FIDDLER CRAB
Uca pugnax

Black Needlerush
Dark brown bodies with eyes found on corners of square back. Sometimes found on tree branches.

FIDDLER CRAB
Burrow
Brown rounded carapace with pointed pinchers of equal size.

SQUAREBACK CRAB
Uca pugilator

Purple carapace with dot in the center; white claws. Males have an oversized claw.

SAND FIDDLER CRAB
Uca pugilator

Black Needlerush
Found in high marsh; sharp, grey/green, needle-like leaves with a rounded stalk.

MARSH PERIWINKLE
Littorina irrorata

Eastern Mud Snail
Ilyanassa obsoleta

Usually found on living or dead Spartina.

Usually found directly on mud flats.

Anchored in place with strong, sticky byssal threads.

Eastern Mud Snail
Ilyanassa obsoleta

Eastern Oyster
Crassostrea virginica

Mud Crab
Panopeus herbstii

Mud Crab
Armases cinereum

Mud Fiddler Crab
Brown carapace with "H" depression; yellow claws. Males have an oversized claw.

Found in high and mid marsh. Large digging pellets and smaller feeding pellets surround the hole.

Often partially buried in mud flats. Anchored in place with strong, sticky byssal threads.

Mud Fiddler Crab
Uca pugnax

Eastern Oyster
Crassostrea virginica

Ribbed Mussel
Geukensia demissa

Sand Fiddler Crab
Uca pugilator

Mud Fiddler Crab
Uca pugilator

Pleasant Marsh and Maritime Forest
Identification Guide

Low Marsh
High Marsh
Maritime Forest
SEA OX-EYE
*Borrichia frutescens*
Fleshy leaves with yellow flowers that bloom in late spring and summer; attract butterflies.

SALTMEADOW CORDGRASS
*Spartina patens*
Long, wiry stems and leaves found in marshes and sandy beaches.

YAUPON
*Ilex vomitoria*
Dark green leaves with wavy ridges on edges. Berries turn from green to red in the fall.

SPANISH-MOSS
*Tillandsia usneoides*
A gray/green epiphyte; often found on limbs of oaks.

SMOOTH CORDGRASS
*Spartina alterniflora*
Can be the dominant plant in intertidal areas; flat, slender blades; extensive root system.

GLASSWORT
*Salicornia virginica*
Short to medium height stalks; round, fleshy branches resemble pickles.

SALTGRASS
*Distichlis spicata*
Form in dense clusters of slender green blades with spiky tips.

RED CEDAR
*Juniperus virginiana*
Evergreen with reddish bark and thick green needles.

SAW PALMETTO
*Serenoa repens*
An understory plant with fan-like leaf blades and serrated leaf stems.

LIVE OAK
*Quercus virginiana*
Thick, cork-like bark, dark green leaves with slightly curved edges. Produces acorns in fall.

SNOWY EGRET
*Egretta thula*
Medium-sized wading bird with curved neck, black beak and yellow slippers.

GREAT EGRET
*Ardea alba*
Large, white, wading bird with long S-curved neck, yellow beak and black feet.

OSPREY
*Pandion haliaetus*
Large predatory bird that builds large nests near water; plunges feet first in water for fish.

PILEATED WOODPECKER
*Dryocopus pileatus*
Insectivore with a large black chest, and a red and white triangular head.