

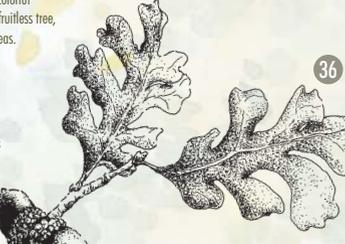
(Continued from the previous page)

34) The tree at the end of the crosswalk is a Black Walnut (*Juglans nigra*). Walnuts require moderate water. They are big, hardy shade trees, with hard-to-crack but edible nuts. Deciduous.



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35) The tree behind the Head Start fence is an Ornamental Pear (*Pyrus calleryana*). It has a profuse late winter or early spring show of white flowers. It finally loses its colorful fall leaves in December. It is not a fruitless tree, but the pears are the size of large peas. Deciduous.



35

36) There are 12 Valley Oaks (*Quercus lobata*) in the front of the parking lot of the Taco Tree. The lobed leaves on these oaks identify them as valley oaks, which are native to streamside in the Sacramento and San Joaquin valley. The acorn was a favorite of the local Native Americans. Deciduous.



36

37) This 4.3-acre school park that is slated to be redeveloped has Blue Oaks (*Quercus douglasii*) with light gray bark and with small oval shallowly lobed leaves that are a waxy bluish green color. The Interior Live Oak (*Quercus wislizenii*) is an evergreen tree with sharply pointed leaf tips native to the Sierra Nevada foothills. This park will be a separate Tree Walk when redevelopment is complete. <Cross College Way and continue on High Street>



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Tree Selection

What to Look for in Container-Grown Landscape Trees

- Inspect the tree at the nursery for:
1. Leaf density in tree crown should be full and healthy-looking.
 2. Leaf size, color and appearance – normal size range, healthy green color.
 3. Roots should be distributed uniformly in the container.
 4. Root appearance: look for whitish-colored tips and older brown-colored roots.
 5. Absence of dead twig or branch tips (dieback), obvious disease or insects.

CROWN (canopy)

- Symmetrical form:
1. Look for a relatively straight central leader and a tapered trunk.
 2. Main branches well spaced, evenly distributed, and no larger than two-thirds of trunk diameter measured 1" above the branch.
 3. Should have small temporary branches along the lower trunk on small (less than 1 1/2") diameter trees to protect the trunk.
 4. Reject trees with foliage only at ends of branches ("lollipop" or "lion tail").

TRUNK

1. Tree should be strong enough to stand upright without stake support.
2. Free of wounds, sunburn, wood cracks, bleeding, borer holes, galls, etc.
3. Measure trunk caliper (diameter) 6" above soil surface. Trunk caliper should be within the range for its container size:
 - #5 = 0.5" to 0.75"
 - #15 = 0.75" to 1.5"
 - 24" box = 1.5" to 2.5"

ROOTS

1. Free of circling or kinked roots at root crown (where the trunk flares into roots)
2. Upper roots or root crown should be within 1" above or below soil surface.

Note: You may need to remove soil around root crown to check roots.
3. Rootball should remain intact when container is removed.
4. Rootball must be free of large circling roots and bottom-matted roots.

ROOTBALL MOISTURE

Rootball should be moist but not saturated throughout. Avoid trees with curling, yellowing, dead leaves, or branch dieback; these may be indicators of moisture stress.

INSPECTION IS VERY IMPORTANT. REJECT TREES THAT DO NOT MEET THESE GUIDELINES. HOWEVER, IF A DEFECT CAN BE CORRECTED EASILY, DO SO.

- 38) Large lobed leaves and spines identify this native oak as a California Black Oak (*Quercus kelloggii*). Usually found at higher elevations. Deciduous.
- 39) Little Leaved Linden (*Tilia cordata*) has heart-shaped leaves and fragrant summer flowers. Excellent street and lawn tree which prefers moist, well drained soil. Very popular in Europe. The flowers make an excellent tea. Deciduous.
- 40) Purple leaves mark this 'Schwedler' Norway Maple (*Acer platanoides*). Leaves start out red-purple in the spring, turn to bronzy-purple in summer and have red fall color. It prefers frequent watering. Deciduous. <Retrace your path to College Way, turn right and walk to Auburn Folsom Road; turn right and cross Lincoln Way at the light>
- 41) On your right between White Street and 110 Maple Street, the airy pine with long drooping needles is a Canary Island Pine (*Pinus canariensis*). Often seen as a mini-pine-leaved desktop Christmas tree with very short bluish needles when young and in scattered clusters on trunk as an older tree. Evergreen.
- 42) In front of Latitudes, Sugar Maple (*Acer saccharum*). Leaves orange-red-yellow all at once in the fall. This is the tree that has its sap collected in spring, boiled, and then cooled down, to become maple sugar or syrup. An eastern U.S.A. native. Deciduous. <Cross Maple Street at the crosswalk and climb the first set of stairs at the Courthouse, cut across the lawn to the right>
- 43) The three trees in an island of the parking lot are Sour Gum or Tupelo trees (*Nyssa sylvatica*). They have dependable red fall color and can tolerate poorly draining soil, but prefer well drained soil and moderate water. Deciduous.
- 44) Three good-looking Coastal Redwoods (*Sequoia sempervirens*) grow quickly with a fairly fine root system to absorb lots of water. This is the same Redwood that is found in the Northern California coastal regions and is our state tree along with the Giant Sequoia (*Sequoiadendron giganteum*). Evergreen. <Turn around the back side of the Courthouse>
- 45) Eastern Redbud (*Cercis canadensis*) has heart-shaped leaves and magenta-pink flowers in the spring. This tree grows to 25'-35' tall. It is adaptable as a specimen or understory tree. Yellow fall color. Deciduous. <Go through the tunnel and turn right and walk down the pathway to the street>



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- 46) At the bottom of the stairs (to the left) you will see two clumps of six European White Birches (*Betula pendula*). These white-barked trees are native to the colder climates of Northern Europe and suffer from heat and drought stress in our hot, dry climate. This stress weakens the tree, making it susceptible to insect invasion. Prune birches only in the winter and fall to avoid attracting birch borers, which can damage or kill the tree. Common lawn fertilizers that contain weed-killers ("weed and feed" types) can kill these trees too. Deciduous.
- 47) Before going down the lowest stairs to your right is a Strawberry Tree (*Arbutus unedo*) with white urn-shaped blooms in winter that are prime hummingbird food. Later, beautiful but messy yellow and red "strawberries" are edible but not tasty to most people. Drought tolerant and native to southern Europe. Evergreen. <Turn right at Court Street and cross the street at the bottom of the stairs>
- 48) Douglas fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*) is actually not a true fir, "Pseudotsuga" means false hemlock. Lush conifer with fragrant leaves. This soft wood gets harder as it ages – for lumber. This tree is named after David Douglas, a Scottish Botanist. The cones have a distinctive 3-pointed bract. The cones hang down, while all other true firs (*Abies*) have upright cones, needles are flat and spirally arranged around each twig. It can grow to 250' in the forest! Native evergreen.
- 49) American Elm (*Ulmus americana*) located on the left side of the street. Very few remain, as most across America were killed from Dutch Elm Disease (DED). Fast growing vase shape. Street and lawn tree. DED-resistant cultivars are now available. Deciduous.
- 50) The gnarled tree at the end of the street is a fruiting (female) Mulberry (*Morus alba*). Fruitless Mulberries are male. Tough and can take heavy pruning. Some leaves are lobed and some are not. Some Mulberries have purple fruit; these are white and are loved by many birds and people. Deciduous.



Can you identify these seeds from the Tree Walk?

Planting and General Care

Steps to a Happier Tree

1. Choose a tree that fits the location. "Plant the right tree in the right place."
2. Know the tree species height and spread at maturity.
3. Follow planting recommendations.
4. Remove weeds and lawn inside the tree dripline, and extend as canopy expands.
5. Place mulch 3-4" inches away from the trunk, extending out to the drip line.
6. Avoid planting under the canopy.
7. Deep water monthly in the summer.
8. Fertilize in the fall if necessary.
9. Prune out deadwood and junk branches.
10. Never top trees. Learn healthy pruning methods; when in doubt, ask a certified arborist.

Watering

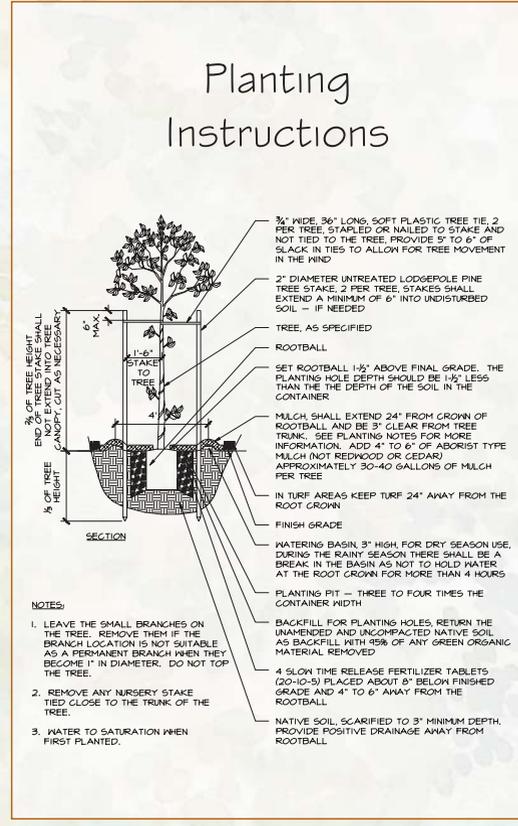
Plant Care in our Mediterranean Climate

- MEDITERRANEAN CLIMATE**
- Winter season—rains water the roots
 - Spring season—plants are happy and growing vigorously
 - Summer and fall—roots have used up stored winter rain, so we must supply water.

WHY?
After the rainy season, our clay soils dry to a cement-like consistency. Tree and shrub roots extend out around the plant, with most of the active roots in the top 12" of soil. Trees constantly lose water to the atmosphere, so the supply must be replenished. Roots nourish the plant only when the soil is moist. Add mulch to shade the soil and retain water in the soil.

HOW?
Water slowly and deeply in clay soils to prevent runoff. Applying water with a soaker hose on the surface is an effective and reliable method. Water seeps out of the hose, slowly soaking the soil surface and allowing the tree's extensive root system to absorb the water. Lay out the soaker hose in a circular fashion to the tree dripline (vertical line from the tips of branches to the ground). Water the soil under the dripline and not beyond the canopy nor close to the trunk.

WHEN?
Water at monthly intervals for 6-24 hours depending on your soil. After watering, insert a soil probe to 12"; it will go down easily in the moistened areas. Bring up a sample of soil, and squeeze it in your hand. If it forms a soft ball, not too wet or too crumbly, it is sufficiently wet. For further information, consult a certified professional arborist.





Placer Tree Partners

The Placer Tree Partners (PTP) were recently formed as a subcommittee of the Auburn Ravine/Coon Creek Watershed group. Our mission is "to create, nurture, and sustain a community where a variety of healthy trees are abundant in all areas, providing beauty, serenity, cooling shade, and good health to residents and visitors for generations to come."

You are invited to join the PTP, which consists of arborists, landscape architects, foresters, community leaders and planners, backyard gardeners, and interested citizens. The group focuses its efforts on a wide geographic area, from Penryn to Colfax, bounded by the Bear River to the north and the American River to the south. Through our work and outreach activities, the PTP goals are to:

- Increase public awareness and appreciation of trees in an urban forest setting.
- Increase tree owner awareness of the unique importance of trees to personal and public well-being and to property values in both private and commercial settings.
- Provide education and assistance in appropriate tree selection for specific uses and spaces.
- Encourage continued and successful stewardship of trees by stimulating awareness of the diversity, sensitivity, and importance of a tree's canopy and root system to its health and longevity.

The Auburn Trail of Treasured Trees Walking Guide was developed by Placer Tree Partners (formerly Auburn Area Urban Forestry Group). Arboricultural identification and narrative by Ken Menzer and Lani Houck; tree selection, care and planting by Jean Pliska; illustration by Heather Mehl; graphic design by Sandy O'Bleness of Foothill Associates.

The production of this guide has been supported by Placer County Visitors Council and the County of Placer, California ReLeaf, California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection and the University of California Cooperative Extension, Placer and Nevada Counties.

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Auburn Trail of Treasured Trees

WALKING GUIDE

A walking tour through Auburn's urban forest featuring Treasured Trees and other trees of interest.



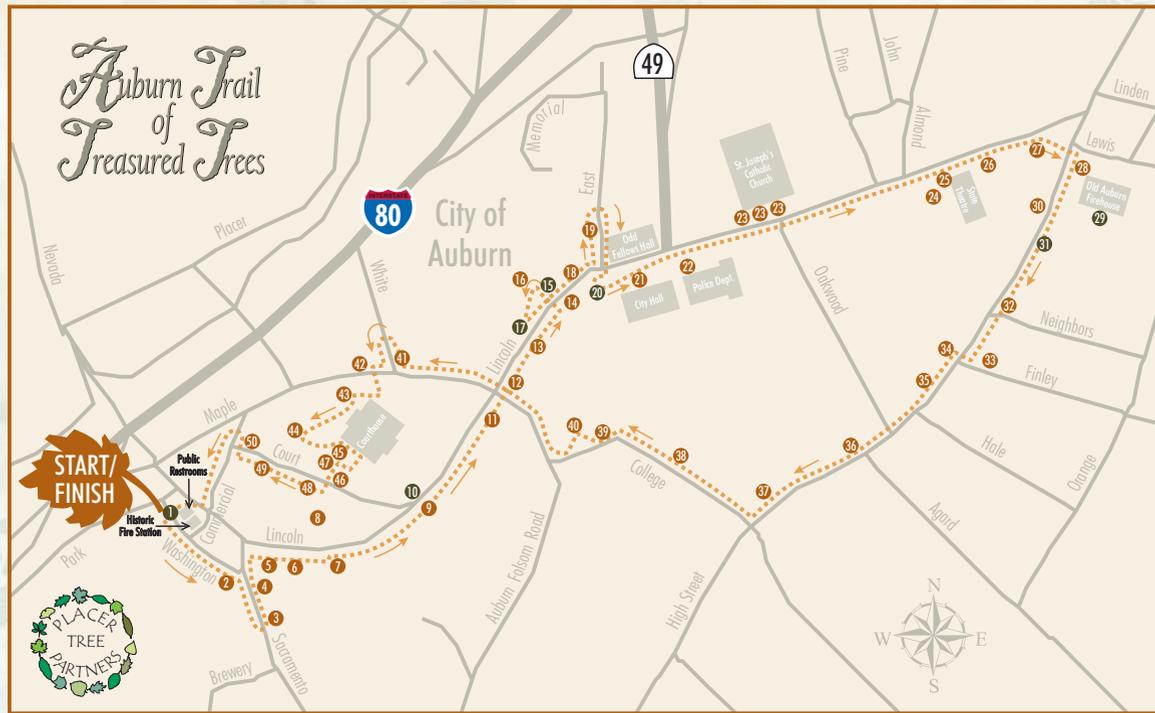
Placer Tree Partners, c/o Placer County RCD
251 Auburn Ravine Rd, #107, Auburn CA 95603
www.placertree.org

Auburn Trail of Treasured Trees

Some of the trees on this tour were nominated as Treasured Trees because of their outstanding features, including maturity and large stature. The numbers on the map indicate the approximate location of all the trees, with the darker numbers representing Treasured Trees. All trees may be viewed from a sidewalk or parking lot as indicated. Please be safe and courteous and respect private property, being careful to not disturb the residents. Welcome, and enjoy your walk through Auburn's urban forest.

Start at the "Welcome to Historic Auburn" sign in Old Town at Park Street and Lincoln Way next to the historic fire station and public restrooms.

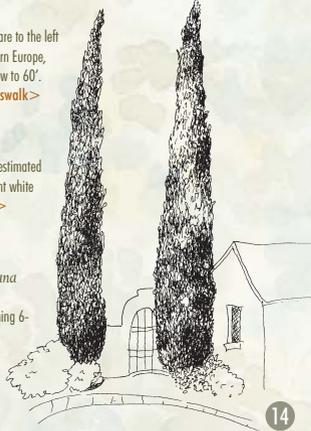
- 1) Deodar Cedar (*Cedrus deodara*) – this local landmark tree was planted in 1959 by two Auburn Campfire Girls. It is 88' tall. The deodar cedar is drought tolerant once it is established. It keeps its leaves on year-round. Evergreen. <Walk down Washington Street to the corner of Washington and Sacramento Street>
- 2) People often think that this American Sweet Gum (*Liquidambar styraciflua*) is a maple because of its lobed leaves and brilliant fall color, but a closer look will reveal that its leaves alternate up the branches, while those of a maple will be arranged in opposite pairs. Another trait of this tree is its "spiny ball" seed pods. Looking down under this tree you can get an idea of the size and strength of the roots that are heaving up the pavement under the tree. Several other trees of this type in Old Town have had to be removed because of similar problems. This tree is best planted where there is lots of room for its vigorous roots to grow without damaging paving. Deer resistant. Deciduous. <Cross over Sacramento Street>
- 3) Look through the fence behind the retail shop to see a beautiful American Chestnut (*Castanea dentata*). These trees hark from the eastern hardwood forests where they can grow to massive proportions. However, in the 1920's most American chestnuts were killed by chestnut blight. The people called it "blue sky thunder" when these mammoth trees came crashing down. Deciduous with tasty nuts.
- 4) This young columnar Red Maple (*Acer rubrum* 'Scarlet Sentinel') was chosen for this spot by local landscape architect Roy Yamasaki because its narrow growth habit will coexist well with street traffic. In the autumn its leaves will turn red before falling. Comparing it to the liquidambar across the street, you can see that the leaves are arranged in opposite pairs on the branches and you may see the winged seeds that identify maples. Deciduous. <Turn into the bricked courtyard at Herschel Young Park>
- 5) The large tulip-shaped blooms on these two Saucer Magnolias (*Magnolia x soulangiana*) appear in the very early spring before the leaves. They make a stunning display of purple-flushed white "tulips" on bare branches. These trees have a multi-trunked form, which can be very attractive in the landscape. They are highly deer-resistant and can withstand very cold temperatures. Deciduous. <Walk toward the arch in the brick wall>
- 6) Glossy Privet (*Ligustrum lucidum*) – although widespread, this tree is considered to be an invasive noxious weed. Its overly abundant seeds are often spread by birds and displace native vegetation and better-quality species. Evergreen. <Continue through the arch in the wall>
- 7) The handsome large broad leaf evergreen leaves on this Laquet tree (*Eriobotrya japonica*) contrast well with its edible fruits. It blooms in early winter and fruits in the late spring. It requires little additional summer water. Evergreen. <Look across the street>
- 8) In front of 1522 Lincoln Way is a Colorado Blue Spruce (*Picea pungens glauca*), which is sometimes used as a living Christmas tree and planted outside after the holidays. This tree looks large, but it is only about 1/3 of its potential mature size. Spruces are evergreen (everblue in this case?) and deer resistant. Green varieties are available too. You can tell a spruce from a fir by its square needles – firs have flat needles. Deer resistant evergreen. <Look in front of the Placer County Law Library behind the sign>
- 9) The two River Birch (*Betula nigra*) trees are easily identified by the flaky salmon-colored bark. Native to the eastern United States extending from Maine to Florida, this birch survives well in our hot Auburn climate. It is considered to be very borer resistant, but it can get mistletoe. This birch can grow to be quite large. In Sacramento at McKinley Park, there is a River birch measuring 54" Diameter Breast High (DBH). Deciduous. <Look across the street towards the Placer County Courthouse>
- 10) This Southern Magnolia (*Magnolia grandiflora*), on the Placer County Courthouse grounds, has a 44" DBH. Here is a classic example of why trees are measured at 4' 6" above the ground (Diameter Breast High or DBH) – to be above the deceptively large root flare. This tree is a broadleaf evergreen, but most arborists and horticulturalists call these messy trees "over-drop" due to the leaf, flower, and seedpod litter. The surface root system could be a problem in many situations. Deer resistant. <Walk up the hill toward Auburn Folsom Road>
- 11) Two Insect Cedars (*Calocedrus decurrens*), native to the local Sierra Nevada foothills. They are deer resistant and drought tolerant, but they still need some summer water. Beautiful shreddy bark and an unusual "duck-billed" seed cone. This wood is used to make pencils and other products. Evergreen. <Cross over Auburn Folsom Road>



- 12) The Western Redbud (*Cercis occidentalis*) is a large multi-trunk shrub or small tree. In early spring the branches are cloaked in magenta-colored flowers. The Eastern Redbud (*Cercis canadensis*) has heart shaped leaves and is more tree shaped (see tree #45 later on the walk). The Western Redbud's leaves are rounded. Deciduous. <In the parking lot on your right>



- 13) The Chinese Pistache (*Pistacia chinensis*) trees come in either male or female. They have beautifully brilliant red-orange fall colors. When they are young they have an "ugly duckling" gawky-shape stage. However, once they are established they have a beautifully wide canopy and are drought tolerant and usually deer resistant. Deciduous.



- 14) Two Italian Cypress (*Cupressus sempervirens*) are to the left of the Chapel of the Hills. They are native to southern Europe, and western Asia. These tall columnar trees can grow to 60'. Evergreen. <Cross over Lincoln Way at the crosswalk>

- 15) This Sweet Olive (*Osmanthus fragrans*) tree is estimated at over 100 years old. It is a small tree with fragrant white spring flowers. Evergreen. <Toward the church>

- 16) The Dwarf Alberta Spruce (*Picea glauca albertiana* 'Conica') works well in small yards with boulders for mountain scenes. This tree is never very large reaching 6-8' tall in 30-35 years. Evergreen.



- 17) The California Fan Palm (*Washingtonia filifera*), between the sidewalk and the curb was one of six planted in May 1905 and known as "Neff's Memorial Palms". The Honorable Jacob H. Neff presented them to the Pioneer United Methodist Church. Palms are members of the grass family and don't have woody trunks, but instead a collection of fibers make up the trunk. Drought tolerant and deer resistant. Evergreen. <Walk up the street toward the brick building>



- 18) Tulip Tree (*Liriodendron tulipifera*) is known for the beautiful tulip-shaped flowers and unique leaves that look like blunt-tipped, "maple-shaped" leaves missing the end lobe. The foliage turns from vibrant yellow-green to bright yellow in the fall. The trees do not bloom until they are 12-15 years old. It makes a good shade tree and is immune to oak root fungus. Requires sun and supplemental water. Deciduous. <Walk down East Street>
- 19) Trident Maples (*Acer buergerianum*) have bright fall color, usually red. They are medium-sized trees with attractive flaking bark on older wood. They have a large fibrous root system that likes a steady, constant supply of water, but can be drought tolerant. It can be a decorative patio tree and is a favorite bonsai subject. Deciduous. <Cross over East Street and again back over Lincoln Way to the Auburn City Hall>

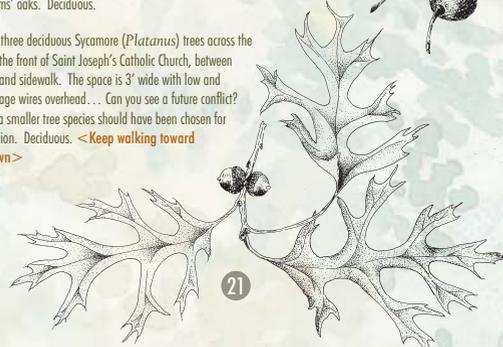
- 20) This Ginkgo (*Ginkgo biloba*) is female, measuring 35" DBH, and she has been topped. The glorious gold leaf color in the fall is dropped quite quickly leaving a golden carpet. Being a female, this tree will also drop its stinky fruit in the fall. The male will not produce fruit. This ancient species is amazing as it is deer resistant, insect resistant and tolerates air pollution, heat or cold and adapts to poor soil conditions. Deciduous.



- 21) A young Pin Oak (*Quercus palustris*) with an 9" DBH. This oak is less drought tolerant and is also known as Swamp Oak. It has a colorful fall display. Deciduous.

- 22) In front of the Auburn Police Station is a Chestnut-Leafed Oak (*Quercus castanaceaefolia*) that was planted November 11, 2000, the first fall-celebrated Arbor Day in Auburn. This tree has leaves similar to that of a Chestnut tree (*Castanea*), hence the name. It grows to 100' and forms a broad crown. University of California, Davis, claims this to be the fastest growing tree of all their arboretums' oaks. Deciduous.

- 23) Note the three deciduous Sycamore (*Platanus*) trees across the street in the front of Saint Joseph's Catholic Church, between the curb and sidewalk. The space is 3' wide with low and high voltage wires overhead... Can you see a future conflict? Perhaps a smaller tree species should have been chosen for this location. Deciduous. <Keep walking toward downtown>

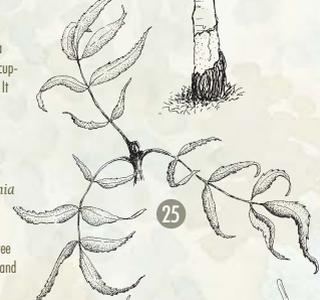


- 24) The tall palm in front of Sierra Family Services is a Canary Island Date Palm (*Phoenix canariensis*). The fruit is not edible by people. It is a hot desert palm. You'll see the dates in September-November. The Date Palm (*Phoenix dactylifera*) and the Silver Date Palm (*Phoenix sylvestris*) have edible dates. Evergreen.



- 25) The next tree on the left is a Rowwood Ash (*Fraxinus angustifolia* 'Rowwood'). It has purple-red fall color and no seeds. It is a fairly fast-growing tree, but is prone to ash borers. Note the borer holes on the street side. Deciduous.

- 26) In the parking lot of Placer Sierra Bank you will see a Japanese Maple-standard (*Acer palmatum*). These are normally small trees native to Japan and Korea. They are slow growing and are the most airy and delicate of all maples. They display a brilliant progression of color through the seasons, from spring-red and summer-green to fall-scarlet, orange or yellow. Deciduous. <Continue to the corner>

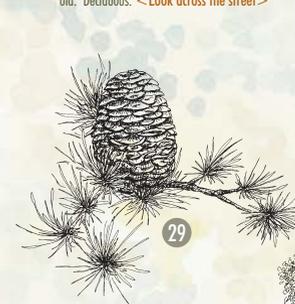


- 27) The Japanese Yew (*Taxus cuspidata*) is a conifer, but does not bear cones. It has red cup-shaped seeds in the fall that are poisonous. It will do best in Auburn if it has mostly shade. Evergreen. <Turn right on High Street after you cross the street>

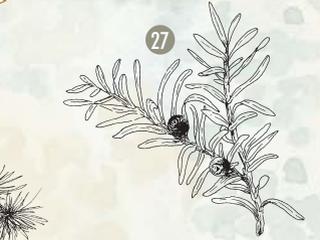
- 28) The two evergreen Chinese Photinia (*Photinia serratifolia*) in the walkway can be considered trees or bushes depending on how they are pruned. Here they are in the tree form. They have colorful red foliage (spring and fall), white flowers in spring, and red fall berries that last into winter. Evergreen. <Street tree on right>



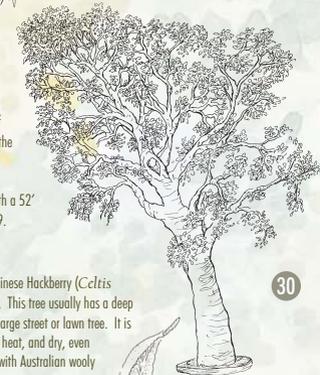
- 29) Walking up to 1111 High Street we find an Atlas Blue Cedar (*Cedrus atlantica*). This species is more open than the Deodar Cedar. This old specimen has a 35" DBH. Evergreen. <Continue down High Street and look to left>



- 30) Across the street, in front of the gas station, is a Valley Oak (*Quercus lobata*), with a large girth of 43" DBH. The tree is estimated to be about 200 years old. Deciduous. <Look across the street>



- 31) Remember the little tree in the parking lot of the Placer Sierra Bank (location #26)? To the right front of the Robie House Day Spa is another Japanese Maple-standard (*Acer palmatum*) of exactly the same species with a 52' canopy and 24" DBH! Planted around 1909. Deciduous.



- 32) The tree by the "Neighbor Lane" sign is a Chinese Hackberry (*Celtis sinensis*). It is related to elms, yet smaller. This tree usually has a deep root system so it can be a good choice for a large street or lawn tree. It is exceptionally tough, tolerating strong winds, heat, and dry, even alkaline soils. Frequently becomes infested with Australian woolly aphid. Deciduous.



- 33) The large tree at 1141 High Street, on the knoll, surrounded by brick, is a Modesto Ash (*Fraxinus velutina* 'Modesto'). It has bright yellow fall color. Many communities have removed this tree from their recommended plant list because it may get Ash Anthracnose (*Apiognomonia errabunda*) and mistletoe (*Phoradendron flavescens* var. *macrophyllum*). Deciduous. <Cross High Street at the crosswalk to the other side>