

Note:

Not all of the trees that you will see along the walk are labeled. The labeled trees have been selected because they best typify a particular species on our campus or because they are of special interest in other ways.

Most of the trees that you will see in the arboretum are young trees planted between 2012 and 2016. You will not see many examples of really mature specimens, but just use your imagination to visualize this arboretum forty or fifty years from now.

ARBORETUM WALK 1

(REVISED 2/2021)

Start at the Bistro Patio. There are two trees in the garden on the south side of the patio.

1. Crape Myrtle (*Lagerstroemia sp.*)

A beautiful small ornamental tree which blooms in late summer. Native to China, Korea and India.

2. River Birch (*Betula nigra*)

Grows throughout eastern and central U.S. Its bark peels off in long strips making it look a bit unkempt.

Looking straight ahead from the patio toward the south side of the long sidewalk leading east to west, there are two trees.

**3. Bradford Pear (*Pyrus calleryana*
'Bradford')**

It produces lots of white flowers in early spring which give way to glossy green leaves throughout the summer and then to yellowish or orange in the fall.

4. **Judy Zuk Magnolia (*Magnolia`Judy Zuk`*)**

This tree was given to the arboretum By Scot Medbury, President of the Brooklyn Botanic Garden. It was planted at the official opening of the arboretum in June 2015. Its most exceptional feature is the deep gold color of its flowers along with its narrow upright habit of growth.

Follow the walk between Bedford and Cambridge going west. Look to your right just at the end of the Bistro Patio.

5. **Forest Pansy Redbud (*Cercis canadensis* `Forest Pansy`)**

With its striking magenta flowers, Redbud is one of the earliest bloomers in the spring. The Forest Pansy Redbud differs from its close cousin, the Eastern Redbud, because its foliage shades from purple to lighter purple to a bronze green toward the interior of the tree.

6. **Kanzan Flowering Cherry (*Prunus serrulata* `Kanzan`)**

In the spring it has a profusion of pink flowers. It spreads broadly as it grows, but is smaller than most other cherry trees. It is named after the Kanzan Mountain in Japan.

Now look to your left to the south.

7. **Cistena Plum (*Prunus x cistena*)**

Its leaves are purple-red turning more reddish in the fall. The light pink

flowers which appear in the spring are delicate and fragrant.

Continue to look to the south side near the sidewalk.

8. Redspire Pear (*Pyrus calleryana* 'Redspire')

Usually features a pyramidal symmetric pattern of growth. It produces abundant white flowers in the spring. It may grow to a height of 35 feet.

Look beyond the Pear closer to the building (Cambridge) on the south side of the walk.

9. Weeping Crabapple (*Malus louisa* 'pendula')

A beautiful small tree whose branches cascade gracefully down to the ground. Buds open in May to reveal

single, pink, sweet smelling flowers.
Honeybees will search them out.

Now look to your right to the north.

10. Kousa Dogwood (*Cornus kousa*)

Introduced into the U.S. in 1875, it grows widely throughout temperate regions. Flowers are creamy white or pinkish white.

Look to the south toward the Cambridge Bldg.

11. Sugar Tyme Crabapple (*Malus* 'Sutyzam' / *Malus* 'Sugar Tyme')

This is a popular flowering ornamental tree. Pale pink buds lead to pure white fragrant flowers in mid-spring.

12. Green Colorado Spruce (*Picea pungens*)

An impressive tree with a precise pyramidal shape which, when mature, will dominate the landscape. It may grow to be 70 to 100 feet tall. Its dense needles are a shiny dark green although new needles tend to be bluish-green.

Look to the north.

13. Black Pine (*Pinus thunbergiana*)

This is a 2-needle pine. The needles are 3-5 inches long and the cones are about 2 1/2 to 3 inches long. The buds usually have sharp points.

Continue looking north just beyond the mound.

**14. Pink Dogwood (*Cornus florida* var.
Rubra)**

This small spreading ornamental tree produces a profusion of pink flowers in the spring. Indians used the ground-up bark and roots to treat malaria.

15. Eastern Redbud (*Cercis canadensis*)

This contrasts with the Forest Pansy Redbud you saw earlier in the walk because in summer its leaves are green and not purple.

Continue walking west along the sidewalk. When you come to the parking lot, look at the small tree at the east end of the “dog bone” (grassy area shaped like a bone).

16. Flowering Cherry (*Prunus* sp.)

Cherries are popular trees on the Luther Crest campus. They are well-adapted to our environment and create their special beauty each spring.

Cross the Bedford parking lot to the stop sign at the entrance. Look to your right up the slope.

17. Single Stem Wisteria (*Wisteria Chinensis*)

We usually think of Wisteria as a vine but they can be treated to form a specimen tree such as the one you see here. They bloom in the spring producing huge fragrant purple flowers.

Now turn left along Bluebird. Directly opposite the parking lot entrance, look up the grassy slope.

18. Weeping Willow (*Salix babylonica*)

A graceful tree easily recognized by its branches which grow down and sweep the ground. Male and female flowers are borne on separate trees.

19. Experimental Chestnut Group

Move along Bluebird Lane and continue to look to the right up the grassy slope to the tree line. Labels for the next two trees will be along the fence at the side of the road.

20. Pin Oak (*Quercus paulustris*)

The leaves, buds and acorns are smaller than those of all our native oaks. Its glossy green leaves turn bronze or reddish in the fall.

21. Black Walnut (*Juglans nigra*) The wood is prized by furniture makers. The male and female flowers (catkins) grow separately on the same tree in the spring. The fruit has a green outside husk with the nut inside. Lots of them fall on the Luther Crest roadways in the fall.

Now look to your left on the east side of Bluebird Lane.

22. Green Mountain Sugar Maple
(*Acer saccharum* `Green Mountain`)

A large tree at maturity native to eastern North America. Best known for its leaves which turn bright scarlet, gold or yellow in the fall. We must not forget its maple syrup either.

Look beyond the Sugar Maple up the slope.

23. White Fringe Tree (*Chioanthus virginicus*)

Its flowers are said to be among the most beautiful of all woody plants. They are white, borne in 6-10 inch long clusters in April and May. The egg-shaped dark blue fruits ripen in August and September. Birds love them.

Once again look to your right up the grassy slope.

24. Royal Frost Birch (*Betula`Royal Frost`*)

There are at least 60 different species of birches and perhaps more. Royal Frost is a hybrid of two of them and it has a registered trademark dated 2000. It features burgundy- red to purple leaves which change to orange-yellow or deep red in the fall.

25. Locust (*Gladitsia tricanthos`Shade Master`*)

A cultivated variety of our native honey locust, it lacks thorns. It has fragrant spring flowers.

Leave Bluebird Lane and turn east toward the Cambridge parking lot. Look to the left up the slope beyond the Ash tree.

**26. Magnolia Genie (Magnolia
soulangiana x liliflora)**

Most of the Magnolias that have red or purple flowers were bred in New Zealand and are slowly entering the U.S. Genie is among the most spectacular of Magnolias in terms of its maroon to magenta flowers. The tree tends to be compact and slow-growing.

Now look to the right across the parking lot entrance.

**27. Red Sunset Maple (*Acer rubrum*
'Red Sunset')**

Known for its striking red color in the fall, it grows from eastern Canada across the U.S. to Florida and Texas.

Walk toward Elmhurst and go through the tunnel into the courtyard. As soon as you emerge from the tunnel look in the garden either right or left.

28. Snow Showers Cherry (*Prunus*

subpine `Snow Showers`)

A weeping ornamental cherry which produces beautiful pink blossoms in early spring.

**Follow the sidewalk across the courtyard.
Look to the left beyond the gazebo.**

29. Kousa Dogwood (*Cornus kousa*)

Widely cultivated as an ornamental plant, it is native to Japan, Korea, China and Taiwan. There are several different varieties and many have a multi-stemmed growth habit rather than a central main trunk. It blooms about a month after its relative, *Cornus florida*.

**Turn and look to the south of the sidewalk
before you come to the door leading inside.**

30. Purple Leaf Plum (*Prunus cerasifera*)

The leaves are a dark red-purple. Pink flowers appear in the spring before the leaves come out. It grows fast and is a short-lived tree.

31. Flowering Pear (*Pyrus callerya*)

A typical pear, it bears white flowers with 5 petals in the spring. The species is named after Joseph-Marie Callery who introduced the tree to Europe from China.

Walk back through the courtyard and look at the area around the gazebo. As you circle the gazebo, you will see two River Birch trees and two Serbian Spruces.

32. River Birch (*Betula nigra*)

One of the birch trees is much taller than the other although they were both planted at the same time. The

shorter one shows the effects of a storm which broke some of its branches.

33. Serbian Spruce (*Picea omorika*)

This tree is on the endangered list in the wild. It is native to the Balkans. The cones usually form on the upper branches and are a deep purple-brown.

Just before you leave the courtyard, look to your left (south) at the small tree there.

34. Stellar Pink Dogwood (*Cornus x 'Rutgan'*)

A pink dogwood was first observed in nature in 1731. Its unique inflorescence consists of 20 or more tiny flowers in the center surrounded by 4 large pink bracts. The tree planted here is a hybrid

produced by crossing the American Dogwood (*Cornus Florida*) with the Asian Dogwood (*Cornus kousa*).
The patent for it was issued in 1990.

Look just beyond the Dogwood nearer to the building.

35. Witch hazel (*Hamamelis japonica*)

The genus name, *Hamamelis*, means “together with fruit” which refers to the simultaneous occurrence of flowers with the maturing fruit from the previous year. The species “*japonica*” blooms from January to March. Flower petals are pale to dark yellow.

Leave the courtyard through the tunnel and walk to the west end of Deerfield. Look

across the parking lot on top of the slope directly in front of you toward the west.

36. Japanese Zelkova (*Zelkova serrata*)

This tree is native to China, Japan and Korea. It was introduced into the west in 1861 and has been widely planted ever since. Many of the old Japanese temples were built of Zelkova wood because it is strong and durable.

Slightly down the slope from the Zelkova is another smaller tree.

37. Marley`s Pink Snowbell (*Styrax japonica* JL wpg.)

A vigorous little tree with pretty pink blossoms and shiny dark green leaves, it has been described as a “dainty elegant tree”. It is widely distributed in China, Korea, and Taiwan.

Go around the end of Deerfield and then east on Avondale Ave. Just beyond the awning look to the left across the lawn. There two trees with a Rose of Sharon bush between them. The two trees are Ginkos.

38. Maidenhair Tree (*Ginko biloba*)

Female Ginkos produce a fruit which has a sickening smell so most trees which are planted (like this one) are male. The leaves are fan-shaped and turn a bright yellow in the fall. Fossil records verify the fact that this tree species has been on earth since the Jurassic period (200 million years ago).

Continue to walk east along Avondale Ave. to Luther Crest Drive. Across the road you will see a cluster of several evergreens.

41. Eastern Red Cedar (*Juniperis virginiana*)

Native to North America, they are slow-growing and usually never get very tall. The oldest cedar reported in the U.S. is in Missouri at 795 years old. The aromatic wood is used for chests and clothes closets.

Next to the Cedars are a number of Sassafras trees.

39. Sassafras (*Sassafras albidum*)

It is native to eastern North America and eastern Asia. Historically, it has been used as a culinary, medicinal and aromatic agent. The leaves if crushed have a typical aroma. The oil which produces this odor has been used for tea and perfume. Sassafras oil was the main ingredient in traditional root beer, but was banned by the FDA in 1960 for health reasons.

Walk north on Luther Crest Drive, turn left toward the main entrance and follow the sidewalk along the building. Look in the corner where the Deerfield Building meets the connector.

40. London Plane Tree (*Plantanus x acerifolia*)

It is believed to be a good tree to plant in cities because of its resistance to pollution. It has light brownish-grey bark which peels off in irregular pieces.

Look to the right.

41. Crab Apple (*Malus sp.*)

Its flowers may be white or varying shades of pink, from pale to very intense. It produces tiny apples which are inedible raw but which can be used for jelly.

Continue along the sidewalk toward the front entrance. Look ahead to the small garden area next to the building.

42. Crape Myrtle (*Lagerstroemia* sp.)

Crape Myrtles thrive on the Luther Crest campus. This one, in its protected position, does particularly well.

THIS CONCLUDES ARBORETUM WALK 1

Revised 2/2021