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 ILAC 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 MANGNOLIA 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.

HAWTHORN 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 BRISTLECON 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 26. The GINKGO 25A 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 an elegant example of Beech. An elegant example is the WEEPING EUROPEAN BEECH 1. The Beech collection is distributed throughout 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.

After crossing the iron railed bridge the KATSURA COLLECTION 29 comes into view. Heart-shaped leaves give the Katsura a graceful appearance.

The ASH COLLECTION 30 provides shade. The LIQUIDAMBAR 31 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.