

# Great Trees of Oakledge Park

A Self-Guided Tour of Trees in Oakledge Park (at the end of Flynn Ave.)

This pamphlet contains interesting facts and tips on identifying trees in Oakledge Park. The trees are marked with numbered metal tags and are visible from the path.

## Enjoy your walk!

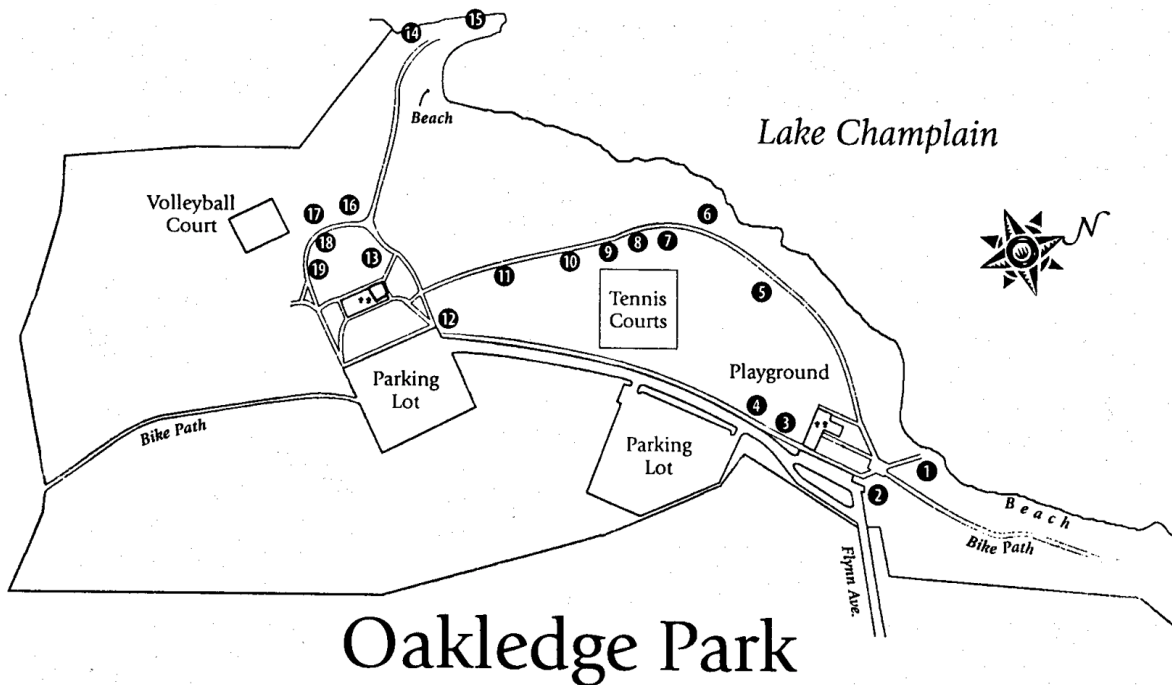
**1. Green Ash (*Fraxinus pennsylvanica*)** Commonly grows in moist bottomlands or river bottoms. Rarely grows over 60 ft. tall or lives over 100 years. Bark grayish-brown with finely intersecting furrows. Used for tool handles and baseball bats.

**2. Black or Swamp Willow (*Salix nigra*)**

Largest native willow in North America, can grow to 100 ft tall. Used for shipping boxes and polo balls. Usually grows along rivers and lake shores.

**3. Northern White Cedar (*Thuja occidentalis*)**

American Indians called this tree "Oo-soo-ha-tah", meaning "feather leaf". Used for canoe frames, and fence posts. Slow growing tree that lives 250-300 years.



**4. Eastern Red Cedar (*Juniperus virginiana*)**

Grows 20-50 ft. tall. Shaggy, reddish-brown bark with deep grooves. Used for pencils, cigar boxes and cedar chests.

**5. Sugar Maple (*Acer saccharum*)**

Vermont's state tree and Canada's national tree. Leaves with 5 taper-pointed lobes and few teeth. Grows to height of 130 ft., and can live 200 years.

**6. Eastern Hemlock (*Tsuga canadensis*)**

Grows in moist places near water. A slow growing tree reaching over 100 ft., can live 600 years. Used for railroad ties because it holds spikes well.

**7. Red Pine (*Pinus resinosa*)**

Grows in sandy locations or where soil fertility is low. The only native 2-long-needle pine. Grows 60-80 ft. and lives over 200 years. Bark is reddish brown with flat ridges and thick, flaky scales.

**8. White or Canoe Birch (*Betula papyrifera*)**

Grows in sunny sites on forest edges or lakeshores. Tough, pliable bark used to make canoes. Repeated stripping of bark kills the tree. A colonizing species.

**9. White Pine (*Pinus strobus*)**

The only native 5-needle pine. Grows best on sandy loam. Trunks often deformed by weevil attacking lead shoot, causing side shoots to grow.

**10. Red or Swamp Maple (*Acer rubrum*)** Often grows in swampy places. Leaves with 3-5 shallow lobes are irregularly toothed, and turn bright red in fall. Grows to 60-90 ft., lives 100 years.

**11. American Elm (*Ulmus americana*)**

Once an abundant tree lining Burlington's streets, now few have survived the blight of Dutch Elm Disease. Some young elms escape early detection by the beetle that spreads the disease. Most of these trees will also succumb as they mature, providing suitable beetle habitat in their rough, flaky bark.

**12. Silver Maple (*Acer saccharinum*)**

Leaves with 5-7 deep lobes and irregular teeth. Brittle limbs lead to storm damage. Trunks often hollow, providing nest spaces for birds or squirrels.

**13. Northern Red Oak (*Quercus rubra*)**

Leaves have 5-11 lobes with pointed tips that taper from a broad base. Acorn is as long as it is wide, with a shallow cup covering 1/4 of the nut. Bark is smooth on young trees, and has unbroken vertical ridges on mature ones.

**14. White or Stave Oak (*Quercus alba*)**

Hairless leaves with 7-9 rounded lobes. Acorn is longer than wide. Bark on young and mature trees is scaly with narrow, irregular ridges. This tree was highly sought after for ship building, especially for the naval fleets of the past.

**15. Pitch Pine (*Pinus rigida*)**

The only 3-needle pine in the Northeast. Grows 40-50 ft. tall. Bark reddish-brown and deeply furrowed. Grows in many harsh sites, from swamps to sandy plains to rocky ridges.

**16. Shagbark Hickory (*Carya ovata*)**

Grows to 140 ft. tall, Compound leaf has 5-7 leaflets with toothed edges having tufts of hairs. Bark noticeably shaggy. Wood used for tool handles, athletic equipment and cart wheel spokes.

**17. Quaking Aspen (*Populus tremuloides*)**

Fast-growing tree reaching 40-50 ft. tall, lives 60-70 years. Acts as a "nurse crop" for longer-lived broad leaf trees, providing shade while these trees become established.

**18. Common Buckthorn (*Rhamnus cathartica*)**

Native of Europe. Grows as shrub or small tree to height of 16-26 ft. Dwarf shoots end in sharp thorn. Dark blue/black fruit serve as food for birds.

**19. American Hackberry (*Celtis occidentalis*)**

Leaves alternate in 2 rows. Bark ridged with wart-like growths on young trees, scaly and coarsely ridged on mature ones. Purple cherry-like fruit provides food for birds. Attacks by a mite cause dense twig clusters that look like bird nests.



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