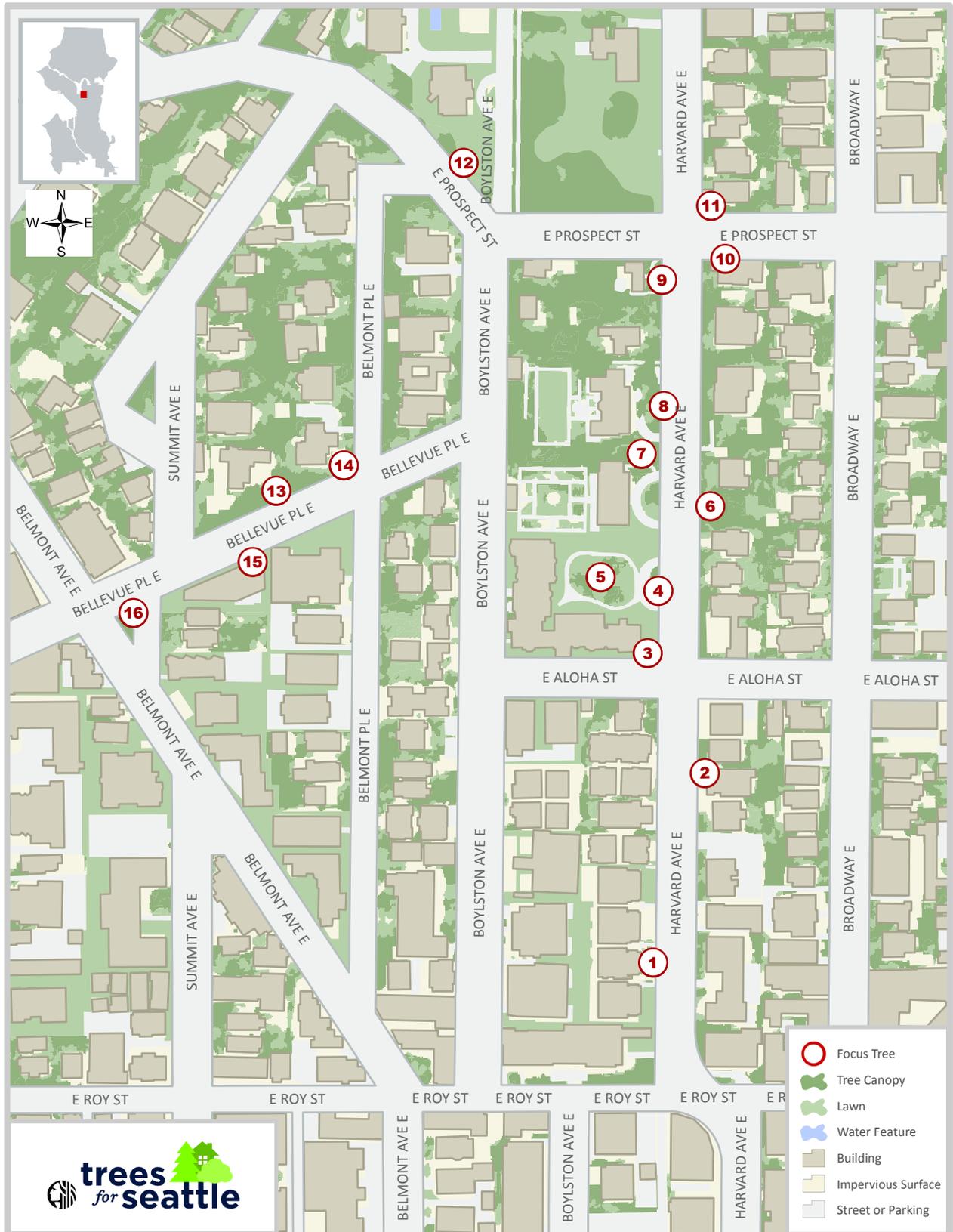


NORTH CAPITOL HILL TREE WALK



Thank you for participating in this Tree Walk!

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

- ✓ Making our streets safer, 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! Two-thirds 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, and can achieve our goal of 30% tree cover by 2037.

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

(Use a smart phone's camera to scan code for more info)

North Capitol Hill Tree Walk

Begins at 810 E Roy St, near intersection with Broadway E.

Tree Number & Common name <i>Botanical name</i> Address	Tree Descriptions Notes	Photos
<p>1. Magnolia <i>Magnolia sp.</i></p> <p>715 Harvard Ave E</p>	<p>Magnolias are best known for their large, showy flowers which are typically quite fragrant. Uniquely, this genus contains deciduous trees (which drop leaves in Fall) and evergreen trees (green leaves year round). Research suggests that the Magnolia family may be the oldest of flowering plant families, rivaled only by conifers. It's theorized that magnolias evolved to encourage pollination by larger insects such as beetles, who still pollinate magnolias today. A wide variety of wildlife are attracted to the fragrant flowers, cone-like fruits, and red seeds of magnolias.</p>	
<p>2. Sweet Gum <i>Liquidambar styraciflua</i></p> <p>752 Harvard Ave E</p>	<p>Sweet gum has five to seven pointed leaves that are often mistaken for maple leaves. You can distinguish sweet gum leaves as they are more star shaped, with serrated edges and straight lines. Historical mentions of this tree include ceremonies held between the Spanish colonizer, Cortez and Aztec emperor, Montezuma. Each drank a mixture made from the "liquid amber" of the sweet gum tree. These trees provide nutrition for a wide variety of bird and mammal species, in addition to displaying gorgeous colors in autumn.</p>	

<p>3. Katsura <i>Cercidiphyllum japonicum</i></p> <p>NW corner of Harvard Ave E and E Aloha</p>	<p>Katsura trees are deciduous, and have densely textured leaves that are distinctly heart-shaped. The leaves turn golden yellow then red in fall. This one in particular is known as the "weeping katsura" due to its visual similarity to weeping willow. These trees can grow to heights of 40 feet tall.</p> <p>Katsura trees are native to Japan and China, and have a long lineage. Fossil records there indicate that the species has existed in its current form for at least 1.8 million years.</p>	 
<p>4. American Elm <i>Ulmus Americana</i></p> <p>711 Harvard Ave E</p>	<p>The American elm is an iconic tree in American history. From the early 19th century to the mid 20th century it was the most popular and widespread street-tree. However, a massive outbreak of Dutch elm disease wiped out huge quantities of American elm, leading to its eventual replacement on most streets. The bark is deeply furrowed and the leaves are distinctly saw-toothed, with an uneven tilt at the base.</p>	 
<p>5. Coastal Redwood <i>Sequoia Sempervirens</i></p> <p>Inside Merrill Court, 919 Harvard Ave E</p>	<p>In California, populations of coastal redwood contain some of the tallest and oldest trees on Earth. These trees can grow to a whopping 300 feet tall and live to be several thousand years old. Redwoods have stiff, dark-green and flat needles that stay year-round. Redwood forests are incredibly important for a wide variety of bird species, particularly the endangered Northern spotted owl.</p>	 

<p>6. Paperbark Maple <i>Acer griseum</i></p> <p>926 Harvard Ave E</p>	<p>The paperbark maple is native to the highlands of central China. Because it grows well in our area, we get to enjoy its beauty. In particular it has bronze, naturally peeling bark that is quite eye catching. Most maples have five-pointed leaves, but paperbark maples uniquely have three pointed leaves.</p>	
<p>7. European Birch <i>Betula pendula</i></p> <p>937 Harvard Ave E</p>	<p>European white birch, also known as silver birch, is a beautiful tree with white, flaky bark, similar to paper birch. This bark flaking can help defend the tree against climbing vines, which can easily overwhelm most trees. Birches tend to have a tall and slender form, with triangular toothed leaves that shimmer in the wind. Silver birch is a pioneer species that grows well in open or disturbed areas, and often grows in groves. It is the national tree of Finland!</p>	
<p>8. Port Orford Cedar <i>Chamaecyparis Lawsoniana</i></p> <p>937 Harvard Ave E</p>	<p>Also called the Lawson cypress, the Port Orford cedar looks a lot like the native Western red cedar, however the cones are much smaller and the foliage has a slightly bluish tint compared to the dark green of our native cedar. There are small stands of Port Orford cedar naturally occurring in parts of southern Oregon, however this tree is very common throughout Seattle. It is surprisingly adaptable to a wide variety of conditions, making it a resilient member of the urban forest.</p>	

<p>9. European Beech <i>Fagus sylvatica</i></p> <p>957 Harvard Ave E</p>	<p>Even the largest, old European beech trees have surprisingly smooth, gray bark. As is the case here, beech have been commonly used as street trees. This approach creates continuity within the landscape, and these trees help keep the neighborhood cool on hot summer days while absorbing stormwater and pollution from the street. Beech trees are often associated with some of the best mushroom hunting, including truffles, chanterelles, and morels. You'll also often see messages carved into the distinctly smooth bark of beech, but this can cause damage to the tree if the incision is too deep.</p>	
<p>10. Lombardy Poplar <i>Populus nigra</i></p> <p>SE corner of E Prospect & Harvard Ave E (803 E Prospect)</p>	<p>Lombardy poplar is a mutation of black poplar, which was originally discovered in the Lombardy region of Italy, along the banks of the Po river. These trees have incredibly upright branches, and grow quite tall relative to their width. They also have diamond shaped green leaves and deeply knotted or furrowed bark. Male trees produce a good deal of pollen, while fertilized female trees produce lots of cottony seeds, making these trees both beautiful and a bit frustrating for landscapers.</p>	
<p>11. Hinoki Cypress <i>Chamaecyparis Obtuse</i></p> <p>NE corner of E Prospect & Harvard Ave E (1102 E Prospect)</p>	<p>This lovely cypress is native to central Japan. The wood of Hinoki cypress is traditionally used as stick incense due to the light and earthy aroma of the bark. Try crushing the leaves to smell the delightful aroma!</p> <p>The dark evergreen foliage is arranged in a sort of swirling pattern. Hinoki means fire tree in Japanese.</p>	

<p>12. Blue Atlas Cedar <i>Cedrus atlantica</i></p> <p>Corner of E Prospect St and Boylston Ave E</p>	<p>The blue Atlas cedar is a majestic evergreen with highly unusual branches. This wonderful tree has nearly horizontal limbs draping over its furrowed trunk. Of course the most distinctive element is the silver-green-blue color of the foliage, which look more like pine needles than typical cedar scales. This cedar is native to the Atlas mountains of Morocco.</p>	
<p>13. English Yew <i>Taxus baccata</i></p> <p>1005 Bellevue PI E</p>	<p>These trees are highly symbolic in England, where they are debatably some of the oldest trees around. They are often associated with churchyards, where they are frequently found and are much older than the churches they grow nearby. They are symbols of immortality due to their ubiquity and age, but also omens of doom since most parts of the plant are poisonous when consumed. Yews appear prominently in the histories, folklore, and mythologies of many cultures.</p>	
<p>14. Deodar Cedar <i>Cedrus deodara</i></p> <p>1005 Bellevue</p>	<p>Seattle has the most Deodars of all cities in the country. Deodars come from the Himalayas and can be identified by their upright barrel-shaped cones (which break up as they fall) and needles clustered in groups of 10 or more. Considered a sacred tree among Hindu culture.</p>	
<p>15. Big Leaf Maple <i>Acer macrophyllum</i></p> <p>1148 Bellevue PI E</p>	<p>One of the most common native trees in the Pacific Northwest, the bigleaf maple lives up to its name with leaves spanning up to 1' across. Prolific seed producers, one tree may produce up to one million seeds in a year! They are susceptible to a number of diseases, including Armillaria root disease and several types of root rot. Scientists are currently investigating a mysterious decline in Washington's bigleaf maples.</p>	

<p>16. London Plane</p> <p><i>Platanus x acerifolia</i></p> <p>Triangle of Belmont Ave E, Bellevue Pl E, and Summit Ave E</p>	<p>This is an official Seattle Heritage Tree. The Seattle Heritage Tree Program began in 1996 as a collaboration between the non-profit group Plant Amnesty and the City of Seattle to recognize especially remarkable trees due to their size, species, cultural significance, or all three. Heritage Trees are protected by Seattle’s Tree Code, and can only be taken down if considered hazardous. Check the online storymap at Seattle.gov/trees to see a map of all the city’s official heritage trees, including this one. Interested in nominating your own tree? Call (206) 684-8733.</p>	
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Walk ends at Summit Place Triangle, closest address point is 906 Summit Ave E. To return to the starting point, head southeast on Belmont Ave E. Take a left onto E Roy Street and continue east 3 blocks back to Broadway.

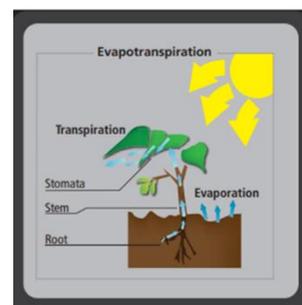
Plant and maintain trees to reduce Urban Heat Islands

By Elizabeth Archambault, Trees for Seattle Tree Ambassador

Unlike some urban legends, such as alligators living in our sewers or Big Foot in the mountains, urban heat islands are real. Heat islands are caused by sparse vegetation and heat-absorbing surfaces like asphalt, concrete, and rooftops. According to Mindy Fetterman from the Pew Charitable Trusts, “Cities by their nature generate heat.” Urban Heat Islands are bad for both the natural environment as well as human health. In fact, extreme high temperatures are the No. 1 weather-related cause of death in the United States.

Planting and maintaining trees is the best way to help reduce Urban Heat Island effect. Plants (trees, shrubs, and groundcovers) take up water from the ground through their roots and “exhale” the cool vapor through the stomata on their leaves. This process is known as “evapotranspiration.” Shade from trees can lower surface temperatures by over 10 degrees Fahrenheit, and reduce evaporative emissions from both parked and running cars when planted along streets and within parking lots

In addition, tree leaves can remove various pollutants from the air when it doesn’t rain. During these periods of “dry deposition,” tiny particulates in addition to the atmospheric carbon that threatens our climate can be reduced by trees absorbing the pollutants more prevalent in dry periods, then turning CO₂ into sugar molecules needed to grow. The result is cleaner air and healthier communities! Consider joining a tree maintenance work party, planting a tree yourself, and/or encouraging others to join the effort as well. Check out Seattle.gov/trees for upcoming events.



Source: U.S. EPA