

# SOUNDVIEW PLAYFIELD TREE WALK



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](http://www.Seattle.gov/trees)



**Call:** 206-615-1668




**Email:** [treeambassador@seattle.gov](mailto:treeambassador@seattle.gov)

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# Soundview Playfield Tree Walk

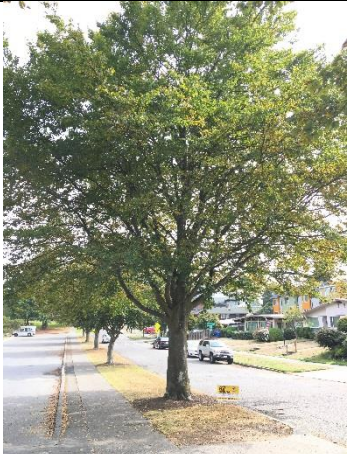
Start on NW 90<sup>th</sup> St (Near the Deodar Cedar)

Tree Number & Common name <i>Botanical name</i> Address	Tree Descriptions Notes	Photos
<p><b>1. Deodar cedar</b> <i>Cedrus deodara</i></p> <p>Entrance of Soundview Playfield</p>	<p>The native range for this tree is the Himalayas but is very common here in Seattle. You can ID this tree easily with its elegant, pendulous branches. Deodar cedars provide great habitat for birds and mammals such as the woodpecker. The cedar's name, Deodar, derives from Sanskrit that translates to "timber of the gods."</p>	
<p><b>2. Zelkova</b> <i>Zelkova spp.</i></p> <p>Near the playground</p>	<p>The zelkova is a great city tree due to the tolerance of salt exposure, high heat and generally tolerant of urban conditions. It's known for being resistant to Dutch elm disease and been promoted to substitute the American elm (<i>Ulmus americana</i>). It is native to Japan, Taiwan and eastern China but commonly found here in Seattle.</p>	

<p><b>3. Katsura</b> <i>Cercidiphyllum japonicum</i></p> <p>Behind Zelkova, near the baseball field</p>	<p>Katsura trees are known for their heart shaped leaves. In spring, they emerge reddish-purple changing to blue-green as they mature. In autumn they turn from either yellow or apricot color. The tree is native to Japan and China and is common in Seattle.</p>	
<p><b>4. Tulip poplar</b> <i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i></p> <p>Near the tennis courts</p>	<p>Native to eastern North America, this tulip poplar or tulip tree is common here in Seattle. They are known for having tulip shape flowers which gives the tree its name and having maple-like leaves. They make a desirable street, shade, or ornamental tree. Tulip poplars are known for their rapid growth and reaching up to 100ft tall! Tulip poplars are used for reforestation purposes because of its rapid growth and the commercial importance of its wood.</p>	
<p><b>5. Port Orford cedar</b> <i>Chamaecyparis lawsoniana</i></p> <p>Left of the tulip poplar</p>	<p>Native to Oregon, but common here in Seattle. In its natural habitat, this tree is in mixed stands with Sitka spruces, western hemlocks, mixed evergreen and white fir thus being a shade-tolerant species. The Port Orford cedar belongs to the family Cupressaceae or the cypress family. Port Orford cedars provide habitat and resources to wildlife with its dense foliage and cones.</p>	



<p><b>6. Black pine</b> <i>Pinus nigra</i></p> <p>Next to the Port Orford cedar</p>	<p>Black pine or Austrian pine are very common in Seattle but native to Austria, thus its name. Black pines are evergreen conifers – retain foliage year-round and are cone bearers – are important for both urban and rural environments. They absorb groundwater throughout Seattle’s rainy season and reduce the run-off that pollutes our waterways.</p>	
<p><b>7. Western white pine</b> <i>Pinus monticola</i></p> <p>Near the Deodar cedar</p>	<p>This five-needle pine is native to the PNW ranging from British Columbia down to California. Western white pines are known for having large cylindrical woody cones and soft needles. Pine trees are identified by the number of needles per <b>fascicle</b> (bundle of needles). Native Americans boiled the bark and used it medicinally for stomach aches, and tuberculosis.</p>	
<p><b>8. Red maple</b> <i>Acer rubrum</i></p> <p>Behind Deodar cedar</p>	<p>Very common here in Seattle and native to North America. Red maples are known for having bright red color in the fall. Red maples make great street trees, which is why you will see them along the ROWs (Right-Of-Way) in Seattle. Maples, in general, produce samaras (or helicopters as most of us call them) which are the trees’ seeds. The samaras provide food for squirrels and many other small mammals.</p>	

<p><b>9. European beech</b> <i>Fagus sylvatica</i></p> <p>Along NW 90<sup>th</sup> St</p>	<p>Native to Europe, the European beech can be identified by its smooth bark. Beechnuts provide food for wildlife and serve as an important food for chipmunks and squirrels. Beechnuts also were food for prehistoric man and historians claimed the first written European literature was inscribed on Beech bark in Sanskrit.</p>	
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This park was originally part of the Olympic Golf & Country Club up until 1952. The course was designed to challenge and attract golfers all around. Walter “The Haig” Hagen, five-time PGA Championship winner was the club’s most notable visitor with many other legends and pioneers of the sport. The Olympic Golf Club’s attractive clubhouse was a preferred venue for weddings, parties, dances and musicals.

#### 10 important facts about urban trees:

1. They soak up rainwater, keeping our streams, lakes, and Puget Sound clean. This is important for marine life, especially for salmon that live in the Puget Sound which humans and orcas consume.
2. Trees can provide stability in slopes and prevent slides for hundreds of years. This is especially true for conifers because they are long-lived species that can thrive in most soils and hilly areas.
3. Hospital patients with plants in their room display less fatigue and pain, shorter hospitalization, less anxiety, and higher hospital and room satisfaction.
4. Trees keep our air fresh and clean through photosynthesis which converts carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) from the atmosphere and release oxygen. The air cleaning value of Seattle’s urban forest is estimated at \$4,894,000.
5. Having trees within the city – either in streets or parks – can give a friendlier environment to bike or walk.
6. Seattle’s urban forest store almost 2 million metric tons of carbon. That’s equivalent to 428,266 passenger vehicles driven for one year.
7. Street trees shade pavement which helps reduce “heat islands” which are caused by loss of vegetation and more surfaces are paved or covered with buildings. Hot pavement warms the surrounding air, increasing temperatures on already hot days by as much as 5-8 degrees.
8. Trees around homes reduce heating needs in winter by providing a windbreak. During the summer, air-conditioning needs are reduced in tree-shaded homes.
9. Trees build community. More social activities were observed in public housing common spaces that had trees compared to treeless spaces of the same size.
10. Trees act as noise buffers and can block your home from noisy roads.