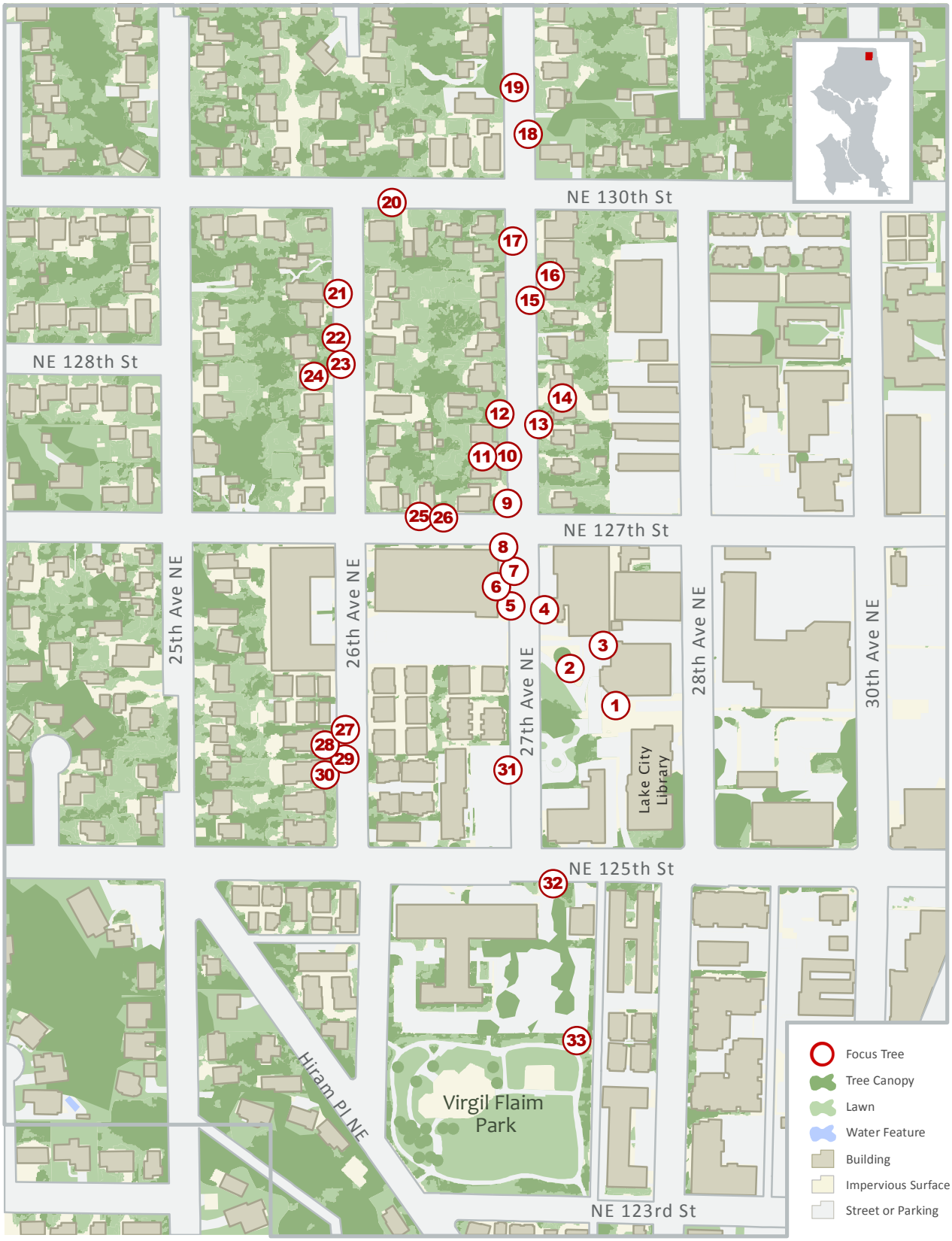
LAKE CITY TREE WALK



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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Lake City Conifer Tree Walk

Tree Number & Common name *Botanical name*	**Tree Descriptions Notes**
1. Leyland cypress *Cupressocyparis x leylandii*	**Three small trees against a brick building behind the library.** Like many other members of the cypress family—including cypresses, junipers, Giant Sequoias, and New World cedars—their needles look more like very small scales pressed together along their branches.
2. Douglas-fir *Pseudotsuga menziesii*	**Three large, beautiful trees next to the playground in Albert Davis Park.** Douglas-fir cones are unmistakable, with papery "mouse tails" peeking out of their cones. They are not "true firs", meaning they are not in the fir family.
3. Yew *Taxus spp.*	**Walk to the back of the playground, next to the Lake City mural.** This species can have many shapes, from hedge to full-grown tree, and has beautiful bark. Note the bright, red berries, but don't eat them!
4. Hollywood juniper *Juniperus chinensis 'Torulosa'*	**Just north of the park are two trees in the front yard of a house (Douglas-fir on the right, Hollywood juniper on the left).** Note the Hollywood juniper's characteristic, twisting shape. This tree has blue berries that are used as a seasoning and to make gin.

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5. Noble fir *Abies procera*	**Across 27th Ave NE is a small fir tree** with an odd shape. This tree lost its original leader (main stem) and a side branch has grown up to be the new leader.
6. Austrian pine *Pinus nigra*	**To the right of the fir is a small, 2-needle pine** that was nearly uprooted at its base, but has corrected itself and now is growing nicely.
7. Scotch pine *Pinus sylvestrus*	**To the right of the Austrian pine is another 2- needle pine with orange bark.** This tree has highly variable growth forms due to its wide range in its native Europe. It can be distinguished from other 2 -needle pines by the orange bark, especially higher on the trunk of the tree.
8. Austrian pine *Pinus nigra*	**To the right of the Scotch pine is another Austrian pine.** This is a nice, full, tall example of this tree. These pines tend to become less conical and more open as they age.
9. Douglas-fir *Pseudotsuga menziesii*	**Cross NE 127th St to this tall tree on the corner.** Step back to see this classic example of Douglas-fir shape.
10. Leyland cypress *Cupressocyparis x leylandii*	**Back on the west side of 27th Ave NE is a small tree between 12709 and 12715 27th Ave NE.** This hybrid (same species as #1) is a cross between the Monterey cypress and Alaska cypress. Though the taxonomy is debated, it is thought that *C. leylandii* is a very rare cross between two genera.

11. Serbian Spruce *Picea omorika*	**Behind the Leyland cypress are three spruce trees.** This species is known and well-liked for its extremely narrow growth habit, as seen here. Spruces such as this are susceptible to spruce aphid infestations. The aphid sucks sap from the needles which leads to patches of yellow or brown needles.
12. White pine *Pinus spp.*	**Walk north to come to a tall, 5-needle pine.** The long, thin, soft needles of this white pine are a contrast to the short, thick, stiff needles seen earlier on the 2-needle pines.
13. Fir *Abies spp.*	**Across 27th Ave NE is a tall fir in the front yard of 12726 27th Ave NE.** Note the classic, neat, conical shape of this true fir, in contrast to the Douglas-fir above. Fir needles are flat and soft, unlike the square, sharp needles of a spruce.
14. Douglas-fir *Pseudotsuga menziesii*	**Back across to the east side of 27th Ave NE,** see another example of this extremely common, native northwest tree. This one has a near-perfect shape, more similar to the true fir (#10) than the Douglas- fir on the corner (#9).
15. Eastern white-cedar *Thuja occidentailis*	**Continue north to a long, pruned hedge of** **Eastern white-cedar.** This is a good example of one of the many growth habits that can be seen by this species. This tree is often ornamental and has over 300 cultivars of various shapes and sizes.
16. Weeping blue atlas cedar *Cedrus atlantica glauca 'Pendula'*	**Further north, set away from the street behind a basketball hoop at the edge of the driveway for 12915 27th Ave NE, see a small, weeping variety of blue atlas cedar.** We will see the full, upright variety later in the walk.

17. White pine *Pinus spp.*	**At the southwest corner of NE 130th St and 27th Ave NE there is another 5-needle, white pine.** Notice the shape of the pine silhouette, as compared to a spruce or a fir.
18. Western redcedar *Thuja plicata*	**On the east side of 27th Ave NE is a large, full Western redcedar.** This common native Washington tree has a rich ethobotanical history with the First Nations people of the Pacific Northwest Coast.
19. Pacific madrone *Arbutus menziesii*	**On the west side of 27th Ave NE is a Pacific madrone,** a broadleaf evergreen tree with distinctive bark that peels as the tree ages. This beautiful tree grows only on sunny slopes.
20. Sawara cypress *Chamaecyparis pisfera*	**Return south along 27th Ave NE, make a right on NE 130th St, and walk about 3/4 of the way down the block to 2603 NE 130th St.** This big, multi- stemmed tree shows many woodpecker holes. The Sawara cypress has many cultivars that can look quite different from each other.
21. Lawson cypress *Chamaecyparis lawsoniana*	**Walk to the corner and cross 26th Ave NE, and walk south to a Lawson cypress** with a huge, tight silhouette. This tree is also known as the Port Orford Cedar and has a natural range limited to SW Oregon and NW California.

22. Noble fir *Abies procera*	**To the left of the Lawson cypress, on the right side of the driveway of 12735 26th Ave NE is a small grove of true firs.** The noble fir has a very unique cone, but these trees are likely too young to produce cones.
23. Blue spruce *Picea pungens*	**On the left side of the same driveway is a small blue spruce.** Note the stiff, spikey needles in comparison to the soft ones on the firs. Another distinction is that spruce needles are detached from the branch, so the bare branches feel rough or notched. This is not true of fir branches.
24. Western hemlock *Tsuga heterophylla*	**Continuing one house south, you will come to several mid-sized hemlocks in front of the door to 12725 26th Ave NE.** The state tree of Washington, the hemlock is identified up close by its tiny needles and cones, and from afar by the delicate leader drooping over at the very top of the tree.
25. Blue atlas cedar *Cedrus atlantica glauca*	**Walk to the corner and turn left onto NE 127th St. Mid-way down the block, in front of 2610 NE 127th St is a blue atlas cedar** (on the left) and a deodar cedar right next to it. True cedars, the needles of these trees are clustered in little bundles. The distinctive, blue hue of this tree gives it its name.
26. Deodar cedar *Cedrus deodora*	**To the right of the blue atlas cedar (and towering above it) is a deodar cedar**, whose clustered needles are longer than those of atlas cedars. A native of the Indian Himalayas, this stately tree can grow up to 200 feet tall in their home range.

27. Atlas cedar *Cedrus atlantica*	**On the west side of 26th Ave NE, almost to the corner with NE 125th St,** is a yard with an array of many different coniferous trees. **In front and to the right is an atlas cedar.** A greener version of the blue atlas cedar seen earlier, the shorter needles on this tree distinguish it from a deodar cedar.
28. Weeping Alaska cedar *Chamaecyparis nootkatensis 'Pendula'*	**To the left and behind the Atlas cedar are several Weeping Alaska cedars,** recognizable by their distinctive shape. A small tree with extremely skinny, drooping branches, this species is well- suited to narrow spaces.
29. Douglas-fir *Pseudotsuga menziesii*	**To the left of the Weeping Alaska Cedars is a Doug fir.**
30. Western redcedar *Thuja plicata*	**Farthest to the left as you look from the street is a Western redcedar.**
31. Norway spruce *Picea abies*	**Find this spruce in a parking lot across the street from Albert Davis Park.** Compare this to the blue spruce seen earlier and note the flakey, "potato chip" bark on the tree here. This species has one of the larger cones of all of the spruces.

32. Deodar cedar *Cedrus deodora*	**This tree on the south side of NE 125th St, at the end of 27th Ave NE,** is relatively short for its extremely wide branches. It may have been topped earlier in life.
33. Giant sequoia *Sequoiadendron gigantica*	**At the northeast corner of Virgil Flaim Park are several towering sequoias.** These ones are big by urban tree standards, but they are the same species that grow in northern California to be over 3,000 years old as the most massive trees on earth.