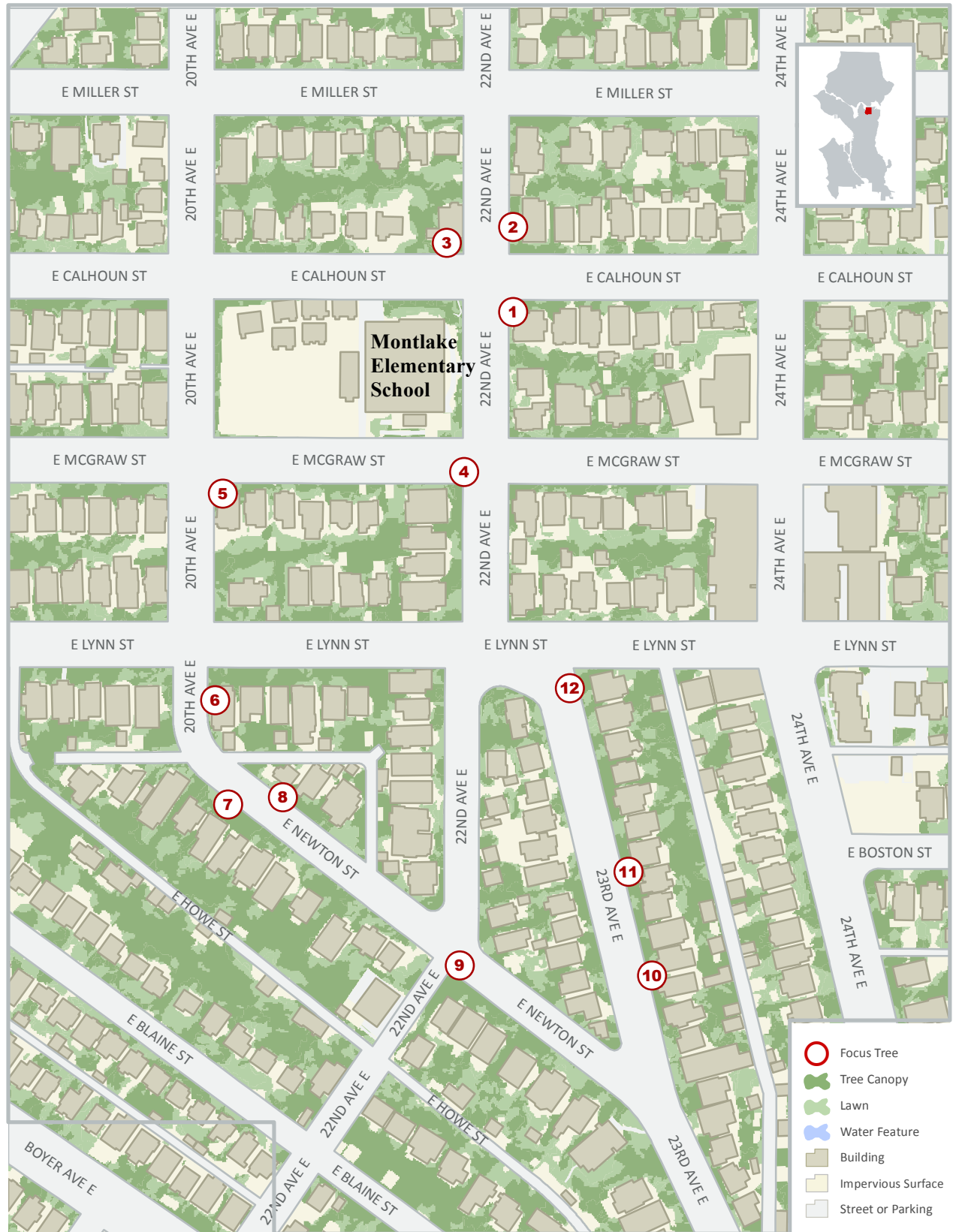


# Montlake Tree Walk



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](http://www.Seattle.gov/trees)

**Call:** 206-615-1668



**Email:** [treeambassador@seattle.gov](mailto:treeambassador@seattle.gov)




**Follow** Trees for Seattle on Facebook

# Montlake Tree Walk




***Learning about tree diversity of the Montlake neighborhood.***




Meet in front of the Montlake Elementary School on 22<sup>nd</sup> Avenue E


Tree Number & Common name <i>Botanical name</i> Address	Tree Descriptions Notes	Photos
<p><b>1. Monkey Tree</b> <i>Araucaria araucana</i></p> <p>Corner of E Calhoun St &amp; 22<sup>nd</sup> Ave E</p>	<p>The monkey puzzle tree is also called the Chilean pine. The tree's common name comes from the idea that a monkey would be puzzled as how to climb it. It has also been called a living fossil, since vast forest of the trees coexisted with the dinosaurs. When cultivated it usually reaches a height of 20 to 30 feet. It is protected in Chile where it is the national tree.</p>	
<p><b>2. Sugar Maple</b> <i>Acer saccharum</i></p> <p>E Calhoun St &amp; 22<sup>nd</sup> Ave E (in front of Monkey Tree)</p>	<p>The Sugar Maple is not a common urban tree due to its inability to handle pollution. Rising to heights of nearly 100 feet, the Sugar Maple can spread out leaves to widths of 50 feet across. Sugar Maple can age 200 to 300 years. New York and Vermont have both adopted it as their state trees and Canada used the Sugar Maple leaf on its national flag. In fall the leaves turn a variety of vibrant colors.</p>	

<p><b>3. American Linden</b> <i>Tilia Americana</i></p> <p>E Calhoun St &amp; 22<sup>nd</sup> Ave E (across from sugar maple)</p>	<p>American basswood or American basswood linden, is a medium to large deciduous tree which typically grows to 50-80 feet in height. It usually has a lifespan of few hundred years, but there are specimens thought to be more than 1,000 years old. is recommended as an ornamental tree when the mass of foliage or a deep shade is desired. It is most common in western Wisconsin and central Minnesota.</p>	
<p><b>4. Pin Oak</b> <i>Quercus palustris</i></p> <p>E McGraw St &amp; 22<sup>nd</sup> Ave E (next to school)</p>	<p>Pin oak grows to a height of 60 to 70 feet. It is fast growing and has a shallow root system. It is a wetlands tree and grows in bottom lands. It is native to the eastern and central states. The name “pin oak” comes from its many small twigs or from its historical use in making pins from its hard wood for use in wooden building construction.</p>	
<p><b>5. Red Maple</b> <i>Acer rubrum</i></p> <p>Corner of E McGraw St &amp; 20<sup>th</sup> Ave E</p>	<p>Red maple is one of the most popular trees in Seattle. It is known as a generalist and can adapt to grow in a variety of habitats. Therefore, it is the most common tree in North America. In many parts of the nation it is considered an invasive species. State tree of Rhode Island.</p>	



<p><b>6. Sweet Gum</b> <i>Liquidambar styraciflua</i></p> <p>E Lynn St &amp; 20<sup>th</sup> Ave E (Across from Lawson Cypress)</p>	<p>The Sweetgum tree is identified by its distinctive star shaped leaves and the spikey balls of fruit that hang on the tree for most of the year. It is native to the SE USA and is one of the iconic trees of the South. Fast growth and the remarkable fall colors ranging from yellow to orange and red to purple, are two significant reasons that this tree is planted as widely as it is.</p>	
<p><b>7. Deodar Cedar</b> <i>Cedrus deodara</i></p> <p>On E Newton St &amp; 20<sup>th</sup> St</p>	<p>The Deodar Cedar is native to the Himalayan foothills in India and Nepal but is also one of Seattle's most common trees. In its native habitat, it can grow to be over 200 feet tall. It can be distinguished from other cedars because the branches tend to droop and the needles are long and soft. The name deodar evolved from the word devadāru, which is a Sanskrit word that translates to "timber of the gods". This tree is sacred in Hinduism.</p>	
<p><b>8. English Hedge Maple (Heritage Tree)</b> <i>Acer campestre</i></p> <p>On E Newton St across from Deodar Cedar</p>	<p>This tree is a Seattle Heritage Tree. It is one of the best examples of a hedge maple in the city. The European hedge maple is also known as a field maple. Because of its dense foliage, in Europe it is often used for clipped hedges, hence the common name. The famous violin maker Antonio Stradivari chose this species for some of his creations. The leaves turn different hues of yellow in the fall.</p>	

<p><b>9. English Birch</b> <i>Betula pendula</i></p> <p>E Newton St &amp; 22<sup>nd</sup> Ave E</p>	<p>The European white birch or silver birch is one of the most commonly planted trees in Seattle. It grows up to six feet per year. It can grow 30 to 50 feet high and also reach 40 to 60 years of age. It is Finland's national tree. It has no resistance to the bronze birch borer beetle which has devastated it in the East. It is estimated that most birches will be gone in the US in 15 years because of the borer.</p>	
<p><b>10. Honey Locust</b> <i>Gleditsia triacanthos</i></p> <p>2036 23<sup>rd</sup> Ave E</p>	<p>The honey locust has become a significant invasive weed in other regions of the world. They are fast growth, and are relatively short-lived; their life spans are typically about 120 years. Honey locust changes the color of the leaves into golden yellow and eliminates them quickly at the beginning of the autumn</p>	
<p><b>11. London Plane (Pair Heritage Trees)</b> <i>Platanus x acerifolia</i></p> <p>2056 23<sup>rd</sup> Ave E</p>	<p>These two trees are Seattle Heritage trees. They are native to Europe. They are a hybrid cross between the American sycamore and the Oriental plane tree. The London plane is the most common street tree in the world. It is a good tree for urban environments because it can tolerate pollutants. The bark it has a camouflage pattern of grayish-brown and whitish flaky patches.</p>	

<p><b>12. Atlas Cedar</b> <i>Cedrus atlantica</i></p> <p>On intersection of E Lynn St &amp; 23<sup>rd</sup> Ave E</p>	<p>The blue atlas cedar is a "true cedar". It is native to the Atlas Mountains of North Africa. It is the most abundant of the few African trees that are grown in Seattle. They can attain 160 feet in height with even greater widths. This tree grows at a slow rate, with height increases of less than 12" per year.</p>	
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Montlake was named by a real estate developer meaning Mountains and Lakes. A selling point apparently. The original plan was made in 1906 with houses started being built in the area by 1910. Most of the houses were built between the 1920's and 1930's.

The Montlake cut was finished in 1917. The Montlake bridge was completed in 1925 and connected Montlake to the University District. The side streets coming off 24<sup>th</sup> Ave E were paved in 1927. Montlake was named to the National Register of Historic Places in 2015 as an example of Seattle neighborhood that is pre-World War Two. The douglas fir and cedar forest was logged at the end of the 1800's. Almost all the trees in the housing areas were planted after 1927.



19<sup>th</sup> Ave E and E Calhoun St looking East taken in 1926. Notice the gravel roads.



25<sup>th</sup> Ave E & E Calhoun St looking East. Taken in 1927 just after paving. Notice the Montlake School in the distance on the left. It was built in 1925.