

# Heritage Tree Tour

Heritage Trees are irreplaceable specimens gracing landscapes with their age, and formal display of species traits. While so many trees at Awbury display such grandeur of traits, these trees have been specifically selected for their contribution to the landscape's history, wildlife habitat, and culture. Awbury Arboretum invites you to learn these trees as new friends while you travel through the historic landscape.



Tree #	Species	Family	Information
1	Willow Oak <i>Quercus phellos</i>	Fagaceae	Willow oak leaves are similar to willow leaves in being smooth edged, narrow and long. However, their irregular placement around the stems give their identification away, along with the trees tiny acorns and pyramid form
2	Red Oak <i>Quercus Rubra</i>	Fagaceae	Red oak division of Oak trees are categorized by their leave's pointed lobes. The specific Red oak has 7 to 11 lobe pairs and turns bright red in the fall.
3	White Ash <i>Fraxinus americana</i>	Oleaceae	White and green ash trees are identified by their even bark with diamond furrows coating straight trunks dividing into multiple large branches. A greater challenge is to distinguish between the white and green ashes, with their slight variation in leaf shape and leafscars on unreachable branches.
4	European Hornbeam <i>Carpinus betulus</i>	Betulaceae	European hornbeams have smooth gray bark stretch over delicately twisting branches. The fruit are held by three bracts each and dangle in clusters like nature's earrings.
5	American Linden <i>Tilia americana</i>	Tiliaceae	Known for its sweet fragrance in the spring, this trees clusters of 1/2 inch flowers are found uniquely dropping from oblong bracts, or modified leaves.
6	Black Maple <i>Acer nigrum</i>	Aceraceae	Very similar to the Sugar Maple, Black maples take a keen eye to recognize. The Black Maple leaves will droop down as though in a constant state of thirst. Compare the neighboring maple trees here to see the difference.
7	Sugar Maple <i>Acer saccharum</i>	Aceraceae	Sugar maples have the nostalgic Maple shaped leaf with 3 to 5 lobes in a palm form. Not sure if it is the Sugar Maple or the invasive Norway Maple? Check the sap, it will be clear if it is the Sugar Maple.
8	Honey Locust <i>Gleditsia trakanthos</i>	Fabaceae	Less commonly found in designed landscapes, the honey locust displays threatening clusters of 3 branched thorns. However, many foragers find their sweet twisted bean pods to be a treat in the early fall.
9	Black Cherry <i>Prunus serotina</i>	Rosaceae	Black cherry trees are a key feature to the Germantown culture and history for their use in furniture making. Older black cherries grow throughout the landscape and are distinguished by their coarse bark, with raised silver sheened plates marked with dark horizontal lines.
10	Bur Oak <i>Quercus macrocarpa</i>	Fagaceae	Bur oaks leaves are known to be shaped like base fiddles. The acorns are at least half covered by caps which are smooth scaled with fringed edges.
11	European Oak <i>Quercus robur</i>	Fagaceae	The oak leaves are rounded with 3-7 pairs of veins stretching out to each lobe. The acorns are elongated to 1 inch and half covered by a smooth scaled cap.
12	Black Walnut <i>Juglans nigra</i>	Juglandaceae	Careful walking under this tree in the fall, as the bright green baseball sized fruits accelerate to the ground. Black walnuts are also known for its ability to put toxins into the soil which naturally reduce the growth of non-native broadleaved plants, making it an ideal lone "wolf" tree in a meadow.
13	River Birch <i>Betula nigra</i>	Betulaceae	This river birch tree is a Pennsylvania state champion but one of several enormous river birches in the Awbury wetland. Its popular river birch bark can be seen way up in the canopy on the younger branches, with peeling reddish bark scrolls revealing a smooth white underlayer.
14	Silver Maple <i>Acer saccharinum</i>	Aceraceae	Silver Maples are commonly found in waterlogged soils. They can be identified by their deeply lobed palm shaped leaves with silver undersides. Their bark becomes deeply furrowed and peeling with age adding additional interest to this tree.
15	Bald Cypress <i>Taxodium Distichum</i>	Cupressaceae	Bald Cypress trees' needlelike branchlets turn burnt orange every fall and drop revealing the tree trunk of thin red peeling bark. Every spring bright green needle clusters burst back out of the branches where they remain softly drooping for the season.
16	Dawn Redwood <i>Metasequoia glyptostroboides</i>	Cupressaceae	Undeniably similar to the Bald Cypress, this Cypress family member native to China, can be distinguished by its armpits! Deep grooves form in the trunk and seem to start under each branch.
17	Sweet Birch <i>Betula lenta</i>	Betulaceae	Sweet birch has cherry like horizontally striped bark with a light reddish brown color. When the twigs are bruised or broken; they smell like birch beer.
18	Goldenrain Tree <i>Koeleruteria paniculata</i>	Sapindaceae	Goldenrain trees display panicle clusters of bright yellow flowers in the summer transforming into tan paper lantern clusters by the fall. Their long dark green leaves are divide into about 15 irregularly serrated leaflets.
19	American Beech <i>Fagus grandiflora</i>	Fagaceae	Light bluish gray bark with upright branching habit, American Beeches are known for sending up sucker trees from their roots forming colonies of "Sister" trees
20	European Beech <i>Fagus sylvatica</i>	Fagaceae	Similar to the American Beech, this smaller leafed European relative can be identified by its lower branching habit and darker gray bark. The low branches reroot when they rest on the ground to produce beech colonies.
21	Tulip Poplar <i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i>	Magnoliaceae	Tulip trees are quickly identified by their cat-face leaves, and bright green and orange tulip shaped flowers. This trunk is nearly 4 feet wide, but look for Tulip trees throughout the property for their never-ending mast-straight trunks.
22	American Elm <i>Ulmus americana</i>	Ulmaceae	This stately tree has a very symmetrical form with notably large main branches tapering off to graceful pendulous branchlets. American Elms are now a very rare find in landscapes.
23	American Holly <i>Ilex opaca</i>	Aquifoliaceae	American holly's evergreen leaves are dull to olive green with 1 to 8 sharp spines per side. Single red berries are distributed up the stems starting in October for the winter season, providing a key food source for birds.
24	Paper Birch <i>Betula papyrifera</i>	Betulaceae	Uncommon to Northeastern areas with hot summers, this unusually located paper birch is additionally a rare size making it an abundant source of seed for wildlife.
25	Shagbark Hickory <i>Carya ovata</i>	Juglandaceae	The bark is as the common name identifies, shaggy. The upper and lower ends of bark segments curl away from the tree giving a unique appearance but also great hiding places for small sized wildlife.