

MEMORIAL UNION LOOP

1. Persian Parrotia – *Parrotia persica*

This small specimen tree is reputed to have excellent fall coloring of yellow, orange and scarlet, but has yet to demonstrate it in our area. It has an attractive mottled bark of gray, green, white and brown and is praised as a nearly pest-free landscape tree.

2. Capital Pear – *Pyrus calleryana* ‘Capital’

This selection produces white flowers in spring, but unlike the Bradford Pear, its growth is columnar and it lacks the spectacular reddish-purple fall color. It is recommended that we no longer plant Callery pear tree cultivars because they are hybridizing with each other and producing a wild population of hybrid pear trees that are invading our woodlands.

3. White Oak – *Quercus alba*

One of our native woodland giants, this slow-growing, long-lived tree is typically broad-branched and eventually spreads to 100 feet in diameter. White oak and hickory made up the climax forest found by our ancestors in this area.

4. Ohio Buckeye – *Aesculus glabra*

Ohio Buckeye is one of the first trees to leaf out in the spring and one of the first to drop its leaves in the fall. The spiny fruit holds the glossy brown nut cherished by children. Native Americans named this tree because the seeds resembled the eye of a buck (male) deer. This tree is best for natural areas.

5. European Horsechestnut – *Aesculus hippocastanum*

This is a 50’ to 75’-tall tree best planted in areas with a large landscape such as parks and college campuses. The flowers, up to 12”-long, are very showy in the spring but fall color is a dull yellow at best. European Horsechestnut is native to Bulgaria, Greece and Albania.

6. Red Horsechestnut – *Aesculus x carnea*

This 30- to 40-foot-tall hybrid of Horsechestnut and Red Buckeye is one of England’s most popular ornamental trees. It has eight-inch clusters of red and rose-colored flowers that appear in May and its seeds produce true-to-type plants, which is unusual.

7. Red Buckeye – *Aesculus pavia*

This short, understory tree with dark, lustrous-green leaves is a popular ornamental. In May, it displays beautiful clusters of red flowers. Its large, brown seeds are poisonous, which is typical of the various *Aesculus* species.

8. Red Oak – *Quercus rubra*

This Missouri native shade tree can grow 50 to 70 feet tall. The foliage turns red and purple in the fall and is tolerant of dry to medium moist soil.

9. Rubber Tree – *Eucommia ulmoides*

This tree produces latex, which was once used to manufacture rubber. When tropical sources of latex were disrupted during World War II, the government planted orchards of these trees in Missouri to ensure a domestic supply. Synthetic materials were developed, however, and the industry was abandoned.

10. Kentucky Coffeetree – *Gymnocladus dioica*

This large tree has huge compound leaves with small leaflets that, during the summer, give the tree a lacy appearance. In winter, without its leaves, the tree's thick twigs produce a coarse silhouette. Its seeds are sometimes used as a coffee substitute; it is believed roasting them neutralizes toxins they contain.

11. Bur Oak – *Quercus macrocarpa*

This tree has a slow growth rate, typically less than one foot per year during its 30-year juvenile stage. In 300 years, it may reach 80 feet in height. Bur oak wood is hard, heavy and useful for furniture, flooring and boat docks.

12. Overcup Oak – *Quercus lyrata*

This medium-sized tree is closely related to bur oak. It gets its common name from the acorn cap which almost completely encloses the acorn. It transplants easily, grows fast and tolerates poor soil conditions, especially wet areas.

13. Japanese Tree Lilac – *Syringa reticulata*

This small tree can reach a height of 35 feet with a spread of 20 feet. It has white flower clusters in mid-June that are 12 inches long and 10 inches wide.

14. Green Giant Arborvitae – *Thuja plicata* 'Green Giant'

Western Arborvitae is a very tall and narrow evergreen with fan-shaped sprays of leaves. It is a fast-growing columnar tree and makes a formal statement in the garden.

15. Allée Elm – *Ulmus parvifolia* 'Allée'

Chinese Elm is a fine-textured tree with bark that exfoliates in a puzzle-like pattern revealing shades of green, orange, and gray. It is a large, fast-growing, wide spreading tree and is considered good for urban environments because it is tolerant of a wide range of soil conditions. This cultivar has an irregularly fluted trunk.

16. Hackberry – *Celtis occidentalis*

This large tree is a good choice where growing conditions are harsh. It produces small purple berries that are a valuable food for game birds, squirrels and raccoons.

17. Basswood – *Tilia americana*

Basswood is a fast-growing, large tree that grows readily in most soil types and is native to the northeastern quadrant of the United States. Also known as American Linden, it is an important timber species used for many products including musical instruments. Native Americans made rope and thread from its inner bark.

18. Yellowwood – *Cladrastis kentukea*

Yellowwood has white flowers in June, a soft-green leaf color, and sculptured branching that forms a vase shape. Its wood is valued for gunstocks and cabinetry.

19. Persimmon – *Diospyros virginiana*

Found frequently along roadsides and fence lines, this native tree produces large, fleshy fruit that is edible after a fall frost sweetens its otherwise bitter pulp. Persimmons are difficult to transplant and seldom survive outside their natural habitat.

20. Jefferson American Elm – *Ulmus americana* 'Jefferson'

This is a clone from a tree that grows along the National Mall in Washington D.C. Planted in the 1930s, it remains unscathed by Dutch elm disease.

21. Scholar Tree – *Sophora japonica*

This is a good tree for city conditions as it tolerates poor soils and air pollution. The creamy-white flowers appear in mid-summer and are followed by small yellow seed pods that add fall interest.

22. Espresso Kentucky Coffeetree – *Gymnocladus dioicus* 'Espresso'

The seeds of this tree were used by Kentucky settlers to make a coffee substitute. Although, its large seed pods may be considered a nuisance, it is a valuable shade tree as it tolerates drought, high pH soils and tough city conditions. It has a very coarse silhouette when young but develops into a graceful tree that can grow 60' tall and 40' wide. The cultivar Espresso is a fruitless variety.

23. Pin Oak – *Quercus palustris*

A very popular landscape tree that is easily transplanted and fast growing. Its pyramidal shape and drooping lower branches give it a distinctive form. Planting in alkaline soils can cause iron chlorosis, a significant problem in this area. This tree may be the largest tree on campus.

24. Seven-son Flower – *Heptacodium micinioides*

This small, multi-stem tree from China develops exfoliating bark that reveals a lighter inner bark. The fragrant, creamy-white flowers are an exercise in patience as they begin to develop in early summer but do not bloom until August. Seven-son Flower's attractive bark, long-developing flower and pleasant fragrance make for a unique addition to the garden.

25. Pond Cypress – *Taxodium distichum* var. *imbricarium*

Pond Cypress has a stately form and can reach 80' tall and 20' wide. It is best suited to parks and large greenspaces. As its name suggests, it grows well next to ponds but also performs well in upland situations. It is related to our native Bald Cypress (*Taxodium distichum*) and is found on the coastal plain from Virginia to Florida to Louisiana. It develops an attractive orangish-brown color in fall.

26. Trident Maple – *Acer buergeranum*

Trident maple is a medium-sized tree whose bark peels away in patches creating gray, brown and orange mottling. Its glossy, three-lobed leaves turn yellow, orange and red in the fall. Even though it is a handsome patio or lawn tree, its abundant seedlings can be a nuisance. It is native to Japan.

27. Autumn Flame Red Maple– *Acer rubrum* 'Autumn Flame'

Autumn Flame Maple is a male selection, without seed, that has compact foliage and excellent scarlet fall color.

28. Purpleleaf Beech – *Fagus sylvatica* 'Purpurea'

European Beech is a large, slow-growing shade or specimen tree. This particular tree is over 15 years old but its small size is attributed more to the numerous construction projects that disrupt it rather than its inherent growth rate. The leaves of this cultivar are very dark purple in the spring and get lighter as they age. Its fruit is a true nut.

29. China Snow Pekin Lilac – *Syringa pekinensis* 'China Snow'

This tree is closely related to Summer Charm Lilac on the Lowry Mall Loop. While Summer Charm Lilac reportedly has more attractive summer foliage, China Snow Lilac is thought to have more attractive bark. Both cultivars have bark that exfoliates in copper-colored curls. This tree grows 15' to 20' tall and is native to northern China.

30. Butterflies Magnolia – *Magnolia* 'Butterflies'

This yellow-flowered form is the result of a cross between *Magnolia acuminata* and *M. denudata* 'Sawada's Cream'. It grows to 20 feet tall and has a deeper yellow than many of the other yellow-flowered magnolias. When in bloom, it is a true show-stopper.

31. Hedge Maple – *Acer campestre*

A slow-growing maple valued for its small size, resistance to pests and ability to grow in dry, alkaline soils. It is a good choice for the home lawn or where utility lines limit overhead growing space. It is frequently used as a hedge in Europe.

32. American Holly – *Ilex opaca*

A slow-growing, pyramidal evergreen that can reach 50 feet in height. Its glossy, green leaves and red berries make it a standout on the winter landscape. As only female trees produce berries, a male tree must be planted nearby to ensure pollination.

33. Flowering Dogwood – *Cornus florida*

As Missouri's State Tree, this small ornamental has year-round appeal with its large white bracts (often mistaken for flowers), red fruit, reddish-purple fall color and distinct horizontal branching, which is particularly evident in winter.

34. Winter King Hawthorn – *Crataegus viridis* 'Winter King'

A small ornamental tree that has creamy-white flowers in May and small, glossy-red fruit that persists into the winter. The trunk also exfoliates, uncovering an orange inner bark.

35. Giant Dogwood – *Cornus controversa*

The most notable features of this tree are its size and form. Giant Dogwood can reach 45 feet tall and its branching structure is very horizontal which makes for a strong architectural statement. The white flowers are one-half inch wide and the fruits are blue-black.