

It is the Oregon State tree.

It grows on good forest sites allowing many management opportunities.

This tree produces more timber than any other American species.

Site: The Douglas-fir grows in areas from moist to dry and ranges from sea level to near timberline. This coastal variety is not found at high elevations. In coastal areas, it grows from sea level up to 5,000 feet.

Range: The Douglas-fir is found from coastal California to British Columbia as far east as eastern Washington and Oregon, Montana, Colorado, Western Texas and northern Mexico and southward to western Nevada.

First discovered on Vancouver Island by Archibald Menzies, a Scottish botanist, in 1791, it was introduced into England in 1827.

31 Common Name: ELDERBERRY

Scientific Name: *Sambucus* spp.

Beaver Creek Trail  
Glenn Otto Park 45 32.221 N  
122 22.732 W  
Helen Althaus Park



A tall shrub or small tree reaching up to 30 feet.

Elderberries have a large, soft pith, a fact known to youngsters of yesterday who hollowed out the stems to make whistles and pop guns. The Indians made flutes from its branches and arrows from sections of large, straight shoots.

The leaflets have saw-toothed margins and tapered tips.

Its flowers are yellow-white in rounded or pyramidal bunches.

The small red to dark purple berries are not a choice human food. Some varieties

may cause discomfort. Although they are edible, the berries are not tasty. However, they are eaten by natives of Alaska and used in Oregon for jelly, jam, and juice drinks.

Some report the red fruited berries to be poisonous to humans with the blue being edible.

The Elderberry is highly palatable to game, stock, and birds. Bird droppings may contain the seeds - a factor which aids distribution of the Elderberry.

Site: Found in moist areas, often near streams as here. It is occasionally found in the forest as this one is, but usually in the sun. It ranges from lower elevations to about 5,500 feet.

Range: Europe and western Asia and common in forests in western Washington and western Oregon. About 20 different plants of this species are found in temperate and subtropical regions of both hemispheres.

### 32 Common Name: ENGLISH HOLLY

Scientific Name: *Ilex aquifolium*

Beaver Creek Trail

Glenn Otto Park 45 32 200 N  
122 22 714 W

Helen Althaus Park



Height: Up to 40 feet.

This is the largest of our native Hollies.

An evergreen tree with spreading branches, forming a narrow pyramidal head.

Holly does best on deep, moist bottom-lands, but will even persist on dry, gravelly soil.

This tree matures at an age of around 150 years.

Leaves have spiny teeth and are dull green above and yellowish green beneath. You might call this a tree with needles on its leaves.

Holly bears white male and female flowers on separate trees.

The berries are reputedly poisonous when eaten. Its berries vary from red to yellow to black. Don't eat the berries as they can make you a bit sick.

Reproduction is facilitated by birds which have moved this tree northward as far as Clinton County, Pennsylvania. The seeds show low fertility and require two or three years to germinate.

It would take 92,000 cleaned seeds to make a pound.

Range: Massachusetts to Florida, west to Missouri, and Texas. This is not a native to western Oregon and, by the way, it is not found in Australia.

This is our most commonly planted native holly. The climate of the Puget Sound region is favorable to Holly culture, and Holly farms have paid good dividends. Because of its resistance to salt-water spray, it is used along the coast in exposed places as an ornamental. It may be propagated by cuttings.

The English holly provides wildlife food and is used for medicinal purposes.

Since the days of the Greeks, Romans, and Druids, Hollies with their evergreen leaves and bright red fruits have attracted man's attention.

This is a prized ornamental. It has traditionally been gathered for Christmas decorations, a fact which limits its abundance.

The leaves stay on the branches for about three years.

Its wood is light, and tough but not strong. It is used for cabinet work and wood-turning.

33 Common Name: ENGLISH IVY

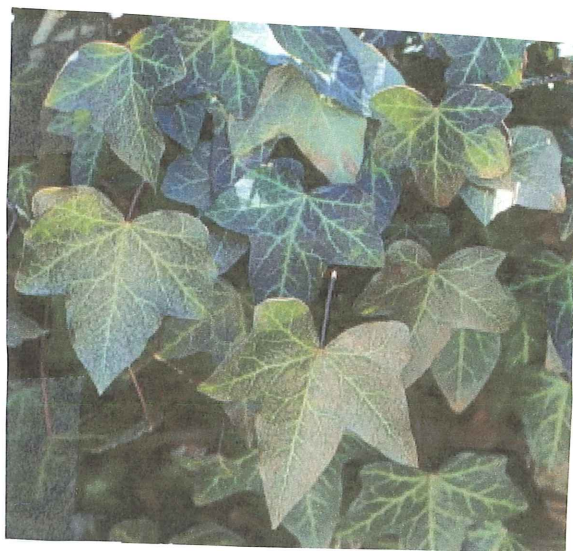
Scientific Name: *Hedera helix*  
(*Hedera* is the ancient Latin name for ivy.)

Beaver Creek Trail

Columbia Park

Glenn Otto Park

Helen Althaus Park 45 32.286 N  
122 23.401 W



**CAUTION:** This is a poisonous and bitter plant in both leaves and its purplish-black berries. It can cause inflammation of the skin. Animals must not eat the leaves or be fed the clippings.

English ivy is a woody, evergreen, climbing vine which can go as high as 30 meters (98 feet).

The flowers bloom in autumn in clusters at the ends of the stems.

Fruit produced, where English ivy has climbed a tree, are eaten and dispersed by birds.

Originally from Europe to the Caucasus, English ivy has been cultivated since ancient times. Currently, English ivy is cultivated near here and it escapes, as this one has.

34 Common Name: EUROPEAN WHITE BIRCH

Scientific Name: *Betula pendula*

Columbia Park  
Glen Otto Park

Height up to 60 feet.

This is a deciduous, broadleaf tree.

The foliage turns yellow in the fall.

The flowers are yellow. This tree produces catkins in the spring.

The bark is smooth and white.

This birch can be attacked by the Bronze birch borer which can kill the tree in one season.

Although the European white birch now grows widely in the Willamette Valley, it was introduced into the U.S. It has been used as fuel and is browsed upon by some animals.



35 Common Name: EVERGREEN BLACKBERRY

Scientific Name: *Rubus laciniatus*

Columbia Park

Of European origin

Escaped from cultivation west of the Cascades from British Columbia to California, occasionally east to Idaho

The leaves are hairy beneath.

