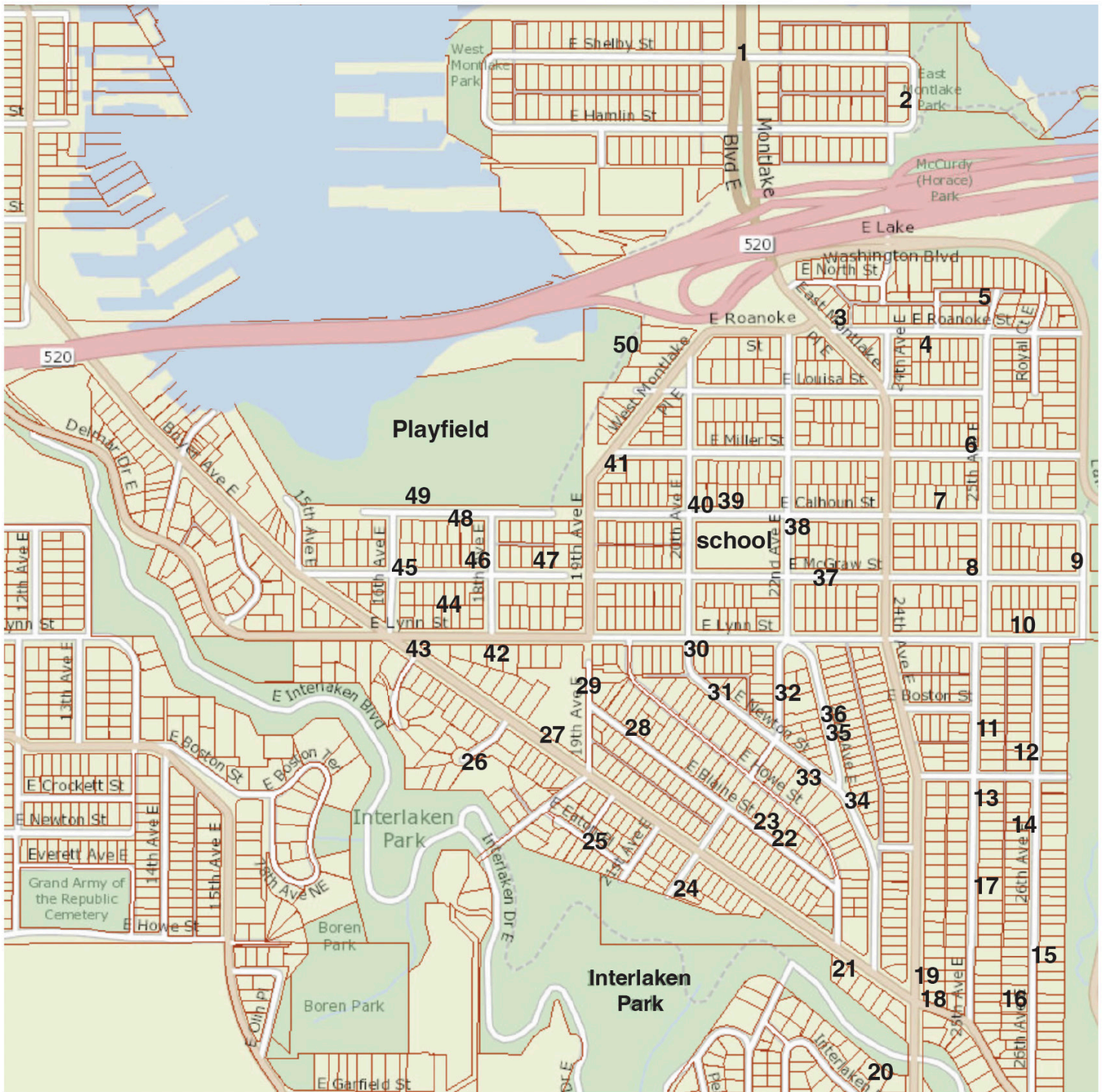


Montlake Tree Tour



Seattle's Montlake neighborhood features rich tree diversity. This tour is an introduction to what grows here in the spring of 2025. Space constraints force a *small* selection of trees, without any of those in forested Interlaken Park and Washington Park Arboretum. The map is from King County;

Montlake resident Arthur Lee Jacobson chose and wrote about the trees. For tour input or queries, or to obtain Jacobson's book *Trees of Seattle*, contact him at 2400 E Boston St, unit 211; (206) 328-TREE (no texting); e-mail ALJ@consultant.com



1 Lindens

10 Littleleaf Linden (*Tilia cordata*) street-trees are S of Montlake Bridge, mostly on the west side [also 12 street-trees are N of Montlake School]. 8 Bigleaf Linden (*Tilia platyphyllos*) street-trees are S of Montlake Bridge, mostly on the east side. From Europe. Their creamy flowers smell sweet in June.

2 Spring-flowering Tamarisk

(*Tamarix parviflora*)

2817 East Park Drive has one in its SE corner 23' tall. Tiny, fluffy pink flowers in April. From SE Europe to Israel.

3 Kobus Magnolia

(*Magnolia Kobus*)

East Montlake Place & Roanoke. Brick house built in 1926 from a Sears Roebuck kit—Montlake's only such house. Tree 37' tall; Japan; *Kobushi* コブシ.

4 Olive Tree

(*Olea europaea*)

2411 Roanoke: a street-tree planted 2015, now 13' tall and Montlake's largest, west of a Bay Laurel.

5 Russian Olive Tree

(*Eleagnus angustifolia*)

2611 25th has 3 old trees, the tallest 25'. Sweetly fragrant June flowers. Deciduous and dark-barked unlike the original Olive Tree.

6 Vesuvius Purpleleaf Plum Tree

(*Prunus* 'Vesuvius')

Miller, W of 25th, a street-tree, N side. Montlake's lone example of this Luther Burbank hybrid sold since 1907. Not the same as 'Krauter's Vesuvius'.

7 Medlar

(*Mespilus germanica*)

2420 Calhoun: 2 small street-trees. From Europe, they grow slow, are floppy. White spring flowers make brown fruit ripening in November.

8 Coast Redwood

(*Sequoia sempervirens*)

25th & McGraw, NW corner, 126' tall. From the foggy coast of California. Over 100 years old, one in Interlaken Park towers around 190' tall.

9 Dwarf Bald Cypress

(*Taxodium distichum* 'Pévé Minaret')

26th, N of McGraw, a street-tree, 20' tall. Possibly Seattle's largest specimen of this rare Dutch clone.

10 Texas Redbud

(*Cercis canadensis* ssp. *texensis*)

2510 Lynn has a street-tree. Roundish glossy leaves. From S Oklahoma into Texas. [2 regular Redbud street-trees at 2532 Lynn] See also #40.

11 Kaki Persimmon Tree

(*Diospyros Kaki*)

2018 25th: a yard tree 23' tall. From China; Japan's national fruit (カキ). Glossy foliage; handsome fall color. Montlake's best example of this species.

12 Wedding Cake Tree

(*Cornus controversa* 'Variegata')

2007 & 2011 26th: 2 street-trees. Flowers white, in June. Tiered foliage of beautiful white and green.

13 Douglas Fir

(*Pseudotsuga Menziesii*)

1964 25th: 114' tall. Along with #50 (but see #23 & #26), the only native Seattle species on this tour. About as big any in Montlake, but the arboretum and Interlaken have many larger, older specimens.

14 Scarlet Oak

(*Quercus coccinea*)

1953 26th: 2 street-trees, the taller 103½'. Planted some 50 years ago by a resident tired of too many little street-trees such as flowering plums, cherries and hawthorns. From the east USA.

15 Stripebark Maple

(*Acer Davidii* 'Serpentine')

1770 26th. From China. An elegant little tree, its bark striped, branches slender. Stands S of a larger Red Maple; a bigger Silk Tree looms E of it.

16 Lawson Cypress

(*Chamaecyparis Lawsoniana* 'Ellwoodii')

1743 26th: a pair, the taller 53'—the largest ever recorded anywhere. 'Ellwoodii' is a dwarf Lawson Cypress AKA Port Orford Cedar, from SW Oregon.

17 Pink Dogwood

(*Cornus florida* f. *rubra*)

1922 25th: 22' tall and wider than tall. Blooms in May; good autumn leaf color. One of several big old Montlake specimens. From the east USA, S Ontario, and NE México.

18 Small-leaf Gum Eucalypt

(*Eucalyptus parvula* = *E. parvifolia*)

24th & Boyer: 43' tall, wider still; Seattle's largest.

From Australia. Aromatic evergreen foliage. Bark tan, sloughing off.

19 Sweetgum

(*Liquidambar Styraciflua*)

24th, N of Boyer: tallest of 4 street-trees is 108'. The same species as in downtown Montlake. From the S and E USA, and México. Leaves starfish-shaped, sweetly aromatic, with attractive fall color.

20 California Live Oak

(*Quercus agrifolia*)

2161 E Interlaken Blvd. has one 38' tall. Oakland, California, was named for this species, AKA as Coast Live Oak. Montlake's only notable example, a fast-growing relatively young specimen.

21 Deodar Cedar

(*Cedrus Deodara*)

1859 Boyer has a lofty one 115' tall. [2021 Newton has a massive specimen 83' tall and wide.] From the Himalaya; in Sanskrit its name means *tree of the gods*. Just E of it stands a Japanese Cedar 90' tall from Japan, called *Sugi* (スギ) there.

22 Japanese White Pine

(*Pinus parviflora* 'Glauc') (sic)

2223 Howe: 37' tall, in the back yard, visible from Blaine St. Likely Seattle's finest specimen. In Japan called *Goyo-matsu* (ゴヨウマツ).

23 Mountain Gum Eucalypt

(*Eucalyptus Dalrympleana*)

2216 Blaine; planted 1992; 130' tall by 2022; the tallest eucalypt in the State. Every summer its bark sloughs off revealing a smooth white trunk. With a bulky native Western White Pine, *Pinus monticola*.

24 Atlas Cedar

(*Cedrus atlantica*)

1908 22nd, behind house: 106' tall. From N Africa. Most cultivated examples of this species feature powder-blue foliage paler than this one.

25 Spencer Hollywood Purpleleaf Plum

(*Prunus* 'Spencer Hollywood')

1520 20th, in back yard, behind hedge, visible from Eaton Place. 20' tall, wider still. Makes loads of good red plums in summer.

26 Ponderosa Pine

(*Pinus ponderosa*)

Between 2016 & 2004 18th—uphill from Boyer:

108' tall, with a smaller Scots Pine (*Pinus sylvestris*), and a rare male native Pacific Yew, *Taxus brevifolia*. Ponderosa Pine grows in much of the dry West.

27 Thornless Honey-Locust

(*Gleditsia triacanthos* f. *inermis*)

Boyer by the Greek Church has 5 street-trees, the tallest 51'. Dainty foliage turns gold in autumn; big seedpods sometimes made. A species of the central and E USA and S Ontario.

28 Sierra Redwood

(*Sequoiadendron giganteum*)

1916 Blaine: a tree 131' tall planted in the 1970s is notably narrow; 2200 16th has an older tree 123½' tall. AKA Giant Sequoia, from California mountains.

29 Lombardy Poplar

(*Populus nigra* 'Italica')

St. Demetrios has 30 in a row, the tallest 123' [West Montlake Park has two large old trees left, about 132' tall.] From N Italy, famous for narrow growth form and fluttering foliage golden in November.

30 Red Laceleaf Japanese Maple

(*Acer palmatum* 'Dissectum Atropurpureum')

20th & Lynn: SE corner has one 13' tall, wider still. Purple in spring, bronzy-green in summer, vivid orange in fall. Japanese maple is the most variable tree; Montlake has many kinds, some 40' tall.

31 English Maple

(*Acer campestre*)

2018 E Newton: an old street-tree 53' tall. A Heritage Tree; from Europe, N Africa and the near East. Turns lovely butter-yellow in November. See #21.

32 Hybrid Dogwood

(*Cornus* 'Eddie's White Wonder')

2220 22nd: a street-tree 38' tall. Half native and half Eastern USA dogwood. Lovely spring flowers; also good red fall color. All other Montlake hybrid dogwoods are younger and smaller.

33 Eucryphia

(*Eucryphia × nymansensis*)

2221 Newton: one by a sign is 24' tall. A narrow evergreen, S Hemisphere tree. Masses of attractive white flowers from July into August.

34 Palms

(*Trachycarpus Fortunei*)

2016 23rd; tallest of several males and females is

27'; also a street-tree Mediterranean Fan Palm, *Chamærops humilis*. For another such see #39.

35 Chinese Pistachio

(*Pistacia chinensis*)

2052 23rd: 46' tall male specimen. From China, Japan and the Philippines. Brilliant fall color. Likely Seattle's tallest specimen.

36 Hybrid Planetree or Sycamore

(*Platanus × hybrida* = *Platanus × acerifolia*)

2056 23rd: two huge old street-trees 82'+ tall—very difficult to measure. Half American Sycamore and half Oriental Planetree. Montlake's largest shade trees. The bark flakes off leaving a patchy trunk.

37 Thundercloud Purpleleaf Plum Tree

(*Prunus cerasifera* 'Thundercloud')

McGraw, between 23rd & 24th, has 21 street-trees. Luther Burbank introduced this in 1919; now it is the most common such tree in North America, including Montlake. Pleasing pink March flowers; summer foliage the color of dried blood.

38 Monkey Tree

(*Araucaria Araucana*)

22nd & Calhoun: a male 50' tall. From Chile and Argentina mountains. Females make large edible seeds. Montlake has only three large examples of this striking species.

39 Alpine Yellow Gum Eucalypt

(*Eucalyptus subcrenulata*)

2014 Calhoun: a street-tree planted in 2004, leaning 51½' tall. Also a street-tree palm 11' tall *Chamærops humilis*. See also #34. This yard also has other eucalypts.

40 Forest Pansy Redbud

(*Cercis canadensis* 'Forest Pansy')

20th & Calhoun: 2 street-trees, tallest 31'. Small pink flowers in April. Leaves heart-shaped, dark purple all summer. Fall color can be a rich blend of red, green, and orange. From Tennessee.

41 Manzanita

(*Arctostaphylos Manzanita*)

1907 Miller: 21' tall but much wider—the largest manzanita in the city. From California. Wonderful sculpted dark trunk and smooth bark; evergreen leaves. The flowers are small, in nodding clusters, white, in February, March and early April.

42 Saucer Magnolia

(*Magnolia × Soulangeana* 'Lennei')

1633 Lynn: 25½' tall—largest of its kind in Seattle. This hybrid originated <1850 in Italy. Its April flowers are very large, goblet shaped. thick; deep purple outside, creamy-white inside.

43 Golden Weeping Willow

(*Salix × sepulcralis* 'Chrysocoma')

(*Salix × pendulina* f. *tristis* 'Chrysocoma')

Boyer & Lynn has one 44' tall, wider still. From 1888 in Germany; a male with catkins to 3 inches long, golden twigs. The most common, largest, prettiest weeping willow.

44 Ginkgo or Maidenhair Tree

(*Ginkgo biloba*)

Alley W of 18th between McGraw & Lynn (back yard of 1621 McGraw) 51' tall female. Gold in fall.

45 Weeping Juniper

(*Juniperus squamata* 'Fargesii')

16th & McGraw: NE corner yard, 16' tall, right at corner. Bright green, soft, pendulous foliage.

46 Swedish Columnar Aspen

(*Populus tremula* 'Erecta')

1632 McGraw: 10, the tallest 63'. From Sweden.

47 Bechtel Crabapple Tree

(*Malus ioensis* 'Plena')

1820 McGraw. From Illinois, in 1840. Pink blooms in May release delicious sweet violet fragrance.

48 Gray Birch

(*Betula populifolia*)

Calhoun between 16th & 18th: 4 big old street-trees with 2 European White Birches, tallest 58'. [Hamlin and Shelby also have many birches.]

49 Yoshino Cherry Tree

(*Prunus × yedoensis*)

Montlake Playfield along Calhoun has 3 big old trees and over a dozen smaller younger cherry trees of several kinds. In Japan called Somei-yoshino (ソメイヨシノ). The same kind grows at the UW Quad.

50 Black Cottonwood

(*Populus balsamifera* ssp. *trichocarpa*)

The playfield has many of these natives, some towering 150'+ tall—Montlake's tallest trees. Only females make cottony seeds in late spring. All turn pure yellow in November.