



Douglasville Tree Walk

Self Guided Tour Bowden Street



Tree Selection and Identification
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City of Douglasville
Tree Walk
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1. American Elm- *Ulmus Americana*. The tree at the rear of 8500 Bowdon St. It is one of a number of elms that grow in the city. Often used as street trees, many of the trees have died from Dutch elm disease, a fungus. Because they have not been widely planted in the South, they are not as susceptible to the disease.

2. Post Oak- *Quercus stellata*. Just north of the driveway at 8500 Bowdon St. grows a large post oak. This stout, slow growing tree is seldom seen in a landscape situation, but often seen growing in the wild. The common name of this tree is derived from the use of the wood, which is very rot resistant in dry soil, for fence posts.

3. Willow Oak- *Quercus phellos*. The large tree growing at the southwest corner of the church is a willow oak. These large, fast growing trees make wonderful shade trees. The willow oak, named because the leaves are the shape of willow leaves, has about the best overall texture and form of any of its oak cousins.

4. Water Oak- *Quercus nigra*. The two trees growing on either side of the building at 8512 Bowdon St. are water oaks. The water oak got its name because it will grow in moist to wet sites where most other oaks would not survive. The leaves vary in shape considerably from tree to tree. This is probably the most found oak growing in the downtown area.

5. Red Mulberry- *Morus rubra*. The second tree back from the sidewalk, growing by the fence at the south side of 8522 Bowdon St. is a red mulberry. The juicy 1 inch long fruit is tasty and can stain. Because of the messy fruit, this is not a good tree to plant over a patio or a sidewalk.

6. Pecan- *Carya illinoensis*. The large tree growing to the south of the house at 8559 Bowdon St. is a pecan. There are many pecan trees growing in the downtown area.

7. Red Oak- *Quercus rubra*. The second tree back from the telephone pole at 8564 Bowdon St. is a red oak. Though not very common in the downtown area, this tree is one of the most common oaks growing in the woods of Douglas County. The fall color can be extremely fabulous one year and fairly dull the next year, depending on the weather conditions.

8. Sycamore- *Platanus occidentalis*. The large tree at 6694 Clark St. is a sycamore. This tree is not often planted on small lots because of its littering small dead branches, the large leaves that are hard to rake, and fuzzy seed balls.

9. Sugarberry- *Celtis laevigata*. The second tree back along the north fence at 8620 Park St. is a sugarberry or sugar hackberry. These medium tall trees have a very graceful appearance and make a very good street tree or park tree. The small red to black fruits are juicy and very sweet, hence the name sugar berry.

10. Silver Maple- *Acer saccharinum*. The solitary tree in the front lawn of 8620 Park St. is a silver maple. Because of its fast growth habit, this tree was once widely planted as a landscape tree. But because this tree has a fairly short lifespan and is messy, other trees like red maple and southern sugar maple are now planted instead.

11. Southern Sugar Maple (Florida Maple)- *Acer floridanum* (syn. *A. barbatum*). The tree growing in the middle of the lawn at 8630 Park St. is a southern sugar maple or a Florida maple. This medium sized tree makes a great lawn shade tree or street tree. You may be able to see rows of holes in the bark made by a bird, the sapsucker (a type of woodpecker) that actually feeds on the sap.

12. Sweet Gum- *Liquidambar styraciflua*. The large tree near the mailbox at 8642 Park St. is a sweet gum. Though fast growing and relatively long lived, with very few pest or disease problems, this tree is one that is not planted by many people. Probably because of its spiny, round seed balls.

13. American Holly- *Ilex opaca*. On each side of the walkway at 6705 Park St. grows an American holly. This is the largest native holly, growing up to 50 feet in height. Although not the most attractive holly, there are varieties available that have bright red berries and some with yellow berries.

14. Virginia Pine- *Pinus virginiana*. The two trees growing near the corner of the pond at Park St. and Haynes St. are Virginia pine or shrub pine. These short-needled pines have a rather open informal appearance. Not often planted as a landscape tree in home yards, this pine is used where there is poor soil, large industrial plantings or reclamation projects.

15. Red Maple- *Acer rubrum*. Growing on each side of the walkway to the front door at 8641 Bowdon St. are two red maple trees. These fast growing upright trees, get their name from the small red to orange flowers that appear in early spring. Commonly planted as a landscape tree and as a street tree.

16. Black Cherry- *Prunus serotina*. The larger tree growing in the front lawn of 8636 Bowdon St. is a native black cherry. This fast growing tree has clusters of fragrant white flowers followed by small purple to black bittersweet fruits, sometimes used to make wine or jelly.

17. Southern Magnolia- *Magnolia grandiflora*. Growing near the corner of Haynes St. and Bowdon St. is a fairly large southern magnolia. This majestic evergreen tree, with its large glossy leaves and very large fragrant white flowers, is not for the small garden. There are some smaller varieties that would fit almost any yard.

18. Tulip Poplar- *Liriodendron tulipifera*. Growing to the south of the house and directly in front of the parking area at 8617 Bowdon St. is a very large tulip poplar. This fast growing cousin to the magnolia can grow to over 100 feet tall.

19. White Oak- *Quercus alba*. The large oak growing next to the driveway at 8616 Bowdon St. is a white oak. Generally a tall tree, this tree is more often seen in the woods than in residential yards. The tree is named for its light colored wood that is used for making furniture, flooring, and barrels.

20. Scarlet Oak- *Quercus coccinea*. The tree growing about 40 feet south of the Bowdon St. sign and Woodrow Ave. is possibly a scarlet oak. The leaves look very similar to those of a red oak. This tree makes a very nice lawn tree, park shade tree, or street tree.

21. Eastern Red Cedar- *Juniperus virginiana*. The tree at the southwest corner of the Winn Law Offices is an eastern red cedar. This slow growing conifer is not a cedar but a juniper. This tree is most often seen growing in cemeteries or along fences in pasture areas. The wood is almost red in color, and because of its chemical qualities, has been used as rot resistant fence posts. The aromatic nature of the wood lends itself to closet linings and cedar chests.