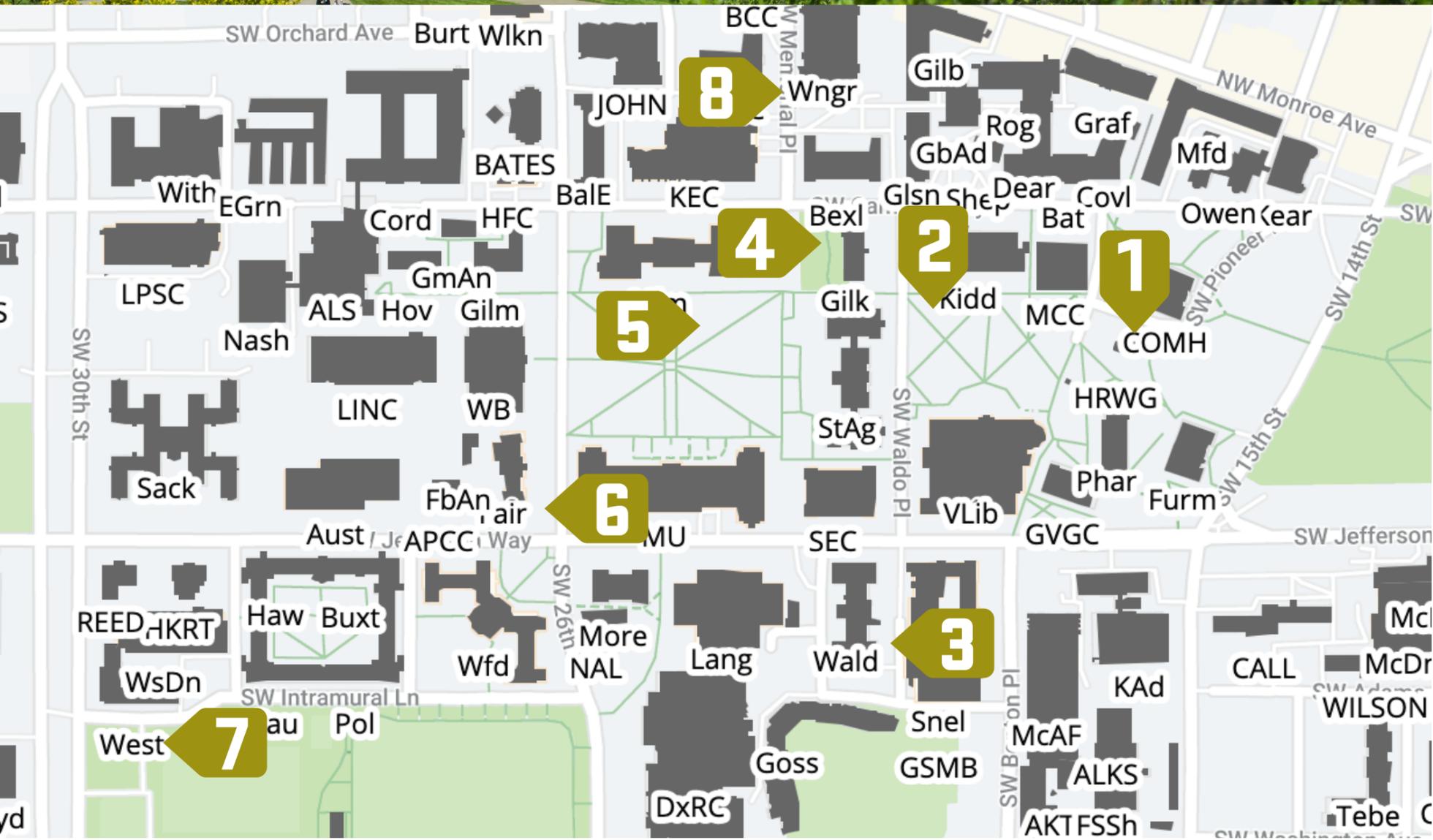


DISCOVERY WALKS

CAMPUS TREES



1 Dawn Redwood Community Hall

Metasequoia glyptostroboides

The Dawn Redwood is Oregon's state fossil, and its leaf impressions are common in the fossil beds of Central Oregon. These fossils were well-known before the tree was discovered alive in China in 1943; leading to the name "living fossil". The tree is recognized by its feather-like deciduous branchlets, small globose cones, and shredding reddish-brown bark. A large tree grows east of the entrance to Community (Benton) Hall.

2 American Elm NW Library Quad

Ulmus americana

Tall, stately American elms were once common across North America. Most native and planted trees were killed by Dutch elm disease, a fungal pathogen transmitted by elm bark beetles. Fortunately, the trees on the OSU campus survived – and their small, winged fruits attract hundreds of noisy evening grosbeaks in spring. The tree on the northwest corner of the Library Quad has a plaque commemorating its planting in April 1913, over 100 years ago.

3 European Beech Waldo Hall

Fagus sylvatica

Four trees of European Beech are found on the north side of Waldo Hall. They have a smooth, gray trunk and graceful branches. The glossy green leaves turn golden brown before dropping in the fall. The spiny husks with edible teardrop-shaped beechnuts can be found under the trees in fall and winter.

4 Bigleaf Magnolia Bexell Hall

Magnolia macrophylla

Bigleaf Magnolia is native to the southeastern United States, and has the largest leaves (up to 2.5 feet in length) of any North American species. The white flowers are produced in summer, followed by woody fruits with protruding red seeds. The leaves are deciduous, but often remain intact on the ground. The tree is found on the north side of Bexell Hall.

5 Giant Sequoia North MU Quad

Sequoiadendron giganteum

Several Giant Sequoia trees grow on campus, but the most spectacular is a group of three trees planted together on the north side of the Memorial Union quad. Their native range is limited to the western foothills of the Sierra Nevada in California, but the trees are well-adapted to western Oregon where they quickly grow to a massive size. The thick, fibrous bark, prickly evergreen needles, and egg-shaped cones are characteristic.

6 Douglas Fir Fairbanks Hall

Pseudotsuga menziesii

Douglas-fir is Oregon's state tree. The evergreen needles and cones with 3-lobed bracts (reminiscent of a tiny mouse tail and pair of hind legs) are characteristic. A large tree at the entrance to Fairbanks Hall has a scar around the trunk about 8' from the ground. This traces to the time when the building was a men's dormitory, and the tree reportedly anchored a clothesline.

7 Japanese Stewartia SE West Hall

Stewartia pseudocamellia

Persian Ironwood

Parrotia persica

Two small trees with beautiful bark and "octopus" growth form (highly branched trunks) are planted southeast of West International Hall. Japanese Stewartia has russet-colored bark that flakes off revealing patches of terra-cotta and gray. Persian Ironwood has very hard wood and scaly bark in shades of brown, green and white. The Stewartia has attractive white flowers in summer, while the Ironwood flowers in mid-winter with clusters of bright red stamens. Both species have spectacular fall foliage, as the green leaves turn yellow, orange and red.

8 Ginkgo Weniger Hall

Ginkgo biloba

The Ginkgo or Maidenhair tree has been grown for thousands of years in East Asia. The trees have a fossil record tracing back 270 million years, and they are more closely related to conifers than to flowering plants. Trees are either female or male, and the females produce smelly, fleshy seeds (not fruits). The fan-shaped leaves turn a rich yellow in the fall. Ginkgo trees are planted along College Way, including the east entrance to Weniger Hall.

Oregon State University's Corvallis campus is home to hundreds of diverse plant species. Several interesting varieties across campus are highlighted. Can you spot them all?

For more information on the trees of the OSU campus, go online to:
landscapeplants.oregonstate.edu