

Memorial Union Tree Trail

1. Persian Ironwood – *Parrotia persica*

A small specimen tree reputed to have excellent fall colors of yellow, orange, and scarlet, but has yet to demonstrate it in our area. It has an attractive mottled bark of gray, green, white, and brown and is praised as a nearly pest-free landscape tree.

- **In memory of Andrea Frances Beasley, 1934 – 2009**

2. Frans Fontaine European Hornbeam – *Carpinus betulus* ‘Frans Fontaine’

A fastigiate form of the European Hornbeam, listed as growing 35’ tall and 18’ wide but will get much wider with time. Its tight, upright branching and narrow habit make a distinct architectural statement in the landscape. Fall color is yellow.

- **Adopted in honor of John H. Clay, BS ‘73**

3. White Oak – *Quercus alba*

One of Missouri’s native woodland giants. This slow-growing, long-lived tree is typically broadly branched, eventually spreading to 100’ in diameter. White Oak is a key species in Columbia’s native climax forest.

- **Ronald Turner – Service to Missourians through extension**

4. Ohio Buckeye – *Aesculus glabra*

One of the first trees to leaf out in the spring and one of the first to drop its foliage in the fall. The spiny fruit holds the glossy brown nut cherished by children. Native Americans named this tree after the seeds, which resemble the eye of a buck (male) deer. It is best used in naturalized areas of the landscape.

- **Adopted by the Professor James E. Smith, Jr. family**

5. European Horsechestnut – *Aesculus hippocastanum*

Grows 50’-75’ and best planted in areas with a large landscape, such as parks and college campuses. The showy spring flowers grow up to 12” long and fall color is a dull yellow. Native to Albania, Bulgaria, and Greece.

6. Red Horsechestnut – *Aesculus x carnea*

A 30’-40’ hybrid of Horsechestnut and Red buckeye and one of England’s most popular ornamental trees. 8” clusters of red and rose-colored flowers appear in May and its seeds produce true-to-type plants, which is unusual.

- **The Munson Family**

7. Red Buckeye – *Aesculus pavia*

A short understory tree with dark, lustrous, green leaves that is a popular ornamental for its display of beautiful clusters of red flowers in May. Its large, brown seed are poisonous, which is common among *Aesculus* species.

8. Red Oak – *Quercus rubra*

A Missouri native shade tree that can grow 50'-70' with red and purple fall color. It grows natively on north and east facing slopes and prefers dry to medium moisture soils and good drainage.

9. Hardy Rubber Tree – *Eucommia ulmoides*

An important source of latex, an important compound once used in the manufacture of rubber. During WWII, when tropical sources were disrupted, the US government planted orchards of these trees in Missouri to ensure a domestic supply. Synthetic materials were eventually developed, and the industry was abandoned.

10. Kentucky Coffeetree – *Gymnocladus dioica*

A large tree with huge compound leaves and small leaflets that give the tree a delicate appearance. In winter, without its leaves, the thick branches provide a coarse silhouette. Its seeds are sometimes used as a coffee substitute; it is believed that roasting them neutralizes their toxins.

11. Bur Oak – *Quercus macrocarpa*

Missouri native shade tree typically growing less than 1' each year during its 30-year juvenile stage. In 300 years, it may reach 80' tall. The hard wood is prized lumber for furniture, flooring, and boating docks.

- **“The favorite of J.D. Baldrige”**

12. Overcup Oak – *Quercus lyrata*

A medium sized tree closely related to the Bur Oak. The common name comes from the acorn cap, which almost completely encloses the acorn. It can be transplanted easily, grows fast, and tolerates poor soil conditions, especially wet areas.

13. Cherrybark Oak – *Quercus pagoda*

A southern oak native to the Missouri bootheel. It is fast growing and can reach heights exceeding 80'. The common name refers to its characteristic bark that closely resembles the bark of cherry trees.

14. Green Giant Arborvitae – *Thuja standishii x plicata* ‘Green Giant’

A very tall, fast growing, hybrid evergreen with fan shaped sprays of foliage and columnar to pyramidal habit. Trees may grow up to 4’ each year, reaching as tall as 60’ and 18’ wide. Great for formal gardens with lots of space.

15. Allee Chinese Elm – *Ulmus parvifolia* ‘Emer II’ ALLEE

A medium sized, deciduous tree native to China, Korea, and Japan. It is popular for its dark foliage, multi-colored bark, rapid growth, and resistance to Dutch Elm Disease. Fall color can be yellow and reddish-purple but is more often underwhelming.

16. Hackberry – *Celtis occidentalis*

A large tree and a good choice where growing conditions are harsh. Produces small berries that are edible and somewhat sweet and a valuable food source for game birds and other wildlife.

17. Basswood – *Tilia americana*

A fast growing, large tree that grows readily in most soil types and is native to a large swath of the northeastern United States. Also known as the American Linden, it is an important timber species used for many products, including musical instruments. Native Americans used the inner bark to make ropes and thread.

18. Yellowwood – *Cladrastis kentukea*

Large panicles of fragrant, pink flowers that emerge in late spring are similar to that of Wisteria. It forms an attractive vase shape with soft green, pinnately compound foliage. Its timber is used in cabinetry and firearm parts and accessories.

19. Persimmon – *Diospyros virginiana*

A native tree frequently found along roadsides and fences. It produces large, fleshy fruit that is edible after a fall frost sweetens its otherwise bitter pulp. Difficult to transplant and seldom survive beyond their natural habitat.

20. Jefferson American Elm – *Ulmus americana* ‘Jefferson’

A clone from an American Elm that grows along the Washington D.C. planted in the 1930’s. The parent tree remains unscathed by Dutch Elm Disease. ‘Jefferson’ is one a few cultivars believed to have high resistance to the disease.

21. Scholar-tree – *Styphnolobium japonicum*

A good tree for city conditions where soils are poor and air pollution is prevalent. Creamy white flowers appear in mid-summer, followed by small, yellow seed pods that add fall interest.

22. Green Whisper Baldcypress – *Taxodium distichum* ‘Green Whisper’

A cultivar of the Missouri native Baldcypress that retains its fast growth rate and reaches up to 50’ tall and 30’ wide. It is differentiated by its soft, bright green leaves that give the tree a fluffier appearance than the species.

23. Old Bones London Planetree – *Platanus x acerifolia* ‘Old Bones’

This selection of London Planetree boasts creamy, white bark from top to bottom, unlike the olive brown and cream mottling of other Planetrees. It is a large, fast-growing tree suitable for parks, golf courses, campuses, and other large landscapes.

24. Seven-son Flower – *Heptacodium micinoides*

A small, multi-stemmed tree from China. Flower buds develop in early summer and bloom in August. Pleasant fragrance and attractive exfoliating bark create multi-seasonal impact in the landscape.

25. Pondcypress – *Taxodium distichum* var. *imbricarium*

As the name suggest, this tree grows well along bodies of water but can also thrive in upland sites. Its stately form can reach up to 80’ tall and 20’ wide and has attractive rust colored fall color.

26. Trident Maple - *Acer buergerianum*

A medium sized, Japanese native tree with peeling bark, creating a grey, brown, and orange mottling. Glossy, three-lobed leaves turn yellow, orange, and red in the fall. It produces many seeds that can be a nuisance when planted near hardscapes.

- **Adopted by Ruth, Ed, Jessica and Jonathan Brent**

27. Autumn Flame Red Maple – *Acer rubrum* ‘Autumn Flame’

A male cultivar of Red Maple with smaller, more prolific foliage and earlier onset of more vibrant fall color. Grows up to 60’ tall and 50’ wide and tolerates many soil types but prefers moist to wet areas.

28. Purple Leaf Beech – *Fagus sylvatica* ‘Purpurea’

A large, slow growing shade or specimen tree that will eventually reach 60’ tall and 40’ wide. This cultivar has deep purple foliage that transitions to green as the summer advances. Smooth, grey bark provides stunning winter interest. The fruit is a true nut and edible.

29. China Snow Pekin Lilac – *Syringa reticulata* subsp. *pekinensis* ‘Morton’ CHINA SNOW

Closely related to the Pekin Lilac on the Lowry Mall trail. This cultivar is thought to have more attractive bark than others, which exfoliates in copper-colored curls. It grows to 20’ tall.

30. Butterflies Magnolia – *Magnolia* ‘Butterflies’

A yellow flowered form of Magnolia, it is the result of a cross between *M. acuminata* and *M. denudate*. It grows to 20’ and has a deeper yellow bloom than most other yellow magnolias.

31. Hedge Maple – *Acer campestre*

A slow growing maple prized for its compact size, resistance to pests, and tolerance of dry and alkaline soils. It makes a good choice for areas with limited overhead space and is frequently trimmed into a hedge in Europe.

32. American Holly – *Ilex opaca*

A slow growing, pyramidal evergreen that can reach 50’ tall. Its glossy, green foliage and red berries make it a standout in the winter landscape. Female trees will only produce berries if males are planted nearby to ensure pollination.

- **To honor my father, Tom Fairlie. With love, Kristen.**

33. Flowering Dogwood – *Cornus florida*

Missouri’s state tree. A small ornamental tree with year-round appeal: Large white bracts in spring, conspicuous red fruit in summer, reddish-purple fall color, and distinct horizontal branching make an architectural statement in winter.

- **Adopted by Xena**

34. Winter King Green Hawthorn – *Crataegus viridis* ‘Winter King’

A small deciduous tree with silver green branches and dark green foliage. Prolific, fragrant white flowers in spring lead to edible, showy red fruit that persist into the winter. Fall color is brilliant shades of purple and scarlet and older orange bark exfoliates for winter interest.

- **Adopted by Michael and Paula Nolan**

35. Giant Dogwood – *Cornus controversa*

Notable for its size, it can reach 45’ tall with strongly horizontal branching, making for a fantastic architectural element in the landscape. The white flowers are ½” wide and give way to blue-black fruits.

- **Wally Pfeffer – MU, Chamber and Columbia Volunteer**