

# HARVEST OF THE MONTH

Waax njitasjak na'ap (Cedar Tea)

#### ABOUT CEDAR

- White Cedar (Thuja occidentalis) tea has been used to prevent and treat illness, like cold, flu, upset stomach.
- Like other conifers, cedar trees can contain Vitamin C, depending on location and the time of year.
- Cedar tea is comparable to other teas, with 0-5 calories per cup.
- White cedar is native to North America and can be found near wetland areas of northern Wisconsin.
- Cedar leaves can be dried in late summer to be used in the winter months.

## SOMETHING REMEMBER

- · Be careful with how much cedar tea you drink because cedar contains chemicals called "Thujones".
- Thujones can cause seizures and have other negative effects if consumed in large amounts.
- One should drink no more than 3 cups per week.
- Pregnant and nursing women should avoid cedar tea to be safe, as well as if you have problems with your kidneys.

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### CEDAR TEA

## Serves 1

## Ingredients:

- · White or Red Cedar leaves, equal to 1 cup
- 2 & 1/2 to 3 cups of water
- Maple syrup, honey, or other sweetener (optional)



#### Steps:

- Rinse cedar leaves to clean any visible dirt or grime from them.
- Chop them into 2-3 inch pieces.
- Measure out 2 & 1/2 cups water and add it to a pot with the cedar leaves.
- Boil the water, then reduce heat and simmer for 5-10 minutes (the tea should have a golden brown color).
- Strain the leaves from the tea.
- Add 1/2 tablespoon of sweetener if you prefer.

For more Information Contact a **HCN** Registered **Dietitian/ Nutritionist:** 

**BRF, TOMAH, WITTENBERG AREAS:** (888) 685-4422, EXT. 35335 **BRF, LA CROSSE AREAS:** (888) 685-4422, EXT. 35340 **DELLS, NEKOOSA, MADISON AREAS:** (888) 552-7889, EXT. 35554

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