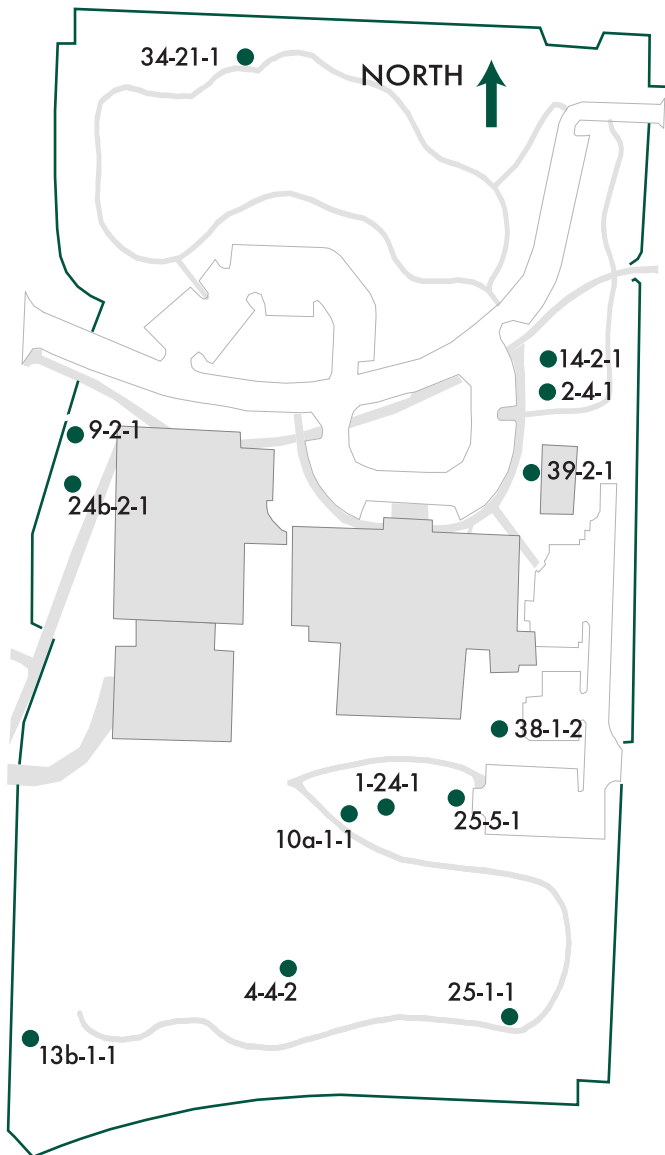
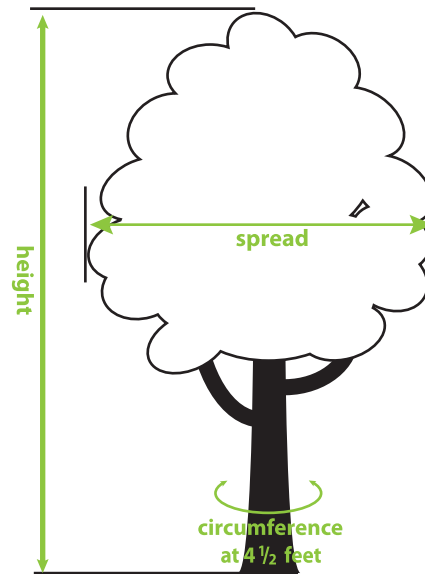


# Champion Trees of Greater Kansas City at Linda Hall Library



Champion Tree status is determined using a mathematical formula based on tree height, spread, and trunk circumference. Trunk circumference is measured in inches four and one-half feet above ground. Tree height and spread are measured in feet. One point is given for each inch of trunk circumference and each foot of height. One quarter point is given for each foot of spread. The three measurements are added together to determine a tree's point total. The designation of Champion Tree is assigned to the tree of a given genus and species with the largest point total.

**Example:**  
The formula for the champion Chinese Tree Lilac on the Library grounds is:  $49+30+(40 \times .25)=89$ . This point total is compared to the total for other Chinese Tree Lilacs growing in the metropolitan area to determine champion status.



Linda Hall Library

SCIENCE, ENGINEERING & TECHNOLOGY - INFORMATION FOR THE WORLD

5109 Cherry Street

Kansas City, Missouri 64110

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## The Arboretum

When Herbert and Linda Hall bequeathed their estate for the purpose of establishing a public library, it was their wish that the grounds on which their former home stood be appropriately preserved and maintained so "that the surrounding trees and grass shall add beauty and dignity" to the Library. Accordingly, the Linda Hall Library's grounds have been managed for more than 65 years as an urban arboretum, a garden of trees within the city. Complementing the Library's educational mission, tree acquisition has emphasized obtaining unusual and underutilized trees that are adapted to the local environment. Careful selection and meticulous cultivation of plantings through the years have yielded an urban green space that is recognized as one of the Library's most distinctive features.

In 1972, local arborist Chuck Brasher began to survey the Kansas City metropolitan area in an effort to locate and document the largest trees in a given genus and species. Currently this list contains over two hundred trees that have been measured and identified as Greater Kansas City Champion Trees. Thirteen of those trees are found on the grounds of the Linda Hall Library.

## Champion Tree List

*Aesculus hippocastanum* 'Baumannii' Double Flowered Horsechestnut ID# 2-4-1

Plant Date: Pre-1956 • Origin: Unknown  
Year Measured: 2008 • Size: Cir. 91" Ht. 54' Spr. 40'  
Native: Northern Greece, Albania, Bulgaria.  
Introduced: 1819  
Notes: Long lasting, double, white flowers. Sterile.

*Fagus sylvatica* 'Riversii' Rivers Purple Beech ID# 14-2-1

Plant date: 1971 • Origin: Rosehill Nursery  
Year Measured: 2008 • Size: Cir. 85" Ht. 43' Spr. 42'  
Native: Central Europe to the Caucasus Mountains  
Notes: Deep black-brown glossy spring leaves.

*Magnolia denudata* Yulan Magnolia ID# 25-1-1  
Plant date: 1968 • Origin: Rosehill Nursery  
Year Measured: 2008 • Size: Cir. 22" Ht. 19' Spr. 16'  
Native: East and south China  
Notes: In cultivation since 600CE.

*Magnolia salicifolia* Anise Magnolia ID# 25-5-1  
Plant date: 1966 • Origin: Scanlon Nursery  
Year Measured: 2008 • Size: Cir. 62" Ht. 32' Spr. 29'  
Native: Japan  
Notes: Bruised or broken stems smell lemony.

*Quercus shumardii* Shumard Oak ID# 34-21-1  
Plant date: 1968 • Origin: Rosehill Nursery  
Year Measured: 2008 • Size: Cir. 83" Ht. 61' Spr. 45'  
Native: Central United States  
Notes: Native to the Kansas City area.

*Eucommia ulmoides* Hardy Rubber Tree ID# 13b-1-1  
Plant date: 1975 • Origin: Raytown Nursery  
Year Measured: 2008 • Size: Cir. 29" Ht. 26' Spr. 33'  
Native: Central China  
Notes: Leaves and bark contain latex, used in traditional Chinese medicine.

*Cladrastis platycarpa* Japanese Yellowwood ID# 9-2-1  
Plant date: 1975 • Origin: Seedling donated by Don Hollingsworth  
Year Measured: 2008 • Size: Cir. 27" Ht. 25' Spr. 20'  
Native: Japan  
Notes: May not bloom every year.

*Maackia amurensis* Amur Maackia ID# 24b-2-1  
Plant date: 1995 • Origin: Musser Forests  
Year Measured: 2011 • Size: Cir. 44" Ht. 31' Spr. 40'  
Native: Manchuria, China  
Notes: July flowers smell like alfalfa or new mown grass.

*Sorbus alnifolia* Korean Mountainash ID# 38-1-2  
Plant date: 1990 • Origin: Wayside Gardens  
Year Measured: 2008 • Size: Cir. 16" Ht. 24' Spr. 21'  
Native: Korea, Japan, Central China  
Notes: Holds red berries into winter, good food source for birds.

*Corylus colurna* Turkish Hazel ID# 10a-1-1  
Plant date: 1990 • Origin: Arbor Village Nursery  
Year Measured: 2010 • Size: Cir. 50" Ht. 35' Spr. 33'  
Native: South East Europe, Asia Minor  
Notes: Very drought tolerant once established.

*Carpinus laxiflora* Loose-flower Hornbeam ID# 4-4-2  
Plant date: 2000 • Origin: Arbor Village Nursery  
Year Measured: 2011 • Size: Cir. 17" Ht. 24' Spr. 25'  
Native: Japan  
Notes: Considered rare in cultivation.

*Syringa pekinensis* Chinese Tree Lilac ID# 39-2-1  
Plant date: 1991 • Origin: Arbor Village Nursery  
Year Measured: 2009 • Size: Cir. 49" Ht. 30' Spr. 40'  
Native: Northern China  
Notes: Exfoliating bark provides winter interest.

*Acer miyabei* Miyabei Maple ID# 1-24-1  
Plant date: 1994 • Origin: Arbor Village Nursery  
Year Measured: 2009 • Size: Cir. 59" Ht. 33' Spr. 40'  
Native: Japan  
Notes: Endangered species in Japan.

### On the cover:

*Aesculus hippocastanum* 'Baumannii' Double Flowered Horsechestnut ID# 2-4-1 in flower.

### Below:

*Magnolia salicifolia* Anise Magnolia ID# 25-5-1 beginning to bloom.

