

# A Tree Walk in the Old North End

This tree walk is in a part of Burlington, referred to as the Old North End. The trees in this area of the city are good examples of trees that can thrive under stressful urban conditions, including narrow greenbelts, compacted soils, drought, heat, pollution and road salt. The success of these trees shows they are well suited to their environment.

All the trees included in this walk are within a comfortable walking distance of Battery Park. Start at the Park and follow the map.

Enjoy your walk!



**1. Princeton Elm** (*Ulmus Americana* 'Princeton') Battery Park. This variety is resistant to Dutch Elm disease which felled nearly all of the beloved Elms that once lined the streets of New England towns. It has been recently planted in many communities.

**2. Common Hackberry** (*Celtis occidentalis*) Battery Park. An elm-family tree that increased in its urban presence after Dutch Elm disease ravaged the big elms. It is adaptable to urban conditions as it survives in poor soils and root compaction. It is a medium size tree (30 –60 feet) that spreads wide like an elm.

**3. Sugar Maple** (*Acer saccharum*) Battery Park. Vermont's state tree and Canada's national tree, most known for its maple sap and red to orange fall foliage. Slowly growing to 60 –75 feet height with upright rounded shape, it needs space for its shallow roots. Tolerant of shade, but not air pollution or salt, it's well suited to parks.

**4. Amur Corktree** (*Phellodendron amurense*) Battery Park. A medium sized tree with furrowed cork-like bark. It is a good park tree, growing to 45' high with a spread of up to 60'.

**5. Umbrella Black Locust** (*Robinia pseudoacacia* 'Umbraculifera') Battery Park. This tree has a dense wide canopy no more than 20' high, unlike the species Black Locust. It is an unusual variety found in Battery Park and other specimen locations.

**6. Amur Maple** (*Acer ginnala*) 10 Monroe St. This small tree/large shrub may be single or multi-stemmed. Maximum height is 25'. The leaves have a distinctly long middle lobe. It can

withstand a wide range of soils and has a narrow crown, so it works well in urban greenbelts.

**7. Norway Maple** (*Acer platanoides*) 17 Monroe St. Commonly planted on city streets because it is more salt-tolerant than Sugar Maple. To distinguish it from that species, tear off a leaf, a milky sap will ooze from Norway Maple.

**8. Japanese Zelkova 'Green Vase'** (*Zelkova serrata*) NW corner of Monroe St. and N. Champlain St. This popular shade tree has a vase-shaped form, growing 50-80 ft tall. It is native to Japan and is related to the Elms. The dark green leaves have fine teeth at the borders, and turn yellow, bronze or reddish purple in the fall. It is adapted to a variety of soils, and tolerates heat and drought.

**9. Hedge Maple** (*Acer campestre*) 58 North Champlain St. This small to medium sized Maple grows well on dry soils and under powerlines, making it a good choice for difficult city conditions. It has good yellow fall color.

- 10. Crabapple** (*Malus sp.* 'Velvet Pillar') 34 Peru St. One of the most common group of ornamental trees in cities, popular for its showy blossoms and bright fruit. There are over 800 types of crabapple, but this variety has purple leaves, pink flowers and ½" diameter red fruit.
- 11. Green Ash 'Patmore'** (*Fraxinus pennsylvanica*) 16 Murray St. Green Ash commonly grows in moist bottomlands or river bottoms. It rarely grows over 60 ft. tall or lives over 100 years. The bark is grayish-brown with finely intersecting furrows. Ash wood is used for tool handles and baseball bats.
- 12. Honeylocust 'Shademaster'** (*Gleditsia triacanthos inermis*) Barnes School, left side yard Murray St. One of the most planted city street trees. This tree can survive in very poor compacted soils. It is heat and drought tolerant and can endure air pollution, salt spray and root drenching. It has delicate foliage which provides some shade, yet permits the sun to filter through.
- 13. Callery Pear** (*Pyrus calleryana*) Barnes School, front yard on North St. A small to medium tree with a neat, dense, egg-shaped crown, glossy leaves, and profuse white spring blossoms. Dense foliage remains green until mid-autumn when it turns orange, crimson and yellow and eventually burgundy red overall. It produces fall fruits with russet, white-dotted skin, which are actually pears but only the size of mothballs.
- 14. Freeman Maple 'Autumn Blaze'** (*Acer x freemanii*) 174 North Champlain St. This tree is a hybrid cross of Red and Silver Maple, with the best features of each. Freeman Maple cultivars typically grow fast and have deeply lobed leaves with good structural stability, and great fall color (like the Red Maple). It grows well in challenging urban conditions.
- 15. Ginkgo 'Sentry'** (*Ginkgo biloba*) SW corner of N. Champlain @ Poplar St. The Ginkgo is noted for its fan-shaped leaves and pyramidal shape. Usually growing to 50-80 feet, it has beautiful yellow fall color. One of our oldest trees going back 150 million years, the Ginkgo was a native of North America at one time.
- 16. Silver Linden** (*Tilia tomentosa*) 190 Park St. This large tree gets its name from the silvery-white undersides of the dark green lustrous leaves. It is a striking contrast in windy weather. It tolerates urban conditions including drought, so it grows well where other trees don't.
- 17. Littleleaf Linden 'Greenspire'** (*Tilia cordata*) 64 Front St. Grows to 60-70 ft high in a pyramid form. It produces a dense crown of dark green leaves and has sweet-smelling flowers that bloom in June that can be used to make tea. It is tolerant of a range of soil types and pH levels.
- 18. Tuliptree** (*Liriodendron tulipifera*) 80 Front St. Also called the Tulip Magnolia, this tall tree can reach 80-120 feet tall. A fast grower, the name comes from the beautiful flowers in early June, greenish yellow "tulips" with orange centers.
- 19. Serviceberry** (*Amelanchier laevis*) 69 Front St. A native tree found from Newfoundland to Georgia. It has scaly bark, slender twigs and produces long stalks of delicate whitish flowers with elongate petals. Birds eat it's small dark purple or black fruit. It has an upright growth from that can reach 20-30 ft., making it good for sites under power lines.
- 20. Tatarian Maple** (*Acer tataricum*) 23 Front St. This tree resembles Amur Maple but is somewhat more tolerant of drought and alkaline soils. The lobes of the leaves are indistinct. It has good red fall color and the seeds persist for good winter interest.

Visit our website at [www.branchoutburlington.org](http://www.branchoutburlington.org).

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