1. Collect Staghorn Sumac berries in July or August. They will be growing in upright, fuzzy cones about 6 inches tall.

2. Place whole berry cones in a container such as a plastic water pitcher.

3. Cover with cold water and stir with a wooden spoon for several minutes. While stirring, smash the berries against the side and bottom of the pitcher. The color of the water should turn yellow or pink.

4. Strain through a coffee filter or cheesecloth to remove the berries, stems and fuzz.

5. Add sugar to taste. Start with about ½ cup per gallon of water.

6. Enjoy your freshly-made outdoor treat!

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