

## Crooked Wood and Spoons

1. Even though we hate clamoring through them when we're walking in the woods, alders are an amazing member of the forest community and a treasure for the spoon carver. Look for a stem that was deformed by a branch long dead and you will often find a perfect recurve closely matching that of a spoon:



2. Note how spoon fits the recurve of the alder stem:



3. Stem split perpendicular to recurve:





5. You can sometimes get a spoon out of each half:





6. Blanks shaped and flattened both inside and out:



7. Spoon drawn onto blank:





8. Roughed out shape:





10. Outside spoon shape is finished:



11. Inside spoon shape is finished:



## 12. Competed spoon:



When the continuous grain of the recurve is incorporated into the shape of your spoon, it will be much stronger than the same spoon made from straight material. This is one of many cases where crooked is good.