Ballard Tree Walk

Trees for Seattle, a program of the City of Seattle, is dedicated to growing and maintaining healthy, awe-inspiring trees in Seattle. Trees build strong communities by:

- Making our streets friendlier places to walk and bike
- Soaking up rainwater to keep our streams, lakes, and Puget Sound clean
- Calming traffic, helping to avoid accidents
- Cleaning our air, making it easier to breathe
- And much more!

Seattle's urban forest depends on you! 2/3 of Seattle's trees are planted around homes and maintained by residents. Without those trees, Seattle would be a sad place. Working together, we can have an urban forest that is healthy and growing.

You can get involved in many ways:

Attend a Tree Walk: We host free monthly tours of the unique and beautiful trees in neighborhoods across Seattle. Self-guided versions are also available on our website.

Volunteer: Our volunteers lead Tree Walks with friends and neighbors and participate in fun events like Tree Stewardship work parties to help keep trees healthy and thriving. You can commit for an hour or a lifetime. Everyone is welcome.

Plant a Tree: Our Trees for Neighborhoods project supports Seattle residents in planting trees around their homes by providing support, free trees, and workshops.

For more information on our work and how you can get involved:

Visit: www.Seattle.gov/trees
Call: 206-615-1668
Email: treeambassador@seattle.gov
Follow Trees for Seattle on Facebook

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Your City of Seattle Tree Resource

Ballard Tree Walk

Tree Walk begins at the Ballard Community Center, 6020 28th Ave NW, 98107

Tree Number & Common name *Botanical name* Address	**Tree Descriptions** **Notes**	**Photos**
1. Norway Maple *Acer platanoides* 'Crimson King' 28th Ave NW at NW 59th in the planting circle	We chose this group of three maples because Norway maples are among the most planted of urban trees. Its revealing characteristic is the striking leaf color, which is only seen in the cultivar 'Crimson King'.	
2. Sugar Maple *Acer saccharum* 2807 NW 58th in the parking strip.	We chose these maples because of their fall color. The leaf stems leak a clear fluid when squeezed, the previous Norway maple's stem fluid is milky.	
3. Noble Fir *Abies procera* 2832 NW 58th in the front yard.	This is a mountain tree, a widespread true fir in western North America, is not usually seen in an urban front yard. Its bark is gnarled and blistered, but a lovely gray color.	
4. Common Beech *Fagus sylvatica* 3002 NW 58th in the side yard.	Beeches are popular, large trees, well loved. Its bark is smooth, and we identified it while stepping on its crunchy dropped nut husks.	

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5. Swedish Birch *Betula pendula* 'Dalecarlica' 5715 30th NW in the front yard	Birches have peeling whitish bark, and we identified the finely toothed dainty leaves particular to the Swedish birch. The homeowner reports her birch is home to many ladybugs.	
6. Flowering Cherry *Prunus serralata* 'Kwanzan' 3025 NW 58th in the parking strip	We learned the difference between spring flowering cherries and plums is the bark. Flowering cherry bark is banded with horizontal lenticels (a bump or narrow horizontal structure on the bark) and often has a reddish hue.	
7. Narrow Leaf Ash *Fraxinus angustifolia* 3033 NW 58th in the parking strip.	This is a striking large tree also seen in Wallingford on 45th as street trees. We identified it by asking the arborist who by chance was there while we were examining the tree. Its defining characteristic is the leaves, which are narrow and lance shaped, bright yellow in autumn.	
8. Deodar cedar *Cedrus deodar* Side Yard (actually on 32nd NW).	We chose this tree because it is awe inspiring, tree of the gods. It grows well in the West, and we are lucky to have hundreds in Seattle. Now we know its name!	
9. Copper Beech *Fagus sylvatica purpurea* 3235 NW 57th St in the front yard	This is a beloved huge beech well nurtured by its caretakers. We identified it by asking, and by its dropped husks. The family living here reports this giant shade tree can be seen from the Ballard Bridge, a comforting presence to its many admirers.	

10. Mimosa Silk *Albizia julibrissin* 3403 NW 57th St. in the front yard	We chose this stunning tree because it's seen often in Seattle. We identified it by its feathery, dainty foliage and its fluffy pink flowers in late summer.	
11. Monkey Puzzle *Araucaria araucana* 3440 NW 57th in the side yard.	Monkey Puzzles are popular in Seattle, you have to agree this has an unusually large, rounded shape with gigantic cones. And, it has a junior tree next to it!	
12. Chinese Fir *Cunninghamia lanceolate* 3440 NW 57th in the driveway	We chose this fabulous tree for its color and size, you realize it's unusual by just a gaze. The owner's grandparents planted the China Fir in 1918. This tree was one of two saplings -- a gift from China to the Chittenden Locks. The Locks' Botanist Carl English was a friend of the grandparents. The Locks' China Fir since died, this one thrives. It was topped 20 years ago by a storm, but keeps its shape. According to several observers, this is one of the largest China Firs in Seattle.	
13. Redbud *Cercis Canadensis* 3400 NW 57th in the parking strip	This tree is often planted in Seattle. We identified it by its large heart-shaped leaves. It also has a profusion of tiny pink/red flowers in spring.	

14. Common Fig *Ficus carica* 3401 NW 59th in the parking strip	Two slightly different cultivars of this fig species chosen for how vigorous yet controlled they appear. Thriving figs are a thing of beauty!	
15. Boulevard moss cypress *Sawara Cypress 'boulevard'* 3247 NW 59th in the front yard.	This cypress is included in Arthur Lee Jacobson's book, "Trees of Seattle". The neighbors know it, and that's how we identified it.	
16. Lebanon Weeping Cedar *Cedrus lilani pendula* 3243 NW 59th in the front yard	Here's a homeowner who loves her conifers! We chose this cedar because of its magnificent shape and size. The homeowner still has the planting tags, so now we all know this weeping tree's name.	
17. Ginkgo, Maidenhair Tree *Ginkgo biloba* 3225 NW 59th in the parking strip	Here are three young gingkoes, the sole survivor of a group of plants more primitive than the true conifers and once covered all parts of the Earth. We know gingkoes by their fan-shaped leaves. Yellow in Autumn!	
18. Persian Ironwood *Parrotia persica* 5902 34th NW street trees	We chose this tree because it's seen often, and is so beautiful in all four seasons, especially autumn.	

19. Eastern White Pine *Pinus Strobus* 3026 NW 60th in the front yard	Pitch! Huge cones! Tall and thriving Pine! The revealing characteristics of this lovely pine are the large two-toned cones and long soft needles, five per fascicle.	
20. Scarlet Oak *Quercus coccinea* 6003 30th NW in the parking strip.	Oaks are ubiquitous. We learned the difference between the scarlet oak and the pin oak are the much larger sinuses of the scarlet oak (making the leaves narrower) and their bright red autumn color, otherwise a tough call!	
21. English Walnut *Juglans regia* 2855 NW 60th in the front yard, next to driveway.	Nuts! Big Leaves! The leaves distinguished this English from the more usually seen black walnut.	
22. Harry Lauder Walking Stick Also known as **Contorted Hazelnut** *Corylus avellana 'Contorta'* 2837 NW 60th in front yard.	Surrounded by several Japanese maples, the twisted limbs and swirled leaves make this hazelnut stand out. The homeowners planted all the trees when they were just wee 6" saplings.	
23. Willow Leaf Pear *Pyrus salicifolia* NW 60th at 28th NW in the front yard.	Unusual form of the common ornamental pear -- silvery leaves and miniature pears grace this final tree of our tree walk. The leaf color gives this pear tree away!	