A KEY TO COMMON RIPARIAN PLANTS OF SOUTHEASTERN UTAH

Always shorter than a human
- Triangular stem
  - SEDGE
- Hollow, segmented stem
  - HORSETAIL

Sometimes grows taller than a human
- Round stem
  - Woody stem
    - (Tree or shrub)
    - RUSH
  - Non-woody stem
    - (Herb)
    - Flat blade-like leaves with big sausage-shaped fruits on top
      - CATTAIL
  - Leaves not scale-like
    - Scale-like leaves
      - TAMARISK
  - Leaves much longer than wide
    - Green leaves, no thorns
      - Leaf edges smooth or slightly toothed
        - WILLOW
    - Silvery, fuzzy leaves. Plant has thorns.
      - Russian OLIVE
      - Leaf edges toothed, flower clusters at tops of branches
        - SEEP-WILLOW
    - Leaves not much longer than wide
      - Leaves in groups of three
        - BOXELDER
      - Leaves always less than 2 inches across
        - WATER BIRCH
      - Leaves often more than 2 inches across
        - COTTONWOOD