

NORTH

Boise River

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Ann Morrison Park 1000 Americana Blvd.

A walking tour of common and unique trees to Boise and the surrounding area.

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Boise Community Forestry



Parks & Recreation

Americana Blvd.

Community Forestry



Welcome to Boise Parks & Recreation's self-guided tree walk of Ann Morrison Park! Ann Morrison Park consists of nearly 1,200 trees with about 40 different common and unique species, many with multiple varieties.

"Les bois, les bois. Voyez les bois!" "The trees, the trees. Look at the trees!" These words were exclaimed by a French surveyor in 1833 when first sighting the Cottonwood trees along the river in this valley. Cottonwoods (Populus) are among the few native species to the area. The vast majority of our current urban forest did not exist at that time. This new urban forest requires manual irrigation and diligent care to survive in our desert climate.

The following basic descriptions of each tree on the Tree Walk include the common and botanical names, the size of an average full-grown healthy tree and the ability for the species to adapt to different soil and site conditions. Sizes range from Small (25 ft.); Medium (40 ft.); Large (60 ft.) and Very Large (80 ft. or more). Most species have varieties that will vary in height, spread, adaptability and other characteristics.

The Tree Walk is evolving as new trees are planted or others are removed.

Please note, some of the pictures are not the actual tree on the Tree Walk. They are pictures that will provide a good visual of what the tree will look like at maturity.



1 **Boxelder,** *Acer negundo* Medium to large. Adaptable. Dependable grower in difficult locations. However use with caution due to weak wood prone to severe decay. One variety, Sensation Boxelder, has good red fall color.





2 **London Planetree,** *Platanus x Acerifolia* Very Large.

Adaptable. Fastgrowing Sycamore tree. One of the best trees for shade. Give it lots of room to grow. Less susceptible to Anthracnose, a leaf fungus disease, than American Sycamore. Large persistent leaves.

#### 3 Northern Red Oak, Quercus rubra Very large. Prefers well drained, acidic soil. Likely to suffer chlorosis, a mineral deficiency, in clay, alkaline soils. An impressive moderately fast growing Oak. Nice red fall color.



4 **Flowering Pear\***, *Pyrus Calleryana* Small to medium. Adaptable. A few varieties can be susceptible to fire blight but for the most part pest free and dependable. White flowers are very nice but pungent. Many varieties with different growth habits.



### 5 Scarlet Oak, Quercus coccinea

Large. Needs well drained, acidic soils. Likely to be chlorotic in alkaline soils. Related to Pin Oak (Quercus palustris) but has a broader growth habit. Autumn red color can be very attractive.



#### 6 Sawtooth Oak,

Quercus acutissima Medium to large. Somewhat adaptable. Can experience chlorosis in alkaline soils. Often wide spreading branches. Reported to be fast growing in the right soils. We'll see.



7 **Swamp White Oak\*,** *Quercus bicolor* Large. Somewhat adaptable. Can experience chlorosis in alkaline soils. Strong impressive figure which is similar in appearance to Bur Oak (Quercus macrocarpa) but has smaller acorns. Deserving of its increased popularity.



#### 8 Little Leaf Linden, Tilia cordata

Medium. Adaptable. Dense, uniform canopy. Fragrant flowers have the bees buzzing to make honey that is reportedly the finest. The flowers are also used to make tea. Aphids can be a concern.



#### 9 Scotch Pine,

Pinus sylvestris Large, Adaptable but prefers well drained soils. Orange flaking bark on younger branches adds interest. Brittle wood.



10 **Coastal Redwood,** Sequoia sempervirens Very large. Tallest tree

in the world (378 feet). Requires high humidity and the right soil. No good explanation for this tree to be alive in our

desert climate but there are a few.





#### 11 Ponderosa Pine,

Pinus ponderosa Very large. Adaptable. Prefers well drained soil. Make sure you have room for this giant.

#### 12 **Turkey Oak,** *Quercus cerris* Medium to large. Adaptable. Large fringed cap covers half or more of the acorn. Not widely used or available.

13 **Bald Cypress,** *Taxodium distichum* Large. Can be chlorotic in alkaline soils. Deciduous. Roots usually develop unique knobby "knees" protruding above ground. Excellent choice for wet areas.



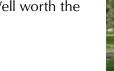
# 14 **Japanese Zelkova,** Zelkova serrata

Large. Prefers well drained soils. Once established, can be pH adaptable. In the Elm family. Dutch Elm Disease resistant. Form similar to American elm.



15 Hardy Rubber Tree,

*Eucommia ulmoides* Reported to be medium size and adaptable however our experience indicates on the smaller side and preference for well drained soils. Lustrous green foliage. Pest free. Well worth the effort.





16 **Sequoia\*,** 

Sequoiadendron giganteum Very large. Needs moist, deep, well drained acidic soil. In its native range this tree can reach 250-300 feet tall and huge trunk, but don't expect much more than 100 feet here. Several Sequoias are doing surprisingly well in Boise's low humidity and hot/ cold climate.







# 18 Colorado Spruce,

*Picea pungens* Large. Adaptable although prefers rich, moist soil and full sun. Common mistake to plant Spruce, and most conifers, too close to structures.

#### 19 Tuliptree,

Liriodendron tulipifera Large. Prefers well drained loam soils. In the Magnolia family. Flowers are smaller and paler than typical Magnolia and are high in the tree, and therefore overlooked, but are still impressive. Susceptible to leaf scorch.

#### 20 Hackberry\*,

Celtis occidentalis Large. Adaptable however a bit difficult to get established. Susceptible to Leaf Nipple Gall. Good choice for tough sites and should be used more



17 **Japanese Pagoda,** *Sophora japonica* Large. Adaptable. Creamy white flowers in summer. Seeds are bean-like and can be profuse. A worthwhile tree.



21 Italian Alder,

Alnus cordata Small to Medium. Probably the most adaptable of Alders but still needs moist well-drained soil. Related to Mountain Alder (*Alnus tenufolia*) which is native to Idaho.



#### 22 Winter King Hawthorn,

*Cartaegus viridis "Winter King"* Small. Seems to prefer well-drained soils. Spreading form. Persistent, bright red fruit adds color to winters and attracts birds. Beautiful where a spreading tree fits. Good luck finding one to purchase.



24 **English Oak,** *Quercus robur* Large. Adaptable. Attractive dependable Oak. Dense growth habit. Can be prolific acorn producer. As with most oaks, leaves drop one at a time all winter.



#### 23 Silver Maple, Acer saccharinum

Very large. Adaptable. Can experience chlorosis in alkaline soils. Despite positives of fast growth, impressive form and excellent shade, the negatives of soft, weak and decay-prone wood make this tree inadvisable in yard and boulevard locations.



#### 25 **European Beech**, *Fagus sylvatica* Large. Must have moist, well drained, acidic soil in a generally sheltered area. Red and green leaf varieties. Beautiful tree not often used due to low adaptability.



26 Shingle Oak,

Quercus imbricaria Large. Somewhat adaptable, prefers moist, well drained low pH soil. Often have drooping lower branches. Wood has been used to make shingles; hence, the common name.





29 **English Hawthorn**, *Crataegus laevigata* Small. Adaptable. Impressive when fully bloomed in rosy red color. Difficult to keep clean and tidy.

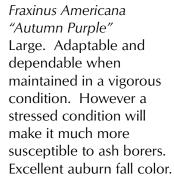
30 White Ash,

27 **Green Ash**, *Fraxinus pennsylvanica* Large. Adaptable and moderately fast growing. Tough, dependable and therefore overused. If kept in a vigorous healthy condition it will resist and withstand attack by Ash borers. Can have brilliant yellow fall color. Expect aphids.



28 **Crabapple**, *Malus spp* Small. There are hundreds of varieties of crabapples each with their own flower, fruit size and adaptability. Spectacular in spring. Remember, flowers become fruit which can be messy in the wrong location.





#### 31 Honeylocust,

*Gleditsia triacanthos* Large. Adaptable. Most varieties are thornless and seedless. Small leaflets provide filtered shade. Good, strong tree, a bit over used.

32 **Crimson Sentry Norway Maple\*,** *Acer platanoides "Crimson Sentry"* Medium and narrow form. Somewhat adaptable. Columnar form of Crimson King. Good choice for narrow sites.

\*Not actual tree on the Tree Walk





33 **Emerald Queen Norway Maple,** Acer platanoides "Emerald Queen"

Medium. Somewhat adaptable. One of the most common Norway Maples. Nice yellow fall color. Susceptible to Verticillium Wilt disease.

#### 34 Crimson King Norway Maple,

Acer platanoides "Crimson King" Medium. Somewhat adaptable. Leaves emerge and stay dark red through the growing season. Susceptible to Verticillium Wilt disease.



35 White Pine, Pinus monticola Very large. Needs well drained low pH soils. The State tree of Idaho.



36 Schwedler Norway Maple, Acer platanoides 'Schwedleri' Medium to large. Somewhat adaptable. Old variety of Norway Maple. Leaves emerge dark purplish red turning to dark green by early summer.



37 **Red Buckeye,** *Aesculus pavia* Small, needs well-drained loamy soil. Upright red flower clusters are very much like those of Red Horsechestnut (*aesculus*)

*x carnea*), which is a more common and dependable tree in this area. Identification of this tree is not definite but that's our story and we're sticking with it.



38 Sweetgum, Liquidambar styraciflua

Large. Prefers well drained, acidic soil. Likely to be chlorotic in clay, alkaline soils. Some have good orange/red fall color. Usually narrow conical form for many years before spreading. Seed balls up to the size of a golf ball can be bothersome. Cherokee Sweetgum, (*Liquidambar styraciflua*, Cherokee) has been developed to be nearly seedless.



# 39 **Sugar Maple**\*, Acer saccharum

Medium to large. Needs well drained soil tending towards an acidic pH. Highly prized for its brilliant orange/red fall color.



40 **Miyabe Maple,** *Acer miyabei* Small to medium. Prefers well drained low pH soils. A bit difficult to get established. Rare.





41 **Horsechestnut,** *Aesculus hippocastanum* Medium to large. Prefers moist well drained soils. Tight, dense uniform shape is quite hansom. Large white showy flowers upright on the stem. Red Horse Chessnut (Aesculus x carnea) has red flowers.







#### 44 Pacific Sunset Maple,

Acer truncatum x Acer Platenoides Medium. Adaptable. A cross with Shantung Maple and Norway Maple. A bit smaller, hardier and often better fall color than most Norway Maples.

#### 45 Turkish Filbert,

*Corylus colurna* Medium. Adaptable but difficult to get established. Prefers well-drained loamy soil. Large nut clusters not used in commercial nut production.

#### 46 Black Locust,

Robinia pseudoacacia Large. Adaptable. Very fragrant flowers. Very dense decay-resistant wood. Highly susceptible to Black Locust Borer and therefore not recommended for landscape use.

#### 47 Norway Spruce,

Picea abies Large. Prefers moist, acidic, well drained soils. Less formal appearance can be a welcome change from Colorado spruce. Often shallow spreading roots.

42 **River Birch**, *Betula nigra* Medium to large. Somewhat adaptable. Much more resistant to Bronze Birch Borer than the White Paperbark Birch (Betula papyrifera). Orange exfoliating bark adds interest through the year. Clump, or more accurately multiple trunk, forms are common.



43 **Colorado Blue Spruce,** *Picea pungens "Glauca"* The same tree as Colorado Spruce except that greater amounts of wax on the needles give it a blue color.



# **Community Forestry Unit**

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Hours of Operation 7:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday-Friday Closed on Holidays

Emergency/After Hours 208-384-4083

Community Forestry takes pride in providing expert advice and care for our city's trees.

If you wish to see other examples of tree species, please cross the Boise River at Pioneer Bridge and walk along the Greenbelt on north side of the river through Julia Davis Park.

References pertaining to the information found in this brochure are available upon request. @2010 Boise Parks & Recreation ~08/10