

2017 DECIDUOUS TREES IN RESTON MEMORIAL PARK [est. 1922]

URE PEAR – *pyrus ure* – located in the south west area of the park. GPS- N 49 33 22.0

W 101 05 22.4

This cultivar was developed at Morden Research Station in Manitoba 1978.

The ure is grafted with a Siberian pear [*pyrus ussuriensis*] to pollinate and produce fruit.

April and May display a beautiful show of white flowers. September fruits are 5 cm diameter and delicious when picked green and ripened off the tree.

PLUM – *prunus nigra* [Canada plum] ; *prunus Americana* [American plum]

GPS – N 49 33 22.4 W 101 05 17.3

Both species are native to Manitoba. The Canada plum has white flowers that usually turn pink and the stone in the fruit is round. The American plum has white flowers in clusters of 5 usually and the stone in the fruit is flat and about an inch long. There is one wild plum tree in the park south of the McDonald museum house.

This hybrid plum tree did have fruit in 2016. Wild plums are host to swallowtail and spring azure butterflies. Fruits are high in tannin and phytochemicals i.e. flavinoids. It takes wild plums to pollinate hybrid plums.

JAPANESE LILACS – *syringa reticulata* .

Native to eastern Asia. There are several of these trees in the park along the south and west and park centre. In June smell the perfume aroma in the air before you experience the clusters of creamy white panicles of bloom ! Birds feed on the winter fruit display of seed capsule clusters following the blooms . Bark is reddish with white markings. Extracts of *syringa* species have been used as a substitute for aloes in treating burns and malaria.



SILVER MAPLE –acer saccharinum

GPS- N 49 33 20.9 W 101 05 20.9

This tree is native in Ontario. Its fruits are pairs of winged seeds [maple keys]; female flowers are dense clusters of red that appear in March and male flowers, on separate branches, lack petals. Flowers provide food for squirrels in late winter at a time when their food stores may be depleted.



GREEN ASH – fraxinus pennsylvanica

Native in Manitoba , male and female flowers are found on separate trees borne in dense clusters. Irregular diamond shaped pattern is present on bark of older trees. The green ash near the library measures 56 years old using the method shown in this literature.

Abundant seeds, twigs and leaves is an important food source during winter for squirrels and white tailed deer.



OHIO BUCKEYE- *Aesculus glabra* Willd

Origin is Eastern North America and the Ohio buckeye is Canada's only native species of chestnut and the state tree of Ohio.

Yellow green flowers in tall clusters at the tips of branches open after leaves. Fruit is round with blunt spines with one or more nuts inside. Each nut has a pale patch at one end [as in a male deer's eye] and is not edible . They are toxic to humans and there is an unpleasant odour in the flowers, crushed leaves or bruised bark. Squirrels do eat the nuts. The nut is considered a good luck charm in native folklore.



LINDEN – *Tilia americana* ; native to Manitoba.GPS- N 49 33 20.7 W 101 05 17.7

In Britain these trees are commonly called limes and in North America basswoods. They originate in Europe and Asia. Leaf is heart shaped and of note are the fragrant, sticky cream colored clusters of flowers in June and the small round grey green fruits covered in small hairs. The fragrant flowers can be infused to make a stress relieving tea.

AMURE MAPLE – *Acer ginnala* Maxim GPS- N 49 33 21.2 W 101 05 23.0

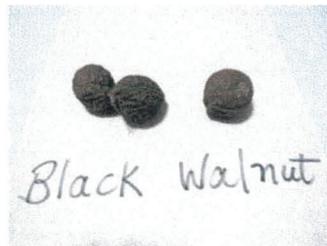
Native to Japan and China these trees were first introduced to North America around 1860. Flowers are pale yellow fragrant clusters with pink maple key fruits of winged seeds. Leaves are red in the fall.



MAPLE SUGAR – acer saccharum

GPS- N 49 33 23.1 W 101 05 19.9

This is Canada's National Tree and it is native to Ontario and Quebec. It is one of 10 maple species in Canada . It flowers before leaves open and is known for its straight trunk that is smooth and grey when bark is young and with maturity bark darkens and develops ridges vertically which may curl outward on one side. Maple sap is made into syrup and sugar. Our maple sugar tree in the park measures 60 years old.



BLACK WALNUT – juglans nigral



GPS- N 49 33 22.8 W 101 05 19.8

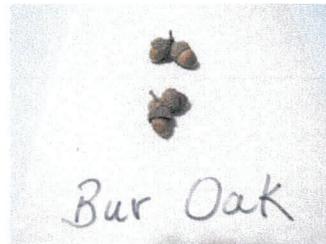
Native in Ontario with dangling catkins of male flowers and small red female seed flowers. Fruit is round, rough, aromatic, with yellow green husk in clusters of 1 -3. The sweet oily nut quickly perishes and is eaten by humans and squirrels. Black walnut tree contains juglone, tannins and

other compounds that produce a dark purple dye that was used by early settlers for dyeing hair and cloth. Juglone, exuded from the walnut roots is very toxic to paper birch.

BUR OAK – *quercus macrocarpa* Michx; native to Manitoba. GPS- N 49 33 21.9 W 101 05 16.8

Bur oak is a white oak and part of the beech family. It is capable of living up to 300 years. It is the state tree of Iowa.

Male and female flowers are borne separately on the same tree; tiny male flowers cluster in dangling catkins. Fruits are acorns with cups bordered with a bur like fringe. Acorns were an important source of food for aboriginal peoples and have been found in archaeological excavations dating back at least 5000 years. They are food for white tailed deer, red squirrels and mice in the Reston park.



CHOKECHERRY – *prunus virginiana*; a member of the Rose family and native to Manitoba.

GPS- N 49 33 23.1 W 101 05 22.8

Flowers in May are fragrant, white and in cylindrical clusters; fruit is small, black and astringent. Bark is smooth and reddish brown turning black on older growth.

Chokecherries were widely used throughout North American history as a food source and as medicine as well as wood for poles for building. The Blackfoot and Plains Cree called the period during fruit season 'black-cherry-moon'. Chokecherries were dried and ground, stone and all, for use in soups, stews and pemmican. Food uses today are in jellies, syrups, jams and wine. The fruits are a fall and winter food source for grouse, jays, waxwings and deer.

'chokecherry tea' of infused bark was medicinal for diarrhea, indigestion and sorethroat. Wild cherry bark was an officially recognized pharmaceutical from 1800 to 1975. Inner bark, buds, flowers and seeds are toxic especially in spring and summer.

AMERICAN ELM – *ulmus Americana* GPS- N 49 33 23.3 W 101 05 19.4

Native to Manitoba and commonly 35 meters high with a 23 m umbrella canopy ; drip line of the canopy is as wide as the extensive root system. A healthy tree can live 200 to 300 years; dutch elm disease has taken a few trees in the park every year. There are 120 elm trees in Reston park.

The largest tree in the park just north of the stage measures 82 inches circumference and that is about 104 years old. At 15 years of age an elm starts producing seed; they are very high in proteins and dietary fibers and were an important food source in the European famine in the early 1800's. Wood is hard and used for specialized items e.g. hockey sticks, piano, casket, furniture. Note the squirrel nests in the elm canopy branches.



MANITOBA MAPLE – boxelder maple – *acer negundo* [refers to medicinally useful shrub].

GPS- N 49 33 23.0 W 101 05 23.4

Native to Manitoba it is a fast growing tree and short lived up to 60 years old. It has compound light green leaves that resemble ash leaves. Young twigs have a waxy powder on them. The Manitoba maple is widespread and easily propagated with suckers and self seeding. It is a weak wood and is used for bowls, dishes and fuel. Smoke is reported to have medicinal value in various ceremonies. Manitoba maple can be tapped in spring to make maple syrup.



WHITE PAPER BIRCH – *Betula papyrifera*

Native to Manitoba and the provincial tree of Saskatchewan, this tree's most striking feature is its white peeling bark, highlighted with streaks of pink and black. In spring hanging catkin clusters are attractive in bloom and in late fall leaves are brilliant yellow for a long time. Paper birch trees are host for luna moth caterpillars and attract yellow bellied sap suckers, black capped chickadees, tree sparrows and pine siskins. Birch bark is a winter staple food for moose along with willow. Birch bark contains large quantities of lignin which make digestion difficult. Birch bark is used to create a durable waterproof layer in construction of canoes and containers.

BUTTERNUT – *Juglans cinerea*

Planted in 2016 butternut or white walnut is Canada's only native walnut tree. It is a slow growing species that can reach 30 meters and lives rarely longer than 75 years. Edible nuts are mild, oily and sweet, covered in a sticky green fuzzy husk and they are 20% protein. Butternut bark has mild cathartic properties and was once used medicinally.

SIBERIAN ELM - *Ulmus pumila*

Native to Korea, Northern China, eastern Siberia, Manchuria it was introduced to North America around 1860. It is invasive with a high seed germination rate and fast growing in sunlight conditions. These trees make a great dense hedge when pruned regularly. They are prolific seeders and the winged samaras carry in the wind like flying saucers; Siberian elms need a firm hand to contain them.

SCABIOSA atropurpurea - honeysuckle family- also known as pincushion flower. This sprawling shrub is at the corners of the tree tunnels around the park. Present in 1955 this tiny pincushion flower has a long history in Reston Memorial Park. If it could only talk !



GPS- N 49 33 25.0 W 101 05 20.0

BRIDAL BOUQUET SPIREA – vanhoutte spirea – a member of the rose family.

This shrub was noted in a 1955 magazine article and that makes it at least 60 years old. Massive small white clusters of flowers pour down the arching canes of this shrub in June



making the tree look like a fountain.

FLOWERING PINK ALMOND - prunus triloba- Rosaceae family

Originating in China , Pink pompom like flowers are impressive early in spring !

FLOWERING CRAB TREES – Rosaceae family members – genus malus

Ornamental with showy pink flowers in June and bright red fruit for birds and deer in fall and winter, there are many multi stemmed crab apple trees of the 1930's in the park. Later crab trees have a single trunk. This tree just west of the cenotaph is grafted so there are two kinds of apples on one tree. I expect this is the talented work of Mr Alfred Archer , the park founder.



MOUNTAIN ASH – ? SHOWY [*sorbus decora*] or AMERICAN? The only difference is the leaflets; American mountain ash is lance shaped and more slender and sharply toothed from tip to base of the leaflet. Showy mountain ash is native to Manitoba. The native tree has smooth sticky buds in spring.

