

4 Common Name: BIGLEAF MAPLE

Scientific Name: *Acer macrophyllum*  
(*Acer* is the Latin name for maple.)

Also Called: Common maple  
Oregon maple  
Large-leaved maple

Beaver Creek Trail

Columbia Park

Glenn Otto Park 45 32 204 N  
122 22 678 W

Helen Althaus Park 45 32.233 N  
122 23.391 W

Growth: Up to 100 feet.  
This can become a massive  
tree.

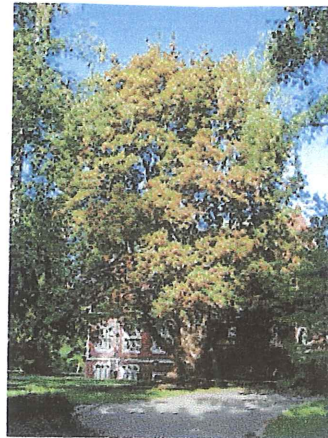
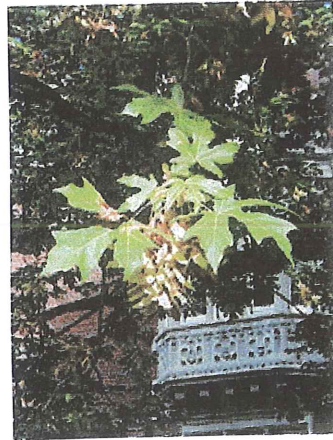
Leaves: The Bigleaf maple has the  
largest leaves of all  
maples. These leaves are  
paired on opposite sides  
of the twig. The teeth of  
the leaf are rounded.

A round-topped, deciduous tree, it is remarkable for its large leaves turning bright orange in the fall. The leaf has five main lobes. In the fall the leaves turn yellow, gold and copper. This is the only North American maple in which a milky juice can be squeezed from the leaf stem.

Flowers: It has small, greenish-yellow, bell-shaped flowers.  
Some think of the spring blossoms as nice.

Fruit: Squirrels, birds and other small creatures enjoy Bigleaf maple seeds.

Range: California to Alaska, mostly west of the Cascades and west of the crest of



the Sierra Nevada, also in west central Idaho.

Pests: A common companion of this tree is the Boxelder bug. Until the seeds begin to form, these bugs are on the ground feeding on low vegetation and old seeds. There are two generations annually. The adults overwinter, often crawling into houses and becoming a nuisance. Their damage to trees is insignificant. If you have ever squashed one of these bugs you can probably remember the smell.

The leadcable borer attacks Bigleaf maple after it is seasoned. This insect got its name from its earlier-day habit of boring into lead-covered telephone cables. It also has damaged wine casks.

Carpenter worms, which feed on Oregon ash, also attack the Bigleaf Maple.

Use: This tree is of little horticultural value.

Some Bigleaf maple burls have been cured and cut for tabletops. Burls are used to make veneer, most of them being shipped to Italy and France to be worked by skilled craftsmen. The wood is also made into other furniture.

Maple syrup can be made from its sap. A limitation here is lack of cold nights and warm days during the spring which would stimulate a heavy sap flow necessary for commercial production.

## 5 Common Name: BIRD'SNEST SPRUCE

Scientific Name: *Picea abies Nidiformis*

Glenn Otto Park 45 32.190 N  
122 22.715 W

This is a slow-growing conifer evergreen shrub.

There is usually a depression in the center of the plant.

The new foliage is light green.



The needles are shorter and daintier than the typical spruce.

It grows best in full sun or minimal shade.

It is versatile and excellent for borders or accent.

6 Common Name: BITTER CHERRY

Scientific Name: *Prunus emarginata*

Beaver Creek Trail

Glenn Otto Park

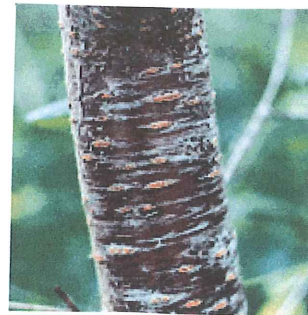
Helen Althaus Park 45 32.218 N  
122 23.395 W

Sunrise Park

Growth: The Bitter cherry grows to 50 feet tall and may get 18 inches in diameter.

Fruit: This tree has an edible bright red fruit, but it may be too bitter for you to enjoy unless someone makes it into jam or jelly.

Bark: The bark tends to break and curl horizontally.





7 Common Name: BLACK  
COTTONWOOD

Scientific Name: *Populus trichocarpa*

Also Called: Poplar  
Western balsam poplar

Beaver Creek Trail

Glenn Otto Park 45 32 141 N  
122 22 611 W

Helen Althaus Park 45 32.207 N  
122 23.427 W

Sunrise Park

The Black cottonwood can get 60 meters tall.

This tree has sticky twigs and rounded teeth on the leaf margin.

Its catkins appear in the spring before the leaves are on the tree.

Site: Along streams and lake shores, or in moist regions, occasionally in better-drained soil away from water.

Range: Baja California to Alaska, both sides of the Cascades to southwest Alberta, western Montana, Wyoming, and Utah.



8 Common Name: BLACK LOCUST

Scientific Name: Robinia  
pseudoacacia

Also Called: Yellow locust  
Locust  
False acacia  
Acacia

Height: To 80 feet

In early times it was planted  
around homes and farms.

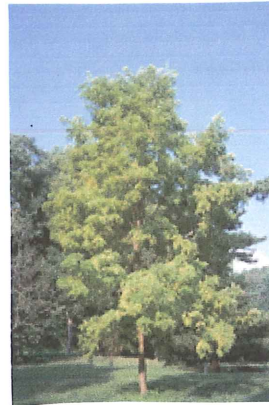
Fall color may be chartreuse and often  
blue-green before the leaves fall.

This deciduous tree is from the Bean  
Family. The white flowers are sweetly  
fragrant. The black locust is related to  
Redbud, Honey locust, Kentucky coffeetree,  
and Wisteria.

The fruit is a pod with hard  
seeds in it. This pod splits  
open in the winter spreading  
the seeds.

The twigs and reddish branches have  
sharp spines up to an inch  
long.

The wood is coarse-grained,  
very heavy, very hard, strong  
and very durable in contact  
with the soil. It has been  
used for fence posts, poles,



tree nails, insulator pins, railroad ties, and sometimes for lumber and fuel.

Site: This tree, a legume, grows in various types of soil especially where it is rich, deep, and moist and well-drained.

Range: Once native to the southern Appalachian region, this tree has now spread throughout the world. It is found all over Ohio. It is common along city streets, in parks, and in hedgerows.

The Black locust is a nitrogen-fixer. As the tree disintegrates, nitrogen is added to the soil by falling leaves and twigs.

The leaf miner gets in between two layers of a leaf and feeds there. This happens every year, but doesn't kill the tree.

Sunrise Park

9 Common Name: BLACKCAP

Scientific Name: *Rubus leucodermis*

Also Called: Black raspberry  
Western raspberry

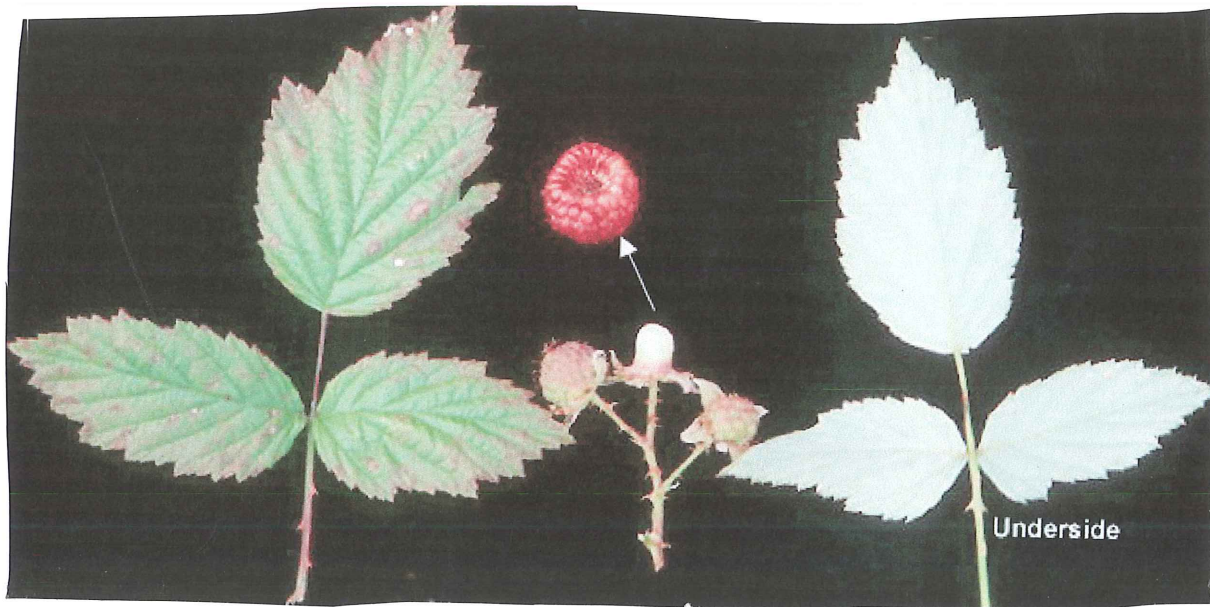
Glenn Otto Park  
Helen Althaus Park

Site: Found in fields, canyons and lower mountains, it is usually in open areas of intermediate moisture.

The old stems have a blue cast.

Range: British Columbia to southern California, from the coast inland to Montana, Utah, and Nevada

The flowers are white.



Horticultural varieties are grown for their fruit. The wild variety has a purple-black fruit which is edible. The fruit has a whitish, waxy coating, is sweet and mild-flavored.

The Blackcap is often associated with Trailing blackberry, also identified on these trails.

Brought under cultivation in 1696.

The Blackcap provides wildlife food and cover. It also gives soil protection and a source of honey.



10 Common Name: BLEEDINGHEART

Scientific Name: *Dicentra formosa* (Greek *dis*, twice, and *kentron*, spur, in reference to the spur of outer petals).

Also Called: Pacific bleedingheart

Helen Althaus Park

Flowers are mostly deep pink.

Site: Moist woods, lowland to lower mountains.



Range: British Columbia to

California, from the Cascades to the coast.

11 Common Name: BLUE LUPINE

Scientific Name: *Lupinus polyphyllus* (From Latin, *lupus*, wolf, implication uncertain).

Also Called: Many-leaved lupine

Sunrise Park

Lupine is an herb, and at times a shrub.





It may have up to 17 leaflets.

It has a flattened pod with 3 to 9 seeds.

The site is variable depending upon the variety. One might find lupine in lowland dry openings such as the one you are in here. They are also found in the well-drained woods or on subalpine ridges.

The Lupine is a legume.

Lupine seeds are poisonous to animals because they are alkaloid.

Indians made tea from the seeds to help urination.

## 12 Common Name: BRACKEN FERN

Scientific Name: *Pteridium*  
*aquilinum*, variety *pubescens*  
(From Greek *pterus*, a fern)

Also Called: Brake-fern  
Western bracken  
Western brake-fern



### Beaver Creek Trail

**CAUTION:** Its leaves are poisonous and the effect is cumulative over months. Many livestock have died in Maryland from eating its fronds or leaf sets. Although some people have eaten the fiddle-heads, the sprouts which look like asparagus, there is evidence that eating many of them can cause cancer.

**Site:** Found in moist to dry woods or open slopes on good soils. It is found especially in disturbed areas and younger forest stands. This plant is often found on the edge of woodlands. Located from the lowlands to the mountains.

**Range:** Cosmopolitan and throughout the area

13 Common Name: BULL THISTLE

Scientific Name: *Cirsium vulgare*  
(From the Greek *kirsos*,  
a swollen vein, for which thistles,  
called *kirsion*, were a reputed  
remedy).

Also Called: Common thistle  
Spear thistle

Beaver Creek Trail

This is a widespread weed from Eurasia.

It is an invader into disturbed areas such as logging, roading, and overgrazing.  
You are on the edge of a disturbed area here.

The flowers are bluish.

Big game and livestock relish the heads.

The roots may be eaten raw or cooked.

The peeled stems can be cooked as greens.



14 Common Name: BUTTERCUP

Scientific Name: *Ranunculus*  
*alismifolius* (*Alismifolius*  
means with Plantain-like  
leaves)  
(There are many varieties in this species.)

Helen Althaus Park

This Buttercup is abundant although its flowers are small.



Because of the shape of *Ranunculus* flowers, bees do not pollinate them very well, but the bees do leave an abundance of pollen on the glossy petals. Dew and rain slide off the slick, shiny surface carrying the pollen to the stigmas below to fertilize them.

Site: Found in mountain areas, in subalpine places, in marshes, wet meadows and along streambanks.

15 Common Name: BUTTERFLY BUSH

Scientific Name: *Buddleia*

Also Called: Globose Buddlebush

Beaver Creek Trail

This plant is as magnet for all the butterflies who pass through your garden seeking nectar. Butterflies and bees will flock to the honey-scented blossoms, whose dilute nectar is sweetest in midday sun.

The shrub provides delightful fragrance .for us too.

Site: Sunny with well-drained soil.

