

ARBORETUM WALK 1

(Revised 6/19/2023)

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 across the lawn, there are two trees.

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

This tree has adapted so successfully in the mid-Atlantic and southeastern U.S. that it is now considered invasive. It is beautiful in early spring when it produces lots of white flowers but as it ages, it becomes brittle and the branches are easily broken in storms.

4. Judy Zuk Magnolia (Magnolia 'Judy Zuk')

This tree was given to the Arboretum by Scott Medbury, former 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 the Bedford and Cambridge buildings going west. Look to your right just at the end of the Bistro Patio.

5. Flowering Cherry (Prunus serrulata 'Kanzan')

This tree was severely pruned at the time of major construction in 2022. The once beautiful and iconic Cherry Tree continues in the memory of most residents as an important landmark of Luther Crest.

Look to the south side of the sidewalk.

6. 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.

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

This pear usually features a pyramidal pattern of growth and may achieve a height of 35 feet. It produces abundant white flowers in the spring.

Look further west on the same side of the walk.

8. Weeping Crabapple (*Malus* 'Louisa' wpg.)

A beautiful small tree whose branches grow to sweep the ground. Buds open in May to reveal single, pink, sweet-smelling flowers. Honeybees will search them out.

Look right (north).

9. Kousa Dogwood (*Cornus kousa*)

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

Walk further west beyond the two Maples (one on either side of the walk). Look left toward the Cambridge building.

10. Sugar Tyme Crabapple (*Malus 'Sutyzam'* Sugar Tyme)

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

Walk further west. Continue to look to your left.

11. Green Colorado Spruce (*Picea pungens*)

An impressive tree with a precise pyramidal shape. It may grow to be 70 to 100 feet tall.

Look to the right (north).

12. Black Pine (*Pinus thunbergii*)

This is a 2-needle Pine. The needles are 3-5 inches long and the cones are about 2 ½ inches long.

Continue to look right just below the mound.

13. Sweet Bay Magnolia (*Magnolia virginiana*)

This tree blooms May through June, producing creamy-white flowers about 2-3 inches in diameter. It usually grows as a multi-stemmed plant in a columnar or vase shape. Clusters of red fruits develop which squirrels and birds enjoy.

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

15. 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.

Walk straight across the Bedford parking lot all the way to Bluebird Lane and turn left on to Bluebird.

16. White Fringe Tree (*Chioanthus virginicus*)

You will encounter several Fringe Trees as you walk along Bluebird. They are part of a developing line of Fringe trees which will eventually extend the entire length of Bluebird in the area of the apartment buildings.

Now look across the road up the grassy slope.

17. 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.

Look to the left of the Willow.

18. Experimental Chestnut Group (*Catenea dentata*) (The label is on the fence.)

Once upon a time, Chestnut trees flourished in America. In the forests near where Luther Crest now stands, Chestnuts were a dominant feature. But in 1904 the Asian Bark Fungus reached the U.S. and the Chestnut Blight was introduced. By 1906, the Blight had infected 98% of American Chestnut trees. A number of groups, chief among them, the American Chestnut Foundation, are attempting to use genetic engineering techniques, cross breeding, and selection to produce Blight-resistant trees. The saplings you see here are part of that effort.

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.

19. Pin Oak (*Quercus palustris*)

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.

20. 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 Luther Crest roadways in the fall.

Now look to your left to the other side of Bluebird Lane.

21. White Fringe Tree (*Chioanthus virginicus*)

You have met this tree before. It is a slow-growing native tree with an Asian cousin, *Chioanthus retusus*. Its flowers are beautiful, said to be the most beautiful of all woody plants. Dark blue fruits appear in August or September and the birds love them.

Look at the tree to the right of the Fringe Tree.

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

We know this tree as the source of our Maple sugar. A large tree at maturity, it is native to North America. We also know this tree for the beauty it provides in the fall when its leaves turn bright scarlet, gold or yellow.

Now look across Bluebird Lane to the opposite side.

23. Paper Birch (*Betula papyifera* “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 has burgundy red leaves which change to orange-yellow or deep red in the fall.

Just beyond the Birch tree on the same side of the road, there 5 Locust trees.

24. Locust (*Gleditsia tricanthos* ‘Shade Master’)

A cultivated variety of our native Honey Locust, it lacks thorns. It produces fragrant spring flowers.

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

25. White Fringe Tree (*Chioanthus virginicus*)

You have met this tree several times before on this walk. You know that it is part of a developing tree line.

Leave Bluebird Lane and turn east into the Cambridge parking lot. Look to your right.

26. 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 the tunnel at Elmhurst. After you pass the main entrance to the Cambridge Building look to your left.

27. Weeping Cherry (*Prunus pendula*)

An ornamental tree, this species has been cultivated in Japan for many centuries. When mature its branches will reach the ground in a graceful cascade. It blooms in early spring before the leaves appear.

Now go through the tunnel into the Courtyard. As soon as you emerge from the tunnel, look into the garden, either to the right or the left.

28. Snow Showers Cherry (*Prunus subpine* 'Snow Showers')

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

Look to the far southwest corner of the courtyard.

29. Witch hazel (*Hamamelis* sp.)

The genus name, "Hamamelis", means "together with fruit" which refers to the simultaneous occurrence of flowers with the maturing fruit from the preceding year. This genus blooms from January to March, Flower petals are pale to dark yellow.

Look at the small tree to the left of the Witch hazel.

30. 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. This tree is a hybrid, a cross between the

American Dogwood (*Cornus florida*) and the Asian Dogwood (*Cornus kousa*). The patent for it was issued in 1990.

Walk toward the gazebo and look at the landscaping at the southwest corner.

31. Serbian Spruce (*Picea omorika*)

This species 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.

As you circle the gazebo, you will see two fairly large trees.

32. River Birch (*Betula nigra*)

One of the Birch trees is 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 and changed the shape of the tree.

Walk east on the sidewalk beyond the gazebo. Look to the left.

33. Kousa Dogwood (*Cornus kousa*)

Widely cultivated as an ornamental plant, it is native to Japan, Korea, China and Taiwan. It blooms about a month after its relative, *Cornus florida*.

**Now look to the right of the sidewalk.
There are two trees.**

34. Purple Leaf Plum (*Prunus cerasifera*)

The leaves are a dark purple. Pink flowers appear in the spring before the leaves develop.

35. Flowering Pear (*Pyrus calleryana*)

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.

This concludes Walk 1. You can exit through the door at the end of the sidewalk into the Deerfield Connector.

(Key required).

If you do not have a key, you should exit through the tunnel by which you entered and walk back to the main entrance.

**PLEASE RETURN THIS BOOKLET TO THE
FRONT DESK. THANK YOU.**

