



# *Old Deaf School Park* *Tree Walk*

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*Although the Old Deaf School Park is best known for its Topiary Garden,  
a unique interpretation of Georges Seurat's Post-Impressionist painting  
A Sunday Afternoon on the Isle of La Grand Jatte,  
the seven-acre park is home to more than 220 trees.*

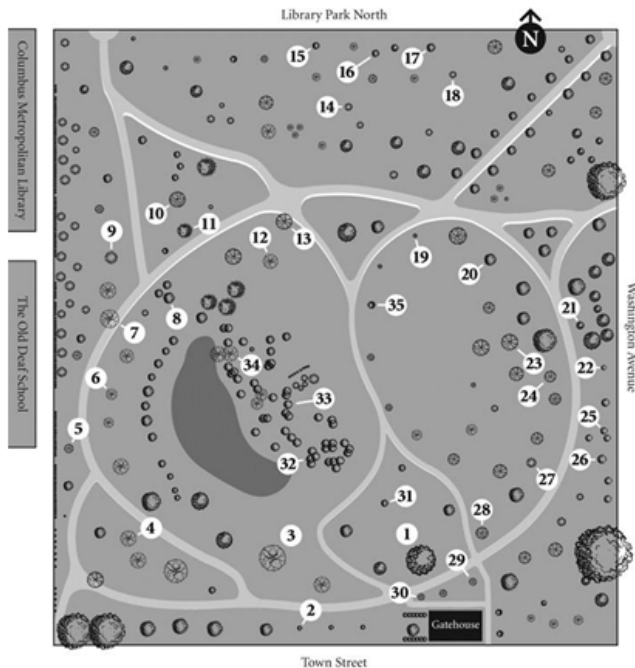
*This self-guided tour is an introduction to just a few of the diverse trees in the park.  
The walk begins and ends north of the gatehouse visitors center at 480 East Town Street.*

*Trees are numbered on the map and on the sidewalk. Enjoy the walk!*

*Friends of the Topiary Park was founded in 1992 to support park improvements and to provide  
tours and educational resources for thousands of visitors each year.*

*The park is a project of the Columbus Recreation and Parks Department.*

*Please visit [www.topiarygarden.org](http://www.topiarygarden.org) for additional information.*



#### 1. 'BLOODGOOD' LONDON PLANETREE

(*Platanus x hispanica* 'Bloodgood') is a large, fast-growing shade tree with mottled, creme-colored bark. It tolerates a variety of sites, and is a hybrid between American Sycamore and the Oriental Planetree. Its origin dates to the 1600s but was developed in Industrial-Age London because it could tolerate air pollution. It is anthracnose-resistant compared to American Sycamore, with the 'Bloodgood' cultivar showing greater resistance than the species.

#### 2. RED SNAKEBARK MAPLE

(*Acer capillipes*) is a small 30-to-35-foot-tall tree that often branches close to the ground. Native to Japan, it has greenish-purple stems, with white, vertical-striped bark. Young leaves are reddish and eventually mature to dark green.

#### 3. THORNLESS HONEYLOCUST

(*Gleditsia triacanthos* f. *inermis*) is a fast-growing, wetland native that is adaptable to dry sites. Its compound leaves have very small leaflets that turn yellow in the fall. Its seedpods can be up to ten inches long. Seedless and thornless cultivars are available, while native trees have large thorns up and down the trunks.

#### 4. MIYABE MAPLE

(*Acer miyabei*) is an outstanding specimen tree featuring crisp dark-green summer foliage and an appealing upright rounded habit with a wide crown. It tolerates mild drought, likes full sun and its fall yellow to golden-yellow color can be attractive, depending on conditions. The 5-pointed leaf reminds one of Sweetgum, the 2 basal lobes being smaller; it flowers in spring as leaves emerge and has a 2-winged samara (seed). It is medium sized (30-50 feet) with rough gray bark.

#### 5. AMUR MAPLE

(*Acer tataricum* ssp. *ginnala*) is a small Asian maple that grows as wide as it does tall. Introduced into the United States circa 1860, its narrow leaves have brilliant red and orange fall color.

#### 6. AMUR CORKTREE

(*Phellodendron amurense*) has a leaf similar to an ash tree and has a corky bark. Native to Japan and northern China, it reaches 40 to 50 feet with an equal or greater spread. Female trees bear dark purple berries in fall.

#### 7. JAPANESE LARCH

(*Larix kaempferi*) is a deciduous conifer - losing its soft needles in fall. It is a medium-to-large sized pyramidal tree with many slender needles on short spurs. The needles are eaten by a variety of wildlife. Fall color can be spectacular. Larches are also called tamarack.

#### 8. JAPANESE FLOWERING CRABAPPLE

(*Malus floribunda*) is one of the best-rated species for flowers, fruit, form, and disease resistance. Crabapples are adaptable to varying soil conditions, are very cold-hardy and should be planted in full sun.

#### 9. BALD CYPRESS

(*Taxodium distichum*) is a large, deciduous conifer related closely to Pond Cypress. It is native from the Gulf Coast up to Ohio and tolerates very wet conditions but does not require them. It has dark orange fall color.

#### 10. SWAMP WHITE OAK

((*Quercus bicolor*) leaves have lighter-colored velvety undersides and are round-lobed. It is a native Ohio tree and frequently found near water but can be very drought tolerant.

#### 11. SARGENT CHERRY

(*Prunus sargentii*) is a tree of great beauty with rich pink flowers that open ahead of the leaves in early spring. Under cultivation it grows to 20 - 30 feet high and wide. The foliage is an excellent shiny-dark green in summer and changes to bronze or red in the fall. The bark is rich, polished reddish to chestnut brown.

#### 12. WEeping EUROPEAN BEECH

(*Fagus sylvatica* 'Pendula') is a European Beech with oval-toothed leaves and attractive smooth gray bark. It is a good specimen tree for public areas and parks. 'Pendula' is a beautiful weeping form which can grow to 50 or 60 feet.

#### 13. JAPANESE PAGODA TREE

(*Styphnolobium japonicum*) with pinnately compound leaves and pea-like flowers, is a good tree for city conditions. It tolerates poor soils and city pollutants. Excellent flower and good foliage are principal assets. The flowers are creamy white, mildly fragrant panicles which bloom in July and August,

and always bring the eye upward to the spectacular show. The leaf color is bright green and that green holds late into fall. It can be considered messy due to flower, fruit and pod, stem and leaf drop, so is best suited for public places and parks. It is fast-growing, to 50-75 feet.

#### 14. EASTERN WHITE PINE

(*Pinus strobus*) grows rapidly in well-drained soils. It is native to the eastern United States and can grow 80 feet tall and 40 feet wide or larger. Its attractive bluish-green needles are in bundles of five.

#### 15. RED BUCKEYE

(*Aesculus pavia*) with an attractive display of showy, deep red flowers, this tall shrub or small tree is attractive to hummingbirds. Drooping, large dark green palmate leaves emerge in early spring before oaks and maples show signs of life. The Red Buckeye will bloom when only 3 feet tall, and makes a good understory plant. Well-drained soil and partial shade to full sun are preferred. A pair of buckeye seeds appears in late summer in a fig-sized leathery pouch. Wildlife shun the bitter, poisonous seeds.

#### 16. COMMON HORSECHESTNUT

(*Aesculus hippocastanum*) this tall (about 60 foot) tree has an erect and columnar trunk, and stout, widely-spreading branches forming a round or oblong crown. Outer branches of older trees are curled upward. Leaves are palmately compound, similar to Buckeye leaves (they are in the same family as Buckeyes). The erect panicles of flowers are showy and can be very tall with many flowers in each panicle (only about 5 chestnuts develop on every panicle); each nut is covered with a softly-spiked capsule surrounding the fruit with 1-3 glossy brown seeds. It is native to Eastern Europe.

#### 17. OHIO BUCKEYE

(*Aesculus glabra*) is a good tree for parks and native/natural settings. The familiar leaf, opposite, palmately compound, and well-known and used seed being a smooth, shiny brown "nut" with a blonde eye are legend in Ohio college sports. That nut/seed on the tree is conspicuously surrounded with a pale green prickly outer cover. The seed is poisonous to humans but often eaten by squirrels. Leaf blotch is a serious disease of buckeye leaves and leaf scorch is a serious physiological cause of premature leaf drop. This is the state tree of Ohio.

#### 18. DAWN REDWOOD

(*Metasequoia glyptostroboides*) is native to China; it is a deciduous needle-leaved tree well-suited to large areas as it will grow quickly and reach 70-100+ feet in height. It develops into a pyramidal shape and can spread usually to 25 feet with a broad rounded crown. The feather-like leaf is green, changing to orange-brown or red-brown in fall before leaf drop. It produces small cones, is easy to transplant, and prefers moist,

deep, well-drained, slightly acidic soils in full sun. It makes a stand-alone specimen or is useful in screens, groves or lining a long drive.

#### 19. BUTTERFLIES MAGNOLIA

(*Magnolia* 'Butterflies') is a vigorous hybrid of the Yulan magnolia (*Magnolia denudata*) and cucumber magnolia (*Magnolia acuminata*). Considered the most superior yellow-blooming form, this small ornamental tree adds excitement to the spring landscape. Plant it in full sun with well-drained, slightly acidic soil.

#### 20. ALLEE ELM

(*Ulmus parvifolia* 'Emer li' (ALLEE®)) has a vase-shaped form with long, arching branches. It has rich green, glossy foliage that changes to yellow in the fall. The exfoliating bark peels off in a puzzle-like pattern giving it winter interest. It withstands the harshest growing conditions in a wide range of soil types, in restricted spaces, is resistant to Dutch elm disease and elm-leaf and Japanese beetles.

#### 21. JAPANESE ZELKOVA

(*Zelkova serrata*) is a member of the elm family and reaches 50 feet in height and width with a lovely vase-shaped form. It is resistant to Dutch elm disease and has orange to red to purple fall color and flaking ornamental bark.

#### 22. CRUSADER THORNLESS COCKSPUR HAWTHORN

(*Crataegus crus-galli* var. *inermis* 'Cruzam' (CRUSADER®)) is a small tree with creamy-white flowers in spring, glossy dark green leaves that turn crimson and purplish-bronze in fall and bears showy orange fruit in late summer into winter. This superior form has a horizontal branching shape and lacks the usual vicious spines on branches.

#### 23. TRIUMPH ELM

(*Ulmus* 'Morton Glossy' (TRIUMPH™)) is a hybrid of the superior VANGUARD™ and ACCOLADE™ elms with dark green, glossy foliage and a sturdy symmetrical growth habit. It is disease resistant to two major elm diseases and the elm leaf beetle and matures with vigorous growth to 55 feet in height with a 45 feet spread in an upright form.

#### 24. SUGAR MAPLE

(*Acer saccharum* 'Green Mountain') is a favorite shade tree with orange, red, and yellow fall color. Mature trees are shallow-rooted and the source of "real" maple syrup. 'Green Mountain' has a superior shape and excellent orange fall color.

#### 25. FRINGE TREE

(*Chionanthus virginicus*) is a small tree or large shrub native to the eastern United States. Known for its slightly-fragrant white blossoms in May to early June, dark-blue, egg-shaped fruit develops only on female plants.

## 26. SUMMER CHARM JAPANESE TREE LILAC

(*Syringa reticulata* ssp. *pekinensis* 'DTR 124' (SUMMER CHARM®)) is a smaller (15-20 foot) tree form with finer-textured foliage than the similar 'Ivory Silk' cultivar and impressive creamy-white, fragrant flowers in early summer. The bark is a handsome reddish-brown and adds to the tree's landscape assets. Although subject to some diseases, conditions and insect problems, it is one of the more trouble-free lilacs. It prefers full sun for best flowering.

## 27. WHITE SPRUCE

(*Picea glauca*) is widely used because of its adaptability. Spruces are an interesting group of usually tall, symmetrical, conical trees used for screening and winter interest. White Spruce is common and native to northern New England.

## 28. RED OAK

(*Quercus rubra*) has broad, lobed leaves with pointed tips. Many forms of wildlife eat the bitter acorns. It grows relatively quickly and has excellent red fall color.

## 29. JAPANESE MAPLE

(*Acer palmatum*) has bright red twigs and deeply cut ornamental leaves that turn lovely shades of orange and red in fall. Slow growing and mature at 20 to 25 feet in height, Japanese Maples require protection from strong winds and sun.

## 30. GOLDEN RAINTREE

(*Koelreuteria paniculata*) is a beautiful, dense tree of rounded outline with spreading branches. Pinnately compound leaves with 7-15 leaflets are purplish-red when unfolding, rich green when mature, changing to yellow or orange in the fall. Showy yellow flowers are born in June/July with papery 3-sided seed capsules developing later that resemble Chinese lanterns. It is adaptable to a wide range of soils, withstands drought and heat, and tolerates pollutants. It grows quickly, reaching 30-40 feet in height, and is an excellent choice for a small lawn, or patio shade or street tree.

## 31. 'BOULEVARD' AMERICAN LINDEN

(*Tilia americana* 'Boulevard') is a native species and is also called basswood. The 'Boulevard' cultivar is a narrow, pyramid-shaped tree with medium-green summer foliage and yellow fall color. It grows to 50 feet.

## 32. TRIDENT MAPLE

(*Acer buergerianum*) is so named for its trident leaf shape, although sometimes the leaf can have 3 rounded lobes instead of pointed. The canopy has a distinctly oval-rounded growth habit, with new leaves often bronze to purple maturing to glossy dark green in summer, changing to yellow, red and orange in late fall. It is medium sized (20-35 feet), and can be a handsome patio, lawn or street tree. It is often used as a good bonsai specimen. The bark becomes gray-brown-orange and exfoliating with growth, providing interest in winter.

## 33. RENAISSANCE REFLECTION BIRCH

(*Betula papyrifera* 'Renci'(RENAISSANCE REFLECTION®)) is a Birch tree with a slender, pyramidal habit and is resistant to bronze birch borer. It has a brilliant white bark color with green summer leaves that turn to yellow fall color. It grows fast at a rate of 3-5 feet per year. The trade name is Renaissance Reflection®, and is commonly called paper birch, canoe birch and white birch.

## 34. HERITAGE RIVER BIRCH

(*Betula nigra* 'Cully'(HERITAGE™)) is a most adaptable and trouble-free Birch, especially in being bronze birch borer resistant. The exfoliating bark is rich gray-salmon-cinnamon to reddish-brown...of great interest in all seasons. It prefers moist soil, but is heat tolerant. Heritage™ is superior in performance and characteristics to any other River Birch cultivars.

## 35. PRINCETON SENTRY GINKGO

(*Ginkgo biloba* 'Saratoga') is a 40 foot tall by 30 feet wide tree with a strong central leader. This male cultivar has a distinct central leader, with an upright compact habit that widens with age. 'Saratoga's' foliage is more deeply-lobed than the species, giving it a pretty, lacier look. It has the rich golden-yellow fall color, typical of the species, with a dense, compact habit.

### *The Perfect Gift*

*The Old Deaf School Park can help you celebrate, commemorate, and remember with distinctive garden tributes. Tribute opportunities include a Garden bench, a picnic table, a tree or a dedicated Garden flower bed. The beauty and serenity of this unique park combine to create a perfect setting in which to honor a loved one or friend.*

*When you make your tax-deductible contribution to the Park, a personalized acknowledgement of your gift is sent to the individual or family being honored, without reference to the size of the gift. For more information, please contact [friends@topiarygarden.org](mailto:friends@topiarygarden.org), or call 614-645-0197.*

*The Topiary Park, 480 E. Town Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215*

**Tree Walk sponsored & printed by:**



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Topiary Park

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