

# WINNETKA GOLF COURSE WINTER TRAIL

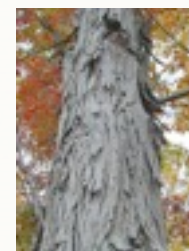
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## TREES FOUND ON COURSE

Each of these trees can be located at various spots along the course. Some trees have even been tagged by the park district with their common and scientific name. Remember that for many species, the leaves in autumn, or 'Fall Foliage,' are even more interesting to look at than in summer. Feel free to try to find and identify each one!

### SHAGBARK HICKORY (*CARYA OVATA*)

The Shagbark Hickory is a large deciduous tree, that grows up to 90 feet tall, and lives up to 200 years. Mature Shagbarks are easy to recognize because, as their name implies, they have shaggy bark. This characteristic is however only found on mature trees; young specimens have smooth bark.



### EASTERN REDBUD (*CERCIS CANADENSIS*)

The Eastern Redbud typically grows 20–30 feet tall. It generally has a short, often twisted trunk and spreading branches. A 10-year-old tree will generally be around 15 ft tall. The bark is dark in color, smooth, later scaly with ridges somewhat apparent, sometimes with maroon patches. The flower is a pinkish magenta shade, and is called a 'Spring Flower,' because it blooms in spring.



### BRADFORD PEAR (*PYRUS CALLERYANA*)

The Bradford Pears is a deciduous tree growing 49 to 66 ft tall, with a conic to rounded crown. The leaves are oval, 1.6 to 2.8 in long, glossy dark green above, slightly paler below. The flowers are produced in early spring before the leaves expand fully, and are white, with five petals, and about 0.79 to 1.2 in in diameter.



## GPS COORDINATES AND LOCATION DESCRIPTION

42° 6'25.50"N

87°45'20.40"W

Half-way down East side of 1st fairway

42° 6'26.40"N

87°45'23.40"W

Near bunkers on west side of 1st fairway

42° 6'29.10"N

87°45'22.62"W

West of 1st green

## TREES FOUND ON COURSE

### What is Muck Peat?

Muck-peat is the soil that the Winnetka Golf Course sits on top of. Made mostly of hummus from drained swampland, muck-peat has a high nutrient capacity that fosters cation exchange and will not leach chemicals, despite its high water-holding capacity. This allows trees and grass to grow very well.

### RIVER BIRCH (*BETULA NIGRA*)

The River Birch may be identified by its light reddish brown pinkish to cinnamon colored, exfoliating bark, which peels off into thin, papery layers. This along with the sharply wedge-shaped, rhombic or nearly four-sided leaves and bottom land habitat is most distinctive. River Birch can also be seen near the 11th green.



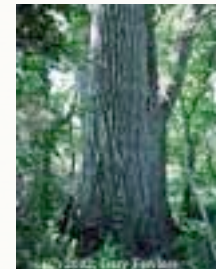
### BALD CYPRESS (*TAXODIUM DISTICHUM*)

This is a large swamp tree native to the south with a conspicuously swollen base, featherlike deciduous leaves, and fibrous, reddish brown bark, which peels off in thin, narrow, strips. Look for cypress 'knees,' woody projections vertically growing through the high water line; they can be found on the 2nd, 7th, and 14th greens. A Bald Cypress' fall foliage is a rusty brown.



### COTTONWOOD (*POPULUS DELTOIDES*)

This is a large tree attaining a height of 50 to 100 feet with a trunk diameter of 2 to 5 feet. The strongly truncate leaf base; narrowly translucent leaf margins; apical glands on the flattened petiole; yellowish, somewhat angled summer twigs; and shiny resinous buds are most distinctive.



## GPS COORDINATES AND LOCATION DESCRIPTION

42° 6'32.46"N

87°45'23.52"W

North of water and east of 2nd tee

42° 6'37.14"N

87°45'24.72"W

Half-way down west side of 2nd fairway

Note that several species of oak are featured here

42° 6'40.74"N

87°45'22.98"W

Slightly north of bunkers on east side of 2nd fairway

## TREES FOUND ON COURSE

How long is this course?

This course is 4 miles, or 6,500 yards long; jog through for some great exercise, but be careful to avoid putting greens, especially when frost is on the ground. Some trees are hard to distinguish, so try to test your skills.

### WEeping WILLOW (SALIX X PENDULINA)

During all seasons, the weeping willow can be distinguished by its long and gracefully drooping branches.



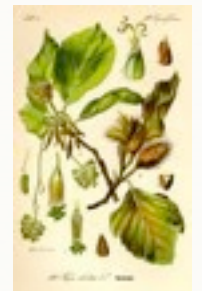
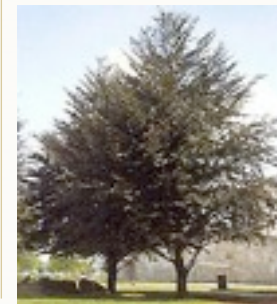
### SCOTS PINE (PINUS SYLVESTRIS)

A small to medium sized tree commonly attaining a height of 70 feet with a trunk diameter of 1 ½ feet to 3 feet. The most striking characteristic of the Scots pine is its bright orange-red, flaky bark along its upper trunk and branches, its cones that point backwards along the branches, and its two slightly twisted glaucous green needles and twisted cones.



### AMERICAN BEECH (FAGUS GRANDIFOIA)

During all seasons the American beech may be identified by its smooth, gray bark, which has more or less darker mottling and which is often seen with carved initials. This coupled with its slender, elongated, golden-brown, cigar like buds and prickly fruits, and its 9 to 14 pairs of straight parallel leaf veins, is most distinctive. A particularly attractive American Beech can be found near the 11th Tee.



# TREES FOUND ON COURSE

## GPS COORDINATES AND LOCATION DESCRIPTION

42° 6'43.46"N

87°45'25.46"W

Two-thirds of the way down west side of  
2nd fairway

42° 6'51.47"N

87°45'25.78"W

Between 3rd hole and 4th tee

42° 6'51.84"N

87°45'32.82"W

North of 13th tee

What does coniferous mean?

A coniferous tree, commonly called "Evergreen," is one that maintains its leaves and rate of photosynthesis all year. Specifically, "coniferous" means cone-bearing. The Larch is the only deciduous cone-bearing tree.

### OHIO BUCKEYE (*AESCULUS GLABRA*)

The Ohio buckeye is also known as the fetid or stinking buckeye. It is a small to medium sized tree attaining a height of 20 to 40 feet. It is the only native buckeye with this combination of spiny fruits and pronounced disagreeably odored twigs and leaves. It is hard to distinguish the Buckeye (five leaflets) from the Horse chestnut (seven leaflets). Test your skills!



### KENTUCKY COFFEE TREE (*GYMNOCLADUS DIOICUS*)

The Kentucky coffee tree is usually a medium-sized tree attaining a height of 40 to 75 feet and a trunk diameter of 1 to 2 feet. Its trunk commonly divides a few feet above the ground into 3 or 4 almost vertical ascending limbs which form a narrowly egg-shaped crown. It has thick, contorted, clubby, and often thorny branches, along with the very large leaves. During the Civil War, the fruit was used as a substitute for coffee beans.



### BRITZENSIS WILLOW (*SALIX ALBA BRITZENSIS*)

This is a spreading, fast-growing, large tree with a rounded crown and bright orange-red shoots. Leaves are lance shaped much longer than broad, saw-toothed, bright green on top, underside bluish-green, up to 4 in. long. Foliage often turns brilliant golden yellow in autumn. 'Britzensis' produces yellowish-green, male catkins with yellow anthers, to 2 in. long, borne in the spring. Grows up to 80' tall and 30' wide.



## GPS COORDINATES AND LOCATION DESCRIPTION

42° 6'49.38"N

42° 6'49.38"N

Southeast of water on 13

42° 6'40.86"N

87°45'28.86"W

Near water, north of bunker on 4

42° 6'43.68"N

87°45'32.64"W

Near building on 8th and 12th Tee

## TREES FOUND ON COURSE

What does deciduous mean?

A deciduous tree is one that sheds its leaves and slows photosynthesis at the end of the fall, to prepare for winter.

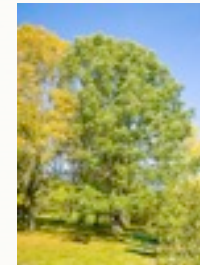
### SUGAR MAPLE (ACER SACCHARUM)

The sugar maple may be distinguished by its radiately lobed leaves, which are apically squarish, by its hairless leaves and twigs, narrowly conical sharp-pointed buds with 6 to 16 pale, somewhat hairy brownish scales, and by its paired winged fruits that form nearly parallel sides. It will not succeed in wet soil, and requires ample drainage. This is the only good example on the course.



### WHITE ASH (FRAXINUS AMERICANA)

The stalked leaflets with pale or whitish under-surfaces that are covered with microscopic projections, the tiny canoe-paddle-shaped fruits, the diamond shaped bark pattern, and the somewhat shreddy mature twigs are most distinctive. White Ash fall prey to a beetle called the Emerald Ash Borer, and are treated to prevent infection. 35 of over 200 trees have been treated since 2007. They are marked with a green dot. The fall foliage is purple or yellow.



### BLUE SPRUCE (PICEA PUNGENS)

A medium-sized conifer growing to nearly 100 feet tall, and with a trunk diameter of up to 5 feet. The bark is thin and gray. The crown is conic in young trees, becoming cylindric in older trees. The shoots are stout, orange-brown, usually hairless. The leaves are needle-like, 5/5 to 1 1/4 inch long, stout, dull gray-green to bright blue, with several lines of stomata; the tip is viciously sharp. The cones have thin, flexible scales, with a wavy margin. They are reddish to violet, maturing pale brown 5-7 months after pollination.



# TREES FOUND ON COURSE

## GPS COORDINATES AND LOCATION DESCRIPTION

How can trees be identified in the winter?

A tree can be identified by much more than just its leaves. The bark, shape of twig, and buds all play an important role in tree identification, especially in winter.

42° 6'41.44"N

87°45'37.16"W

Near water on east side of 14th fairway,

42° 6'38.52"N

87°45'36.66"W

Near 11th Green, is the largest still living original Elm on the course. See if you can find it!

42° 6'30.30"N

87°45'34.80"W

Off of 10th hole, between 15 and 16

### GINKGO (GINKGO BILOBA)

The combination of small, deciduous, fan shaped, and occasionally 2-lobed leaves on spur shoots is peculiar; thus, this species ought not be mistaken for any other tree. It is also one of the oldest known trees. A Ginkgo can be found next to the pond near the 14th Tee.



### RED MAPLE (ACER RUBRUM)

The shallowly lobed leaves, small, paired winged fruit, with wings that are slightly divergent from each other and with their wing tips pointing outward, along with the bright red buds, red petioles, and red flowers (the earliest of our native tree species to flower) help to separate this species from our other native maples. The red winter twigs, serrated leaf margins, and bluish white lower leaf surface are also distinct.



### SYCAMORE

The American sycamore is the most massive of our native deciduous trees exceeding all others in trunk diameter. Large individuals of this species are easily recognized, even at great distances, by their exfoliating bark and massive, spreading branches. Its ball like fruit clusters and large, maple like leaves make it easy to identify. The leaves are alternate, simple, deciduous, palmately lobed and veined. The winter twigs are easily recognized by the petiole scar completely surrounding the elongated buds.



## GPS COORDINATES AND LOCATION DESCRIPTION

42° 6'21.36"N

87°45'30.06"W

Near clubhouse and bridge between 15  
and 16

42° 6'21.48"N

87°45'32.16"W

East of 16th Tee

42° 6'21.36"N

87°45'33.42"W

West of 16th Tee

## TREES FOUND ON COURSE

Why do leaves change color?

Leaves are green because of chlorophyll, a green pigment which absorbs light for photosynthesis. In the winter, trees stop photosynthesis, so they don't need chlorophyll. When this happens, other pigments show through, and the leaf color changes.

### COCKSPUR HAWTHORN (CRATAEGUS CRUSGALLI)

This is one of the best known and easily recognized species of hawthorn. Its stout, rigid, and spreading branches form a broadly round topped head. The flowers appear in great abundance in late spring and the fruits which ripen in October often last well into winter. This is a shrub or small tree with dark grayish or brownish, scaly bark, numerous, slender, mostly straight thorns from 2 to 4 inches in length, and large, shiny leaves.



### SWAMP WHITE OAK (QUERCUS BICOLOR)

The dark brownish bark of the branches, which peels or exfoliates in sycamore fashion into large, ragged papery curls, exposing the lighter-colored inner bark, is most distinctive. No other oak has this characteristic. This coupled with the pale undersurfaces of its leaves, which have very shallow leaf sinuses, short lobes that are widest below the middle, and acorns that are borne conspicuously long (1-3 inches) stalks (longer than the leaf petioles) makes this species easy to identify.



### BUR OAK (QUERCUS MACROCARPA)

The extremely large acorns (largest of all the oak species), with a peculiar marginal fringe around the edge of the acorn cup, along with the unusual lobing pattern of the leaves, which appears to interrupt the margin midway with an exceptionally large pair of sinuses and the corky ridges on the branches, make this species easy to identify. Near the clubhouse are 250-300 year old Bur Oaks that have survived prairie fires.



# TREES FOUND ON COURSE

## GPS COORDINATES AND LOCATION DESCRIPTION

42° 6'21.69"N

87°45'34.91"W

Orchard on West side of 16th Fairway

42° 6'22.00"N

87°45'35.15"W

Orchard on West side of 16th Fairway

42° 6'22.42"N

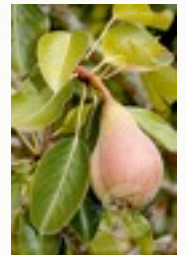
87°45'35.44"W

Orchard on West side of 16th Fairway

The massive rainstorm and subsequent flooding that occurred in 2008 resulted in the loss of cherry trees. Fortunately the rest of the fruit orchard is in good shape.

### PEAR (PYRUS COMMUNIS)

The pear is a slow growing, long lived tree. It has an erect and more or less continuous trunk with ascending branches forming a pyramidal crown. The leaf is alternate, ovate with a finely serrated margin, 1 to 4 inches in length with a shiny green top surface. The fruit is large and edible. The twigs are glossy brown to reddish brown with terminal buds of medium size that are slightly hairy. It is easily recognized by its short, thorn-like spur shoots, uniformly shaped fruits, white flowers, and a more strict crown than that of the common apple.



### PLUM (PRUNUS AMERICANA)

A shrub or small tree from 10 to 30 feet in height with a trunk diameter of 5 to 12 inches. The trunk is typically short, dividing a few feet above the ground into many slender, spreading, or slightly drooping spiny branches and forming a deep crown. The thicket-forming nature of this species, along with the double serrated leaves with glandless marginal teeth; flattened fruit pits; somewhat unpleasantly odored white flowers that open as the leaves expand; sharp, spine-tipped spur shoots; twigs that lack terminal buds; and platelike or shaggy bark is most distinctive.



### PEACH (PRUNUS PERSICA)

This is a small deciduous tree that grows to 35 feet tall. It is generally short lived. The lustrous, long-acuminate (gradually tapering to a diminishing point) leaves, reddish upper branches (green beneath) without a stalk, pink and white flowers produced early in the spring, and the very characteristic large fleshy fruits are distinctive.



# TREES FOUND ON COURSE

## GPS COORDINATES AND LOCATION DESCRIPTION

42° 6'22.90"N

87°45'35.80"W

Orchard on West side of 16th Fairway

42° 6'26.14"N

87°45'34.97"W

East side of 16, near bunker between 15  
and 16

42° 6'27.12"N

87°45'36.72"W

Between 15 and 16, north of Norway  
Maple

What are those winged shaped things that drop from maple trees?

Those contain Maple seeds, and are called samara.

### APPLE (MALUS PUMILA)

The common apple is a small or medium-sized tree that sometimes attains a height of 30 to 40 feet. The trunk is characteristically short with wide-spreading branches forming a broadly round topped crown. Easily recognized by its large, edible fruits that develop in the autumn, by its showy, white to pink flowers, by its conspicuous spur shoots that support both the leaves and flowers, and by its spreading crown, which is



### NORWAY MAPLE (ACER PLATANOIDES)

This is a medium sized tree usually attaining a height of 40 to 60 feet and a trunk diameter of 1 to 2 feet. It has a symmetrical, dense, rounded crown and dark green foliage that turns pale yellow in autumn. Because it needs dry soil, there is only one on the Golf course, growing on top of an original 1930's storm drain.



### EASTERN WHITE PINE (PINUS STROBUS)

The white pine may be distinguished by its slender, blue-green needles, arranged in clusters of 5, which at maturity lack basal sheaths; by its bark, which is not scaly as many eastern pines; and by its slender, elongated (4-8 inches) cones. This species is the only evergreen indigenous to Northern Illinois. One Eastern White Pine, found on the 16th Tee, was struck by lightning in 2011, resulting in the loss of the largest specimen on the course.



## GPS COORDINATES AND LOCATION DESCRIPTION

42° 6'25.80"N

87°45'39.90"W

In cage southwest of 17th Tee

You may also see some flowering  
Dogwoods along the dike.

42° 6'21.42"N

87°45'37.62"W

East of 17th green

42° 6'20.52"N

87°45'38.58"W

Beyond 17th Green

A few Sweetgum trees can be found  
around the 17th green. They have a  
wonderful orange to reddish fall foliage.

## TREES FOUND ON COURSE

Acorns fall all over the place. Why aren't there Oak trees everywhere?

Due to things like environment, nutrient availability, and animals, an acorn only has about 1/10,000 chance of growing into an Oak tree. This is why the trees make so many acorns. More than 50 oaks on the golf course are the result of a single parent oak raised near the cart barn.

### **GOLDEN RAIN TREE (KOELREUTERIA PANICULATA)**

A medium sized ornamental tree that matures to about 30 feet tall with a crown of nearly 30 feet. The leaves are alternate, pinnate and emerge bronzed and mature to dark green with 7 to 15 leaflets. The foliage is golden yellow in the fall. It is one of the few trees to flower in mid-summer. Many yellow small flowers combine to form a large showy flower. It produces clusters of showy lime green fruit pods that turn brown in Autumn. The stems do not have terminal buds in winter.



### **AUSTRIAN PINE (PINUS NIGRA)**

This is a two-needled pine with long, straight needles resembling those of the red pine, but much wider, coarser, and less lustrous green. Most important, the needles do not fracture when bent in half. The cones are spined at maturity and larger than those of the red pine. The twigs are thick and dark in color, almost black.



### **SOURWOOD (OXYDENDRUM ARBOREUM)**

This species can be easily identified by the strongly disagreeable odor of its reddish or greenish twigs, by its fragrant lily of the valley-like flowers that give rise to conspicuous capsular fruits that persist into winter, by its extremely crooked growth habit, and by its finely toothed, alternate, sour-tasting leaves that turn bright red in the autumn, which are so symmetrical that when folded widthwise, the base and apex overlap nearly exactly.



## GPS COORDINATES AND LOCATION DESCRIPTION

42° 6'19.68"N

87°45'35.10"W

North side of 18th Fairway, before  
water.

42° 6'19.14"N

87°45'23.52"W

Northwest of 18th Green

42° 6'19.14"N

87°45'21.65"W

Between 18th Green and 10th Tee, near  
clubhouse

## TREES FOUND ON COURSE

If you look closely, you'll see that tree branches either grow in an alternating pattern, or a pattern on opposite sides of the branch. The most common trees with opposite branching are Maples, Ashes, and Dogwood, which can be remembered with the phrase "MADog."

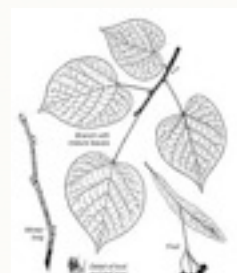
### PIN OAK (QUERCUS PALUSTRIS)

At any time of the year, the pin oak, especially when growing in open areas, can be distinguished from all other oak species by its unusual branching pattern, which is apparent even at a distance; the upper branches ascend, the side branches project horizontally, parallel to the ground, and the lower branches droop or descend at a conspicuous angle toward the ground and remain on the tree even when dead. The small, sharp, pin-like branchlets, leaf lobes that are nearly perpendicular to the midvein, and small acorns with flat cups are all most distinctive.



### BASSWOOD (TILIA AMERICANA)

This tree is also known as the Linden. It is a large tree attaining a height of 60 to over 100 feet, with a trunk diameter from 2 to 4 feet. The trunk is usually tall and straight, with numerous slender branches forming a broadly ovate, or rounded crown. This species is easily told by its large, asymmetrically heart-shaped leaves, reddish twigs, fragrant flowers, hooded buds (which are edible), unusually shaped fruit bracts, and sucker sprouts around the trunk base.



### KENTUCKY COFFEE TREE (GYMNOCLADUS DIOICUS)

The Kentucky coffee tree is usually a medium-sized tree attaining a height of 40 to 75 feet and a trunk diameter of 1 to 2 feet. Its trunk commonly divides a few feet above the ground into 3 or 4 almost vertical ascending limbs which form a narrowly egg-shaped crown. It has thick, contorted, clubby, and often thorny branches, along with the very large leaves. During the Civil War, the fruit was used as a substitute for coffee beans.

