

Trees of The Battery

As you move through the park, use this guide to identify some of the prominent tree species growing here. Many of the trees can be found in multiple places, but we've marked one location for each on the map below, using the initials of each species' scientific name. As you locate and read about each tree, you can check it off in the box provided. Please remember to follow all social distancing guidelines while at The Battery. We hope you enjoy your visit!



Ca

Cedrus atlantica
'Glauca'
Atlas Cedar

The Atlas Cedar is an evergreen tree native to the mountainous regions of Morocco and Algeria. The cultivar 'Glauca' gets its name from the word *glaucous*, describing the bluish-gray color of its foliage.



Cf

Cornus florida
Flowering Dogwood

This showy tree flowers in early spring before the leaves appear. In fact, the most striking part of the blooms are the large bracts that surround a cluster of many tiny flowers. The berries ripen in late summer and are an important food source for many species of birds.



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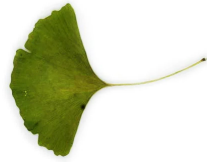
Email education@thebattery.org with questions or for list of image sources.

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Gb

Ginkgo biloba
Maidenhair Tree

Native to southeast China, the Ginkgo tree is sometimes known as a "living fossil" since it has been found in fossils dating back as many as 270 million years. Only the female trees produce fruit and seeds, which have culinary and medicinal uses in some cultures.

**Gd**

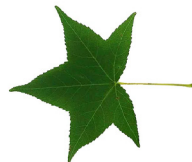
Gymnocladus dioica
Kentucky Coffee Tree

Each leaf of this tree is compound, made up of 6 to 14 leaflets. The seeds, contained in large seedpods, were once used as a coffee substitute when roasted, but the raw seeds are poisonous.

**Ls**

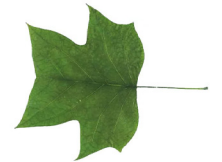
Liquidambar styraciflua
Sweetgum

The wood of the Sweetgum tree is important for the timber industry, used for all manner of furniture. The name Sweetgum comes from the gummy solid inside the bark, which historically was used for chewing gum.

**Lt**

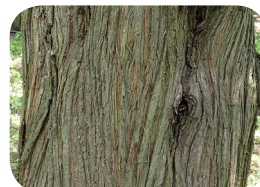
Liriodendron tulipifera
Tuliptree

The Tuliptree is one of the tallest eastern hardwoods, reaching heights of 80 to 120 feet. It is a major source of commercial timber, with wood used for furniture, musical instruments, and paper pulp. The large flowers provide ample nectar to many insect pollinators.

**Mg**

Metasequoia glyptostroboides
Dawn Redwood

The Dawn Redwood is a coniferous tree, meaning that it creates cones rather than flowers to produce seeds. While most conifers are evergreen, the Dawn Redwood is in fact a deciduous tree, shedding its leaves every fall.

**Pa**

Platanus acerifolia
London Planetree

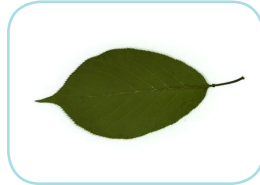
These trees are known for their distinctive mottled bark pattern, similar to the bark of a Sycamore. In fact, the London Planetree is a hybrid of the Sycamore and *Platanus orientalis*. It was likely first developed during the 17th century.



Pi

Prunus x incamp
'Okame'
Okame Cherry

Another hybrid species, the Okame Cherry was bred to provide beautiful foliage, while maintaining a tolerance for cold weather. It is one of the first cherry trees to bloom in early spring. Look for the horizontal ridges on the bark, called *lenticels*!

**Qb**

Quercus bicolor
Swamp White Oak

"*Bicolor*" in this tree's scientific name refers to its leaves, which are green above with lighter undersides. Like all oaks, the Swamp White Oak produces acorns, which squirrels and jays eat or bury for storage. Thanks to those seed predators, the oak is able to disperse its acorns farther from the parent tree.

**Qpa**

Quercus palustris
Pin Oak

The Pin Oak's name refers not to the bristle tips on the lobes of the leaves, but rather to the side twigs, or spurs, that form along its branches. The indigenous Lenape people of this area used the trunks of these trees and other oak species for making canoes.

**Qph**

Quercus phellos
Willow Oak

Though the leaves of this tree appear similar to those of willows, its acorns make it recognizable as an oak. The Willow Oak begins producing acorns once it is about 15 years old, and many types of birds and mammals depend on the acorns as a food source.

**Sj**

Styphnolobium japonicum
Japanese Pagoda Tree

This tree is native to areas of China and Korea, rather than Japan. The common name reflects the early cultivation of these trees in Japan near Buddhist temples. Only large trees over 30 years old produce the aromatic white flowers that resemble those of the tree's relatives in the legume family: peas and beans.

**Ua**

Ulmus americana
American Elm

The American Elm tree was historically more abundant across the eastern half of the country, but Dutch elm disease, caused by a fungus and spread between trees by the elm bark beetle, killed more than 75% of this tree's North American population in the 20th century.

