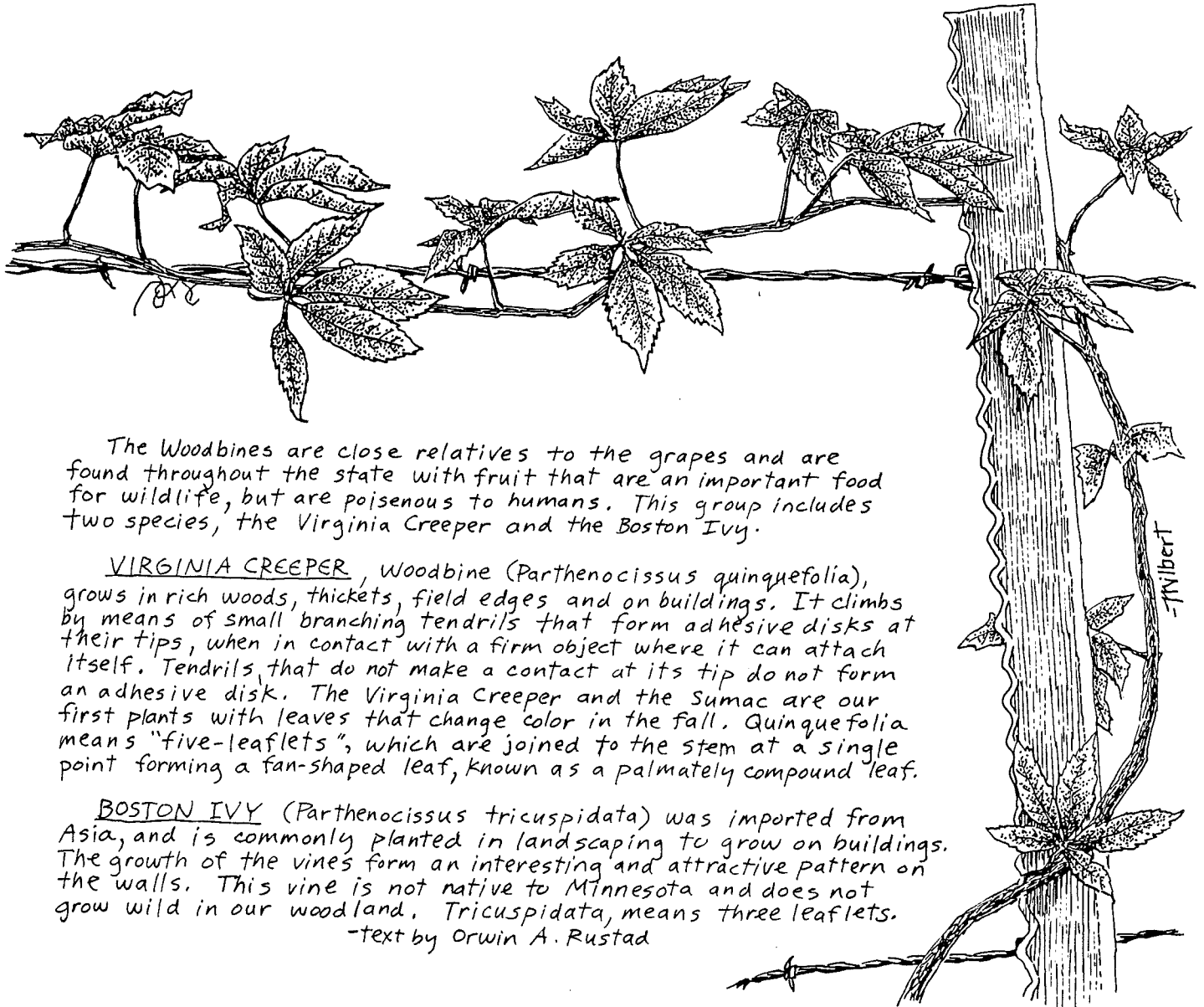


# River Bend Naturalists Notebook

Presented by: RIVER BEND NATURE CENTER, Faribault, MN 55021

## WOODBINE



The Woodbines are close relatives to the grapes and are found throughout the state with fruit that are an important food for wildlife, but are poisonous to humans. This group includes two species, the Virginia Creeper and the Boston Ivy.

VIRGINIA CREEPER, Woodbine (*Parthenocissus quinquefolia*), grows in rich woods, thickets, field edges and on buildings. It climbs by means of small branching tendrils that form adhesive disks at their tips, when in contact with a firm object where it can attach itself. Tendrils that do not make a contact at its tip do not form an adhesive disk. The Virginia Creeper and the Sumac are our first plants with leaves that change color in the fall. *Quinquefolia* means "five-leaflets", which are joined to the stem at a single point forming a fan-shaped leaf, known as a palmately compound leaf.

BOSTON IVY (*Parthenocissus tricuspidata*) was imported from Asia, and is commonly planted in landscaping to grow on buildings. The growth of the vines form an interesting and attractive pattern on the walls. This vine is not native to Minnesota and does not grow wild in our woodland. *Tricuspidata*, means three leaflets.

-text by Orwin A. Rustad