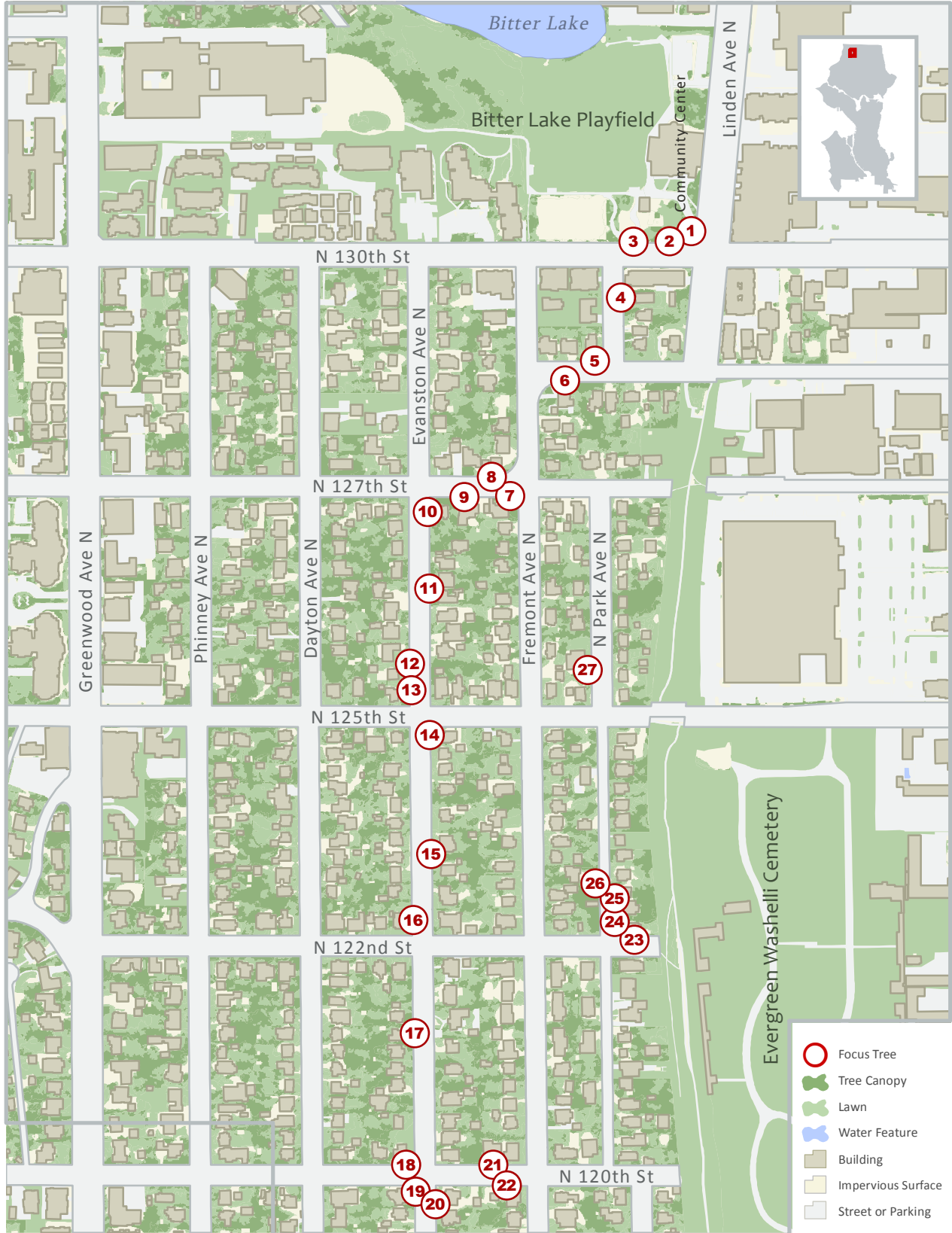









BITTER LAKE TREE WALK



-  Focus Tree
-  Tree Canopy
-  Lawn
-  Water Feature
-  Building
-  Impervious Surface
-  Street or Parking

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













Call: 206-615-1668





Email: treeambassador@seattle.gov






Follow Trees for Seattle on Facebook











Bitter Lake Tree Walk






Tree Number & Common name <i>Botanical name</i>	Tree Descriptions Notes	Photos
<p>1. Blue Atlas Cedar <i>Cedrus atlantica</i></p>	<p>Notice the large tree behind the Bitter Lake Playfield sign. This is a true cedar, and the needles of this tree are clustered in little bundles. The distinct blue hue of its needles gives it its name.</p>	
<p>2. Sawara Cypress <i>Chamaecyparis pisifera</i></p>	<p>Walk west along 130th St, noting the trees along the fence-line. The first is a Sawara cypress, which is not a true cypress. It has flat, scale-like needles with white bands on their underside. This species has small, soccer-ball-like cones.</p>	
<p>3. Lawson's Cypress <i>Chamaecyparis lawsoniana</i></p>	<p>Continue west along the fence-line of 130th St. Another false cypress, this very fast growing species has fan-like sprays of needles compared to the more loose and open needle arrangement of the Sawara cypress. Its reddish-brown bark is notably thick and rigid.</p>	
<p>4. Arborvitae <i>Thuja occidentalis</i></p>	<p>Head South and cross N 130th St to N Park Ave N. On the left side of the street, you will notice a small tree with scale-like needles. Native to North America, this species was once called the "tree of life." Like this example, Arborvitae often are multi-trunked.</p>	

<p>5. Mountain Ash <i>Sorbus americana</i></p>	<p>Continue south on N Park Ave N, and turn right on 128th St. This is our first deciduous tree. Native to Northeastern U.S., this species has clusters of small white flowers in the spring and red berries in the fall.</p>	 
<p>6. Catalpa <i>Catalpa spp.</i></p>	<p>Continue 128th St, on the left side of the street, you will notice several large deciduous trees. This species has large, heart-shaped leaves, and distinctive bean pods that drop in late summer. This is a fast growing species, and can grow up to 20 ft in 10 years!</p>	 
<p>7. Paper Birch <i>Betula papyrifera</i></p>	<p>Head south down Fremont Ave N, and cross N 127th St. This species often has multiple trunks, with white papery bark that peels in narrow bands to reveal salmon-colored bark.</p>	 
<p>8. Weeping Blue Atlas Cedar <i>Cedrus atlantica</i> "Glauca Pendula"</p>	<p>Turn right on N 127th St, and note this tree sprawled along a fence-line. This is an ornamental version of the first tree we saw. It can be manipulated to grow in unique forms.</p>	 
<p>9. Western White Pine <i>Pinus monticola</i></p>	<p>On the left side of the street along N 127th, there is a large, straight-standing pine. This 5-needle pine has the longest cones of any other conifer native to the West Coast.</p>	 
<p>10. Kousa Dogwood <i>Cornus kousa</i></p>	<p>Turn left on Evanston Ave N and head south, on the left side of the street note a small deciduous tree. This species has an opposite leaf-arrangement, which can be a helpful ID tip. In spring you can find tiny</p>	 

	yellow/green flowers surrounded by white petal-like bracts.	
<p>11. Western Hemlock <i>Tsuga heterophylla</i></p>	<p>Continue south on Evanston Ave N, on the left side of the street is Washington's state tree! Notice its distinctive drooping crown. This species' needles vary in length and are not evenly arranged on its twigs, giving it a haphazard look.</p>	
<p>12. Austrian Pine <i>Pinus nigra</i></p>	<p>Continuing south on Evanston Ave N, on the right side of the street is a small cluster of Austrian pines. This 2-needle pine has reddish-brown cones that have a prickle on the tip of each scale.</p>	
<p>13. European Birch <i>Betula pendula</i></p>	<p>On the right side of Evanston Ave N, also is a cluster of European birch. Compared to the paper birch, this species has a more weeping habit and less peely bark. The fall leaf color of this species lasts longer and arrives later than any native birch species, making it a nice species for landscaping.</p>	
<p>14. Monkey Puzzle Tree <i>Araucaria araucana</i></p>	<p>Continue south on Evanston Ave N. and cross N 125th St. On the left corner of the street, you will see a tree with rope-like branches and leathery, sharp needles. Native to the Southern Andes, this unique species is commonly used in landscaping.</p>	

<p>15. Ginkgo <i>Ginkgo biloba</i></p>	<p>Continuing south down Evanston Ave N, on the left side of the street, there is a small deciduous tree. Note the pegs, known as “spur twigs,” on the bare branches. This species is virtually extinct in the wild and is the only remaining species of its 280 million year-old family!</p>	
<p>16. Paulownia <i>Paulownia spp.</i></p>	<p>Continuing south to the corner of Evanston Ave N. and N 122nd St, there is a medium-sized deciduous tree that has large heart-shaped leaves, similar to the Catalpa we saw earlier. Also known as a “princess tree,” this species has showy, fragrant clusters of violet flowers in the spring.</p>	
<p>17. Lavalle Hawthorne <i>Crataegus x lavallei</i></p>	<p>Cross N 122nd St and keep heading south on Evanston Ave N. On the right side of the street there is a yard designated as a “certified wildlife habitat.” Here is a small ornamental deciduous tree that has simple, glossy leaves and red berries that appear in summer and persist through winter</p>	
<p>18. River Birch <i>Betula nigra</i></p>	<p>Continuing south on Evanston Ave N. to the corner of N 120th St. This native birch, also known as “red birch,” has rust-colored bark and is the only birch species that fruits in the spring.</p>	
<p>19. Mimosa Silk Tree <i>Albizia julibrissin</i></p>	<p>Stay on Evanston Ave N. and cross 120nd St. On the right corner of the street there is a large deciduous tree that has flat seed pods hanging from it. This species has fern-like leaves and showy pink flowers in the summer. Notice that its trunks are cabled to help stabilize the tree.</p>	

<p>20. Horse Chestnut</p>	<p>On the left side of the street, there is a tall, straight-standing deciduous tree. The prickly fruit of this tree is often confused with the fruit of “true” chestnuts, but do not eat any materials from this tree as they can cause fatal side effects.</p>	 
<p>21. Norway Spruce</p>	<p>Head back north on Evanston Ave, and turn right on N 120th St. Notice the shape of this tall-standing spruce. Compared to the pines we have seen, spruce species have sharper needles, and also have cones that are less rigid with more flexible scales.</p>	 
<p>22. Siberian Elm <i>Ulmus pumila</i></p>	<p>Continuing on N 120th St, on the right side of the street is a deciduous tree with a tall, straight trunk with slender, twisted branches. Native to northeastern Asia, this is the world’s hardies elm species!</p>	 
<p>23. Blue Spruce <i>Picea pungens</i></p>	<p>Turn left on N Park Ave N., head north and cross N 122nd St. On your right you will see a tall Blue Spruce. Spruce needles are detached from the branch, so their bare branches feel rough or notched, which can be helpful for ID.</p>	 
<p>24. Viburnum <i>Viburnum spp.</i></p>	<p>Continue north on N Park Ave N. On the right side of the street there is a small evergreen tree. This species has simple leaves with deep veins. Most viburnums have small rounded clusters of white flowers in the spring and small round fruits in the summer or late fall.</p>	 

<p>25. Snag</p>	<p>Just north of the viburnum, is a standing snag. Our urban forests are forever changing and this snag provides critical habitat for birds, small mammals, and other wildlife.</p>	 
<p>26. Black Locust <i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i></p>	<p>Continue north on N Park Ave N, and note the large, sprawling Black locust on the left side of the street.. Native to southeastern U.S., this species has notable bark with deep furrows. Drooping clusters of white flowers bloom in late spring.</p>	  
<p>27. Coulter Pine <i>Pinus coulteri</i></p>	<p>Continue north on N Park Ave N, and cross N 125th St. Note a large pine with notable, long needles (up to 12 inches), growing in tufts on young branches. This 3-needle pine is also known as a “bigcone pine” because it has the heaviest cones of any pines that can weigh up to 8 lbs!</p>	