

## Seasonal Highlights

### Flowering Display

#### Winter

December Vernal witchhazel, daphne

#### Spring

March Chinese witchhazel

April-May dogwood, serviceberry,  
forsythia, spice bush,  
viburnum, maple, barberry,  
cherry, pear, plum,  
horsechestnut, magnolia,  
pearl bush, lilac, chokeberry,  
deutzia, spirea, crabapple,  
rhododendron, laburnum,  
hawthorn, mock orange,  
honeysuckle

#### Summer

June locust, beauty bush, catalpa,  
rhododendron, tulip tree,  
viburnum, spirea, azalea

July hibiscus, hydrangea

August stewartia, pea shrub

### Color Display Fruit

#### Fall/Winter

July Cornelian cherry

August mountain ash, crabapple, rose

September winged euonymus

October azalea, crabapple, maple

November hawthorn, oak, viburnum

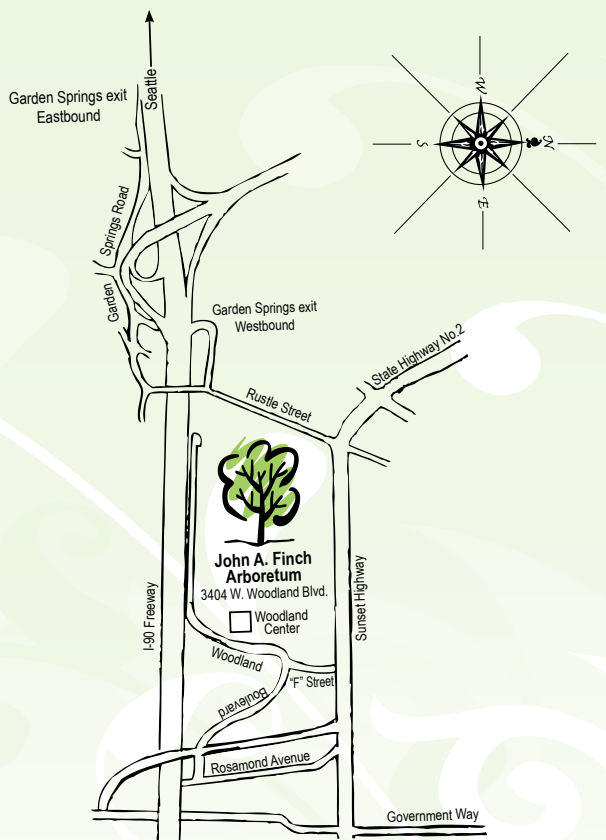
December hawthorn, Japanese barberry

January pyracantha, snowberry, red  
osier dogwood

**509.363.5466**

**UrbanForestry@SpokaneCity.org**

**SpokaneUrbanForestry.org**



## Directions to John A. Finch Arboretum

**From Interstate 90:** Take Garden Springs Road (Exit 277); drive north off of the interstate. Turn right at stop sign onto West Sunset Blvd.; head downhill toward downtown Spokane; stay in the right lane. Watch for the brown entry signs; turn right onto 'F' street. Drive past the maintenance area on your right; look for Woodland Center of John A. Finch Arboretum. **Welcome!**

## Hold your next meeting or important event here

For reservation information,  
call weekdays **509.363.5455** or  
email **UrbanForestry@SpokaneCity.org**

# John A. Finch Arboretum

## Map and Guide

CITY OF  
SPOKANE PARKS  
& RECREATION  
**URBAN FORESTRY**



**3404 West Woodland Boulevard  
Spokane, Washington 99224**

## Visitor Guidelines

To preserve the beauty of the Arboretum and to make your visit pleasant, please observe the following guidelines:

- Please follow park rules and regulations posted.
- **No pets allowed at any time.**
- All walking surfaces are natural, uneven, and occasionally very soft.
- Bicycles only on roads and trails.
- Gather only material fallen from plants.

## Welcome

The **John A. Finch Arboretum** is free and open to the public year round from dawn until dark. Restrooms are open May 1 through October 31, weather permitting. The gate to access parking for Lilac Lane and Corey Glen is open weekdays from 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM from April 1 through October 31. For more information call **509-363-5466**.

The **John A. Finch Arboretum** occupies nearly 65 acres of beautiful tree-covered land along Garden Springs Creek in the southwest part of Spokane. Our collections of trees and shrubs include natives of the inland northwest and plants from many parts of the world. They were selected as educationally useful, scientifically important and aesthetically attractive. The Arboretum is used as an outdoor classroom by naturalists, horticulturists, students, gardeners and photographers. Those interested in home landscaping find the Arboretum to be a valuable source of information on plants hardy enough to grow in the Spokane area. The Arboretum's educational and scientific value are enhanced by seasonal programs and public events throughout the year. The park-like character and natural charm is appreciated by all who enjoy nature's beauty.

## The Story of Finch Arboretum

In 1907, the Spokane Board of Park Commissioners marked off a mile-long strip of land along Garden Springs Creek for a future garden space. The rest of the land for an arboretum was purchased in 1912 with the assistance of mining investor John A. Finch. There were already many shade trees planted by the previous owner who had a summer cottage near the creek.

John Duncan, Park Superintendent in the 1940's, designed the planting plans. After Mr. Finch's estate gave funds to the Parks Department for more plantings in 1949, planting the arboretum with 23 species began in earnest.

Many century-old trees still stand, such as the huge White Willow in the center of the arboretum. These Heritage Trees are recorded by Spokane Urban Forestry as some of the oldest and largest of their kind in Spokane and, in some cases, Washington State. Just think of what they've seen and the people who have cared for them all this time!

Hungry for more history? Check out *John A Finch Arboretum* by Tracy Rebstock - SpokaneHistorical.org



While you wander through the arboretum, look for these tags and signs that reveal the dates they were planted so many years ago. Do you see the "00" in the lower left corner? That means this Sugar Maple is one of the first trees planted; more than 100 years ago!

**Remember: All trees and bushes are alive! Do not tear or take with you parts of any plant EVER.** Share what you see, not what you have removed from the plants.

## We invite you to visit every season!

**Early Spring** – See the last snow melting in the cold sun and smell the fragrance of Daphne. The explosions of Yellow Witchhazel and early Dogwood are easy to detect, but there are trees and shrubs of startling greens and pinks as buds and blooms begin to burst.

**April & May** – Many of our visitors enjoy these months the best due to our collection of dogwoods, lilacs, and magnolias! Come to our April Arbor Day event, when trees are celebrated for their contributions to the quality of our lives. Take a walk along Garden Springs Creek, beyond the "Touch and See Nature Trail," where you will see how the daffodils have spread and colonized into a river of yellow.

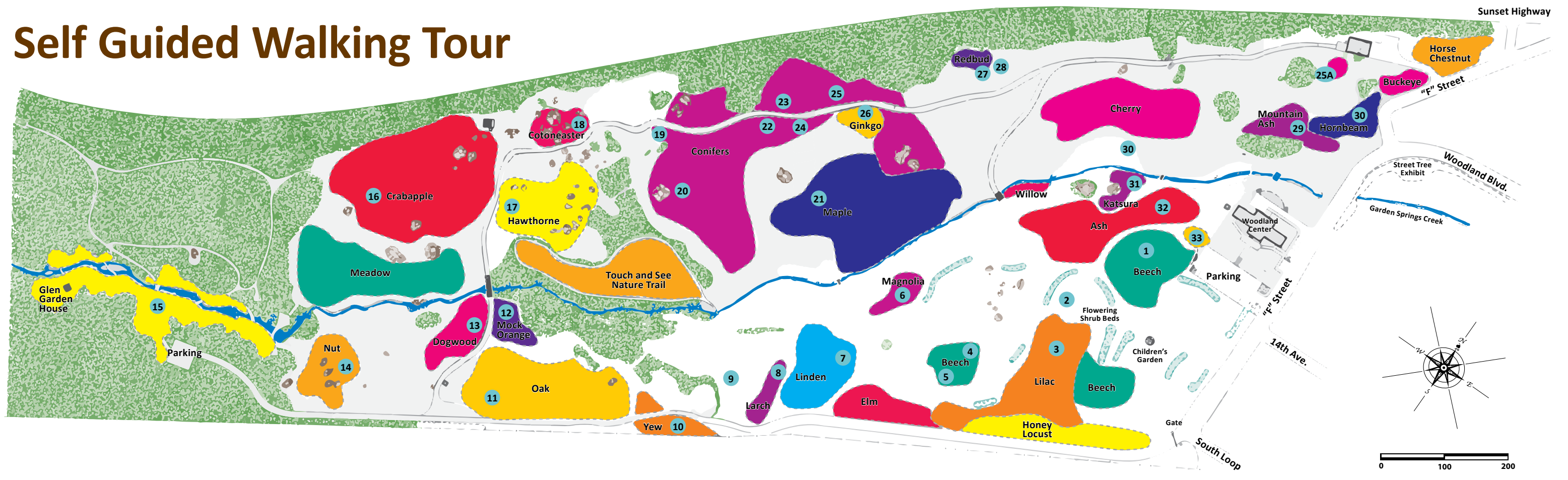
**June–August** – The trees now do their best, silent work. It has been shown that temperature in the shade of trees can be 10° to 15° cooler; they catch dust and particles on their leaves and create oxygen; they shelter and feed wildlife; and lastly, they reduce noise. These features make the expansive arboretum lawn a perfect picnic spot under the trees at the end of a hot day!

**Fall** – The arboretum now blazes and sparkles! Everyone comes to the Fall Leaf Festival! The Mountain Ash, Maple and Oak trees are the most well-known for their berries and leaf colors. The artistry of these fall colors create incredible photographs and backdrop for beautiful wedding events.





# Self Guided Walking Tour



This narrative description follows the numbers on the map, and will lead you through some of the Arboretum's major collections and specimens of interest.

Directly west of the main parking lot are several varieties of Beech. An elegant example is the **WEEPING EUROPEAN BEECH 1**. The Beech collection is distributed throughout the **FLOWERING SHRUB BEDS**.

The **FLOWERING SHRUB BEDS** are planted according to genus and provide blooms throughout Spring and Summer. In the midst of the beds stands a magnificent **WHITE WILLOW 2** that predates the Arboretum. Other willows are located along Garden Springs Creek which flows west to east through the Arboretum. The creek runs year-round and is part of the Latah Creek watershed. A great deal of care is taken to preserve the integrity of this watercourse.

Adjacent to the **WHITE WILLOW** is the **LILAC COLLECTION 3** with over 80 named varieties. This tribute to Spokane, the "Lilac City", has been recognized by the International Lilac Society.

South of the **EUROPEAN 4** and **TRI-COLOR BEECHES 5** is the **ELM COLLECTION**. The spring blooming **MAGNOLIA COLLECTION 6** is north of the Beech trees. Magnolias are admired for their color and the size of their blossoms.

Ahead are the **BEAUTY BUSH** and the **LINDEN COLLECTION 7**. The spring blooming Lindens are very fragrant.

**LARCH 8** and **DAWN REDWOOD 9** are deciduous conifers meaning that they shed their needles in the Fall. Notice the fluted, ginger-red trunk of the **DAWN REDWOOD**.

The **YEW COLLECTION 10** begins at the top of the hill. Yews are conifers which bear fleshy, seeded fruit rather than cones.

The expanding **OAK COLLECTION** contains some of the Arboretum's most majestic trees. The classic bold, angular Oak branch pattern on a stocky trunk is best displayed by the **ENGLISH OAK 11**. Closer to the creek is the fragrant **MOCK ORANGE Collection 12**.

The name "**DOGWOOD**" applies to many different size trees, shrubs and plants as seen in the **DOGWOOD COLLECTION 13**.

Containing Butternut, English and Black Walnuts, the **NUT COLLECTION 14** is an abundant food source for wildlife.

Many feel the **COREY GLEN AREA 15** is the most peaceful spot in the Arboretum. Rest on the benches located in a natural setting to enjoy the **RHODODENDRONS**, **AZALEAS** and **HOSTAS** sheltered among native trees and shrubs. This is a "must see" detour during May and June when this area is vivid with color.

There are over 70 varieties of flowering **CRABAPPLE** in the **COLLECTION 16** with colors ranging from pure white to deep magenta. The fall fruit display is noteworthy and provides wildlife food during winter months.

**HAWTHORNS 17** are admired for their fragrant blossoms and abundant fruit. These specimens are armed with sharp thorns, though thornless varieties exist.

Arranged between basalt rock outcrops is the **COTONEASTER COLLECTION 18**. Cotoneaster is at home on dry, sunny slopes.

A stately **BLUE SPRUCE 19** on the hillside marks the beginning of the **SPRUCE COLLECTION**. There are many variations of form and color in Spruce.

Firs have been called balsams for many years due to the scented resin they produce. The **FIR COLLECTION 20** has many fine specimens.

For Fall color there is no comparison to the **MAPLE COLLECTION 21**. Sugars in the mature leaves combined with the effects of cooler weather conditions and less sunlight cause the change of color.

The **PINE COLLECTION** has several specimens of special interest including the **BRISTLECONE PINE 22** named for the prickles at the edge of each cone scale. Two different forms of Eastern White Pine are displayed; **DWARF 23** and **STANDARD 24**. Some of the Arboretum's tallest trees are the **PONDEROSA PINE 25**, sometimes referred to as yellow pine. The Ponderosa Pine is the native tree cover for the Arboretum and some of the largest can be found in the north east corner of the Arboretum **25A**. The **GINKGO 26** is a conifer with leaves instead of needles. Ginkgo trees have been growing on this planet unchanged for 150 million years.

The **EASTERN REDBUD 27** blooms before leafing out in the spring. The **JAPANESE STEWARTIA 28** is a member of the camellia family.

The finely cut foliage and berry clusters make **MOUNTAIN ASH 29** easy to identify. **HORNBEAMS 30** were referred to as "Ironwood" due to the strength of its wood. **HORSECHESTNUTS** are the largest of the flowering ornamental trees.

After crossing the iron railed bridge the **KATSURA COLLECTION 31** comes into view. Heart-shaped leaves give the Katsura a graceful appearance.

The **ASH COLLECTION 32** provides shade. The **LIQUIDAMBAR 33** or **SWEETGUM TREE** has distinctive ridged and corky bark.

This concludes the self-guided walking tour. You could continue to the Street Tree Exhibit located across Woodland Boulevard on the north bank of the creek. The Street Tree Exhibit begins at the intersection of Woodland Boulevard and 'F' Street.