



Tree Bark

Urban Forestry News from Portland Parks & Recreation



Practice your Winter Tree Identification Skills

No leaves, no problem! Winter is still a great time to practice your tree ID. Without the leaves on deciduous trees, you can really notice characteristics in bark, twigs, and buds of your favorite trees. Low hanging twigs can give you many hints about a tree's species.

Common winter tree ID characteristics include bud arrangement, shape and color of the buds and leaf scars, bark color and structure, and remaining seeds and fruit. Using these clues, see if you identify a species that may have stumped you even with leaves on! Compare your findings in the field to our [tree inventory](#). If you want to learn more, check out the [Winter Tree ID walk](#) on February 26th.

Already an expert? How about planning your own 'Winter Wonders' tree walk? We've put together [step-by-step instructions to build your own tree walk](#). Want to check those skills first? Test your knowledge with a Winter Tree ID Quiz!

[Take the Winter Tree ID Quiz](#)

Upcoming Events

[Opportunities to Learn and Volunteer](#)

Winter Fruit Tree Pruning. Saturday 2/5/22 10 am - 2 pm.
Last call for fruit tree pruners! Wintertime fruit tree pruning brings an entirely different set of goals and objectives than summer fruit tree pruning. Learn more about which trees need care this time of year and practice at Urban Forestry's [Delta Park Orchard](#). Only a few slots remain! [Register here](#).

Winter Tree Identification. Saturday 2/26/22 10 am - noon.
Learn winter tree identification skills with special guest instructor Martin Nicholson, Hoyt Arboretum Curator. Explore bark, buds, and twigs on this guided walk. [Register Here](#).

Recent Highlights: Tree Planting and Stewardship



Tree Planting at Whitman Elementary School
Shadier play is coming to Whitman Elementary, thanks to [26 cool new trees](#). [Depave](#) removed 2700 square feet of asphalt to create beds for trees and plants. Urban Forestry then planted trees with students, volunteers, and contractors. Providing green, treed areas for kids to learn and play has proven physical and [mental health benefits](#), in addition to cooler playgrounds and shade from harmful UV rays.



Martin Luther King Jr Day of Service
Over 50 volunteers provided tree care to young trees at [Sacajawea Park](#) in Cully neighborhood. Many volunteers were part of [Confluence AmeriCorps](#). Volunteers pulled weeds, spread mulch, and pruned broken and dead branches. Beyond trees, the group removed invasive blackberry, picked up trash, and even pulled an abandoned tailgate out of the park! Thank you!

In Other News

Now hiring Youth Conservation Crew Adult Leaders. This summer lead a group of teenagers ages 14-19 as they work on trees, trails, habitat, gardens, and more with Portland Parks & Recreation. [Learn more here](#).

What does the forest sound like? Listen to sounds of forests and woodlands from around the world on this super cool open source map from Timber Festival UK. [Check it out here](#).

Starker Lecture Series features women who act as agents of change within forestry. This year's series feature several amazing Native speakers on Indigenous Traditional Ecological and Cultural Knowledge. Free and online with registration required. [Learn more here](#).

More great Urban Forestry webinars from US Forest Service. Check out the Urban Forestry Today webinar series, featuring great topics and speakers from around the nation. These monthly talks are free and recordings are available. February's talk is "Climate Change & Urban Trees: What Does the Future Hold?" [Vist Urban Forestry Today](#).



Winter beauties: Heritage Tree 256 (American Ash) and Heritage Tree 276 (Giant Sequoia). Photos by Steve Terrill.

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