

OUTSTANDING  
**TREES**  
OF SANDPOINT, IDAHO





First Place Winner of the First Annual Tree Photography Contest  
PAT DAVIDSON, *Sandpoint*

## INTRODUCTION

Two former outstanding trees are portrayed on the front and back of this booklet cover. They are no longer with us. Both the **black cottonwood** (*Populus trichocarpa*) on the front cover and the **golden weeping willow** (*Salix alba var. tristis*) on the back cover were cut down to make room for the Sand Creek Bypass and for new commercial developments, respectively.

Those two trees were outstanding because they served people for decades. At least two generations of children – and some brave adults – swung out and over and into Sand Creek from a rope swing on the cottonwood. The willow used to serve mothers who would bring their kids to play under the tree's nurturing canopy. Before that, the tree served as a sentinel to the homes of Humbird Lumber Mill workers at the crossroads of Larch and Boyer.

Although those trees are gone, we have the opportunity to appreciate many other outstanding trees in the Sandpoint area. And, we should do so before they pass. The sole intent of this booklet of outstanding trees is to encourage people to pay attention to the arboreal beauty around them and to feel gratitude. We don't intend the booklet to be an identification guide, but we hope the accompanying text helps you appreciate each tree and encourages you to visit them.

The 2009 Sandpoint Tree Committee worked many months on this project. So many good candidates for outstanding trees exist in the Sandpoint area that it made it difficult to select the most qualified trees. We based decisions on one or more of these criteria:

- Does the tree have a remarkable or striking aesthetic presence?
- Is it unique?
- Is it a tree that has reached its potential without being significantly compromised by humans or the elements?
- Is the tree representative of a popular or useful species in our area?
- Is the tree easy to see from a public right-of-way? (Many outstanding trees grow in backyards and cannot be easily seen from the road.)
- Does it have an interesting history?

*Continued on last page*



# 1. Bartlett Pear

*Pyrus communis*



City Beach in front of Edgewater Resort

Cultivated for nearly 4,000 years, pears have been known to man since ancient times. They originated in Asia and spread throughout Europe during the Roman Empire. Cultivated as a soft fruit in the 17th and 18th centuries in Europe, the **Bartlett** originated in Berkshire, England, as the “Williams” pear. It then was transplanted to the United States and “rebranded” by Enoch Bartlett in 1812 in Massachusetts. The **Bartlett** traveled west with the covered wagons looking for gold in California.

**Bartlett pear** trees are often in production for an average of 50 to 75 years, although some trees still produce fruit after 100 years.

We believe this particular pear is at least 80 years old and may have been planted by an early householder living near the water. It is much larger and taller (at least 40 feet) than normal, indicating it has enjoyed where it has put roots down. It is still producing sweet fruit.



# 2. American Elm

*Ulmus americana*



City Beach in front of Edgewater Resort

Many **American elms** grow throughout Sandpoint, including this statuesque beauty at Sandpoint City Beach. The elm grows to a relatively large size, up to 80 feet tall and 50 feet wide. Its spreading shape with arching crown has made it a favorite shade or landscape tree, especially in the Northeast and Midwest where it once was the predominant tree lining many city streets. It was also a common native forest tree over much of the eastern United States. With the introduction of Dutch Elm disease, the **American elm** has been devastated throughout much of the United States. Fortunately, the fungus and its insect carriers have not yet reached Sandpoint.

Two other beautiful elms are in the 300 block of South Boyer on private property.



### 3. Flowering Dogwood

*Cornus florida*



308 South Second Avenue

**N**ative to North America, this small deciduous tree grows to 33 feet in height and has a broad, rounded crown. **Flowering dogwood** is highly valued as an ornamental and was first cultivated in 1731. At least 20 cultivars are now available. Showy blossoms and attractive fall foliage (see circular insert) contribute to its year-round beauty. The eye-catching form and upturned branches make this tree attractive in the winter landscape. **Dogwood** grows naturally at the edge of woods or in the shade of many deciduous or evergreen trees. They bloom most profusely in full sun, shaded only during the hottest part of the day.

Wood of **flowering dogwood** is hard, strong, heavy and fine-grained. It has been used to make a variety of specialty items such as golf club heads, turnery, roller-skate wheels, jeweler's blocks, knitting needles and woodcut blocks.

Former Ponderay Postmaster Louise Thompson retired to this house in the 1970s and planted the dogwood.



### 4. Butternut\*

*Juglans cinerea*



510 South First Avenue

**T**he **butternut** tree is part of the walnut family. **Butternuts** are best known for their sweet nuts, a treat for man and animal. Their leaves are compound and fuzzy on the underside.

**Butternuts** can grow to 60 feet tall and have a deep, wide-spreading root system. They are considered short-lived for a large tree, reaching only 75 years old. The tree at this site was already large when the owners purchased their home in 1955, but it appears to be in very good health.

**Butternuts** grow best in deep, moist, well-drained soils of fine to medium texture. They do not tolerate shady sites, though this tree is doing well in a dense canopy of trees. **Butternuts** are native in the Northeast and Midwestern areas of the United States. This specimen was nominated by the late Dorothy Farmin.



## 5. English Hawthorn

*Crataegus laevigata*



329 South Euclid Avenue

The name hawthorn comes from “haw,” the archaic word for berry, and the large thorns this plant bears. This **English hawthorn** is the cultivar “Paul’s Scarlet,” as are many hawthorns in Sandpoint. Flowers are double, red with a tinge of rose and the showiest of all the hawthorns. The tree is low branching and round-topped with a dense crown of thorny branches. It grows to about 15 to 20 feet tall with a spread of 12 to 18 feet, making it suitable for small spaces or under utility lines. Although a beautiful little tree, it is lacking in fall foliage color.

**English hawthorns** are native throughout Europe. They appreciate full sun and are tolerant of most soil conditions. They need spring pruning to control sucker growth. Birds are attracted to the berries and like to shelter in the dense canopy.



## 6. Japanese Maple\*

*Acer palmatum*



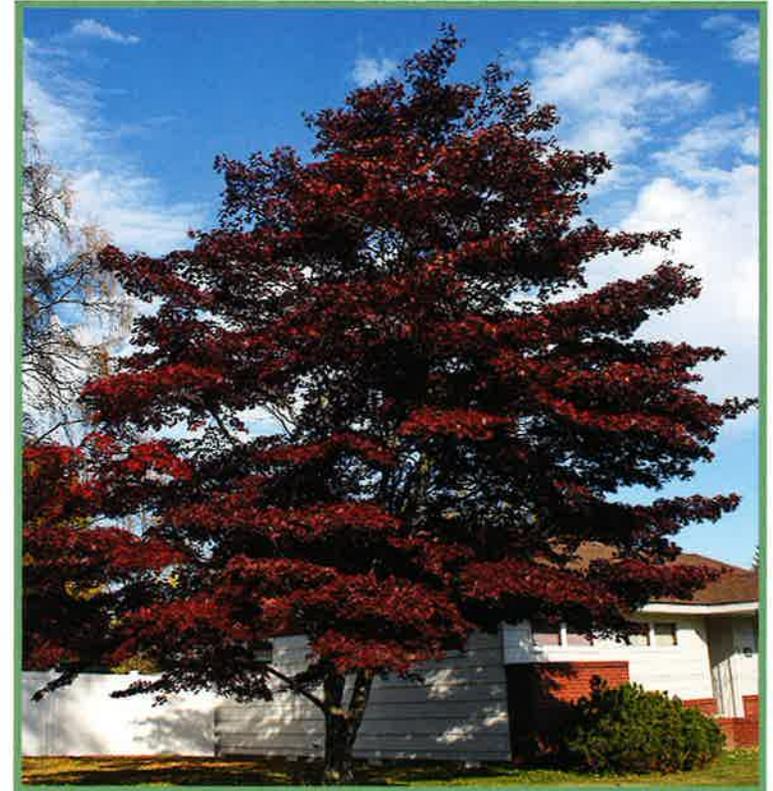
422 Michigan Street

Cultivated by the Japanese for centuries, this tree is valued for its finely lobed, purple leaves that provide light shade in the summer and brilliant orange to scarlet color in the fall. **Japanese maples** prefer moist, loose soil and grow best with northern or eastern filtered sun exposure. Young trees should be wrapped if exposed to winter sun.

The **Japanese maple** is hardy to USDA zone 5, meaning that it must be ideally protected from winter winds. They don’t often grow taller than 15 feet, which makes this particular tree so special. It’s taller and wider than most we see in Sandpoint.

When the owners of this tree built their home here in 1959, there were two **Japanese maples** on the front lawn. The husband died in 1970, and both trees died as well that year.

His family decided to replace the trees with the same species and did so that year. There were no tree nurseries in Sandpoint at that time, so his widow had to haul it home in the back seat of her car.



## 7. Purple Leaf Plum

*Prunus cerasifera*



410 South Euclid Avenue

The **purple leaf plum** is a small, deciduous tree commonly planted for its deep reddish-purple leaves and showy white or pink spring bloom. The foliage retains its color through the fall until leaves drop. It was introduced to France from Persia in the 1880s by M. Pissard as the cultivar "Atropurpurea." There are several cultivars available now, all derived from this original, purple-leaved form. Although widely planted here in Sandpoint, **purple leaf plums** are not always hardy in extreme cold. The fruit are edible, though small, and are eaten by birds. Their small size (15 to 28 feet high) makes them a good choice under power lines. The tree prefers full sun to light shade and well-drained, moist soils.



## 8. Grand Fir

*Abies grandis*



431 South Euclid Avenue

Also known commonly as white fir, silver fir or stinking fir, the **grand fir** is a common tree to the Pacific Northwest and was also important to the American Indians. They used its aromatic properties to create incense and its needles to make medicinal tea for colds. The soft wood of the **grand fir** is used today for pulp, in plywood, and for various kinds of rough construction. Given its thick foliage, symmetry, fragrance and deep green color, the **grand fir** is a preferred Christmas tree. In fact, the Panhandle area produces the most **grand fir** Christmas trees in all of Idaho.

This magnificent **grand fir** was probably a sapling when the loggers of the late 19th century finished their work. By 1910, when the current residence was constructed, it was a young tree. Since then, it has grown to 4 feet in diameter and more than 100 feet tall, a representative remnant of the native forest that once flourished here.



## 9. European Mountain Ash

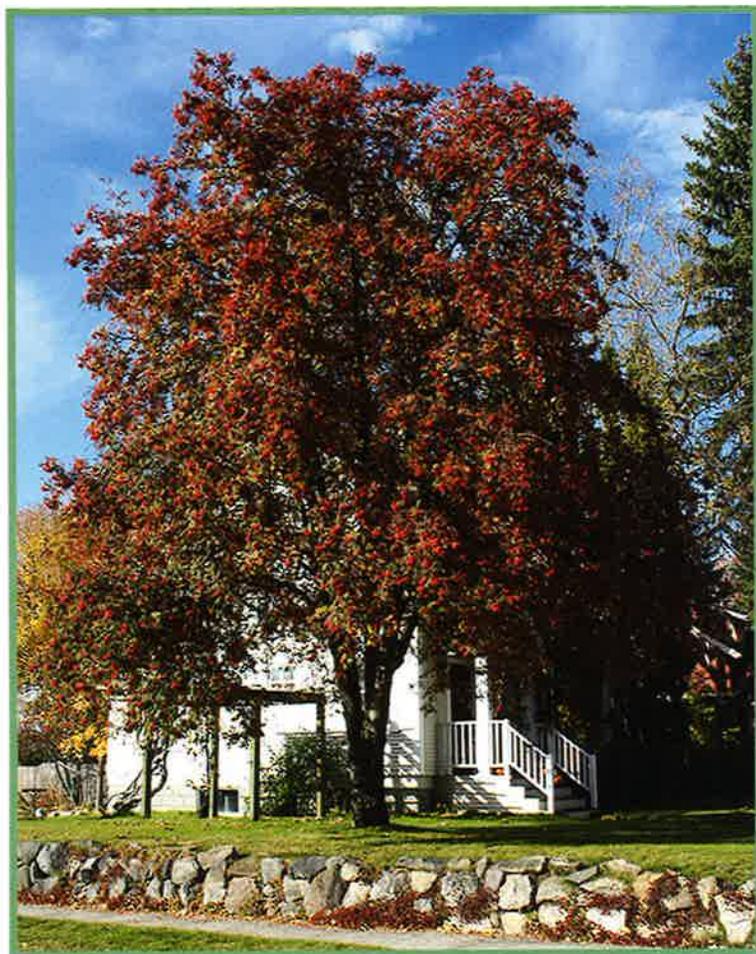
*Sorbus aucuparia*



436 South Euclid Avenue

The **European mountain ash** is a favorite of many people in Sandpoint and of migratory birds. The tree bears great clusters of small white flowers in spring. Glossy fern-like foliage turns impressive shades of red and orange in the fall. Clusters of bright orange-red fruit remain on the tree throughout the winter, particularly attractive when capped with snow. Migratory birds such as robins, waxwings and grosbeaks find the fruit delightful, demonstrating their enjoyment in

occasional feeding frenzies. These medium-size trees are adaptable to many soil types but prefer acidic soil, full sun and cool climates. Unfortunately, they are susceptible to fire blight and sapsuckers, but this tree obviously has done quite well.



## 10. Sugar Maple\*

*Acer saccharum*



602 South Ella Avenue

**N**ative to the hardwood forests of northeastern North America, the **sugar maple** is sometimes called hard maple or rock maple and is one of the largest and more important of the hardwoods. Fall color is spectacular, ranging from bright yellow to orange to fluorescent red-orange. **Sugar maple** is often confused with the Norway maple, though they are not closely related within the genus. **Sugar maple** is most easily identified by clear sap in the leaf petiole, brown sharp-tipped buds and shaggy bark on older trees. It is best known for the sweet syrup and sugar distilled from its sap. The trees are "tapped" in the late winter as the sap begins to rise. It takes between 30 and 40 gallons of sap to yield one gallon of maple syrup.



## 11. Tulip Tree\*

*Liriodendron tulipifera*



1104 Birch Street

Also known as tulip poplar or yellow poplar, this tree is unrelated to poplars but, in fact, is in the magnolia family. **Tulip tree** is native to eastern North America. It is easily recognized by its distinctive, four-lobed leaves. It bears large, tulip-shaped, fragrant flowers in spring which are greenish yellow with orange markings inside. The tallest of the eastern North American deciduous trees, with some more than 150 feet, it has been widely planted as an ornamental tree throughout North America and in Europe. The **tulip tree** makes a large specimen

tree for parks and large properties. Although often planted as a street tree, it is not really a good choice for this purpose, having little resistance to pollution and soil compaction. This tree was planted by the original homeowner and former mayor, Marion Ebbett, in 1956.

There is another great specimen at 405 Church Street.



## 12. Honey Locust\*

*Gleditsia triacanthos*

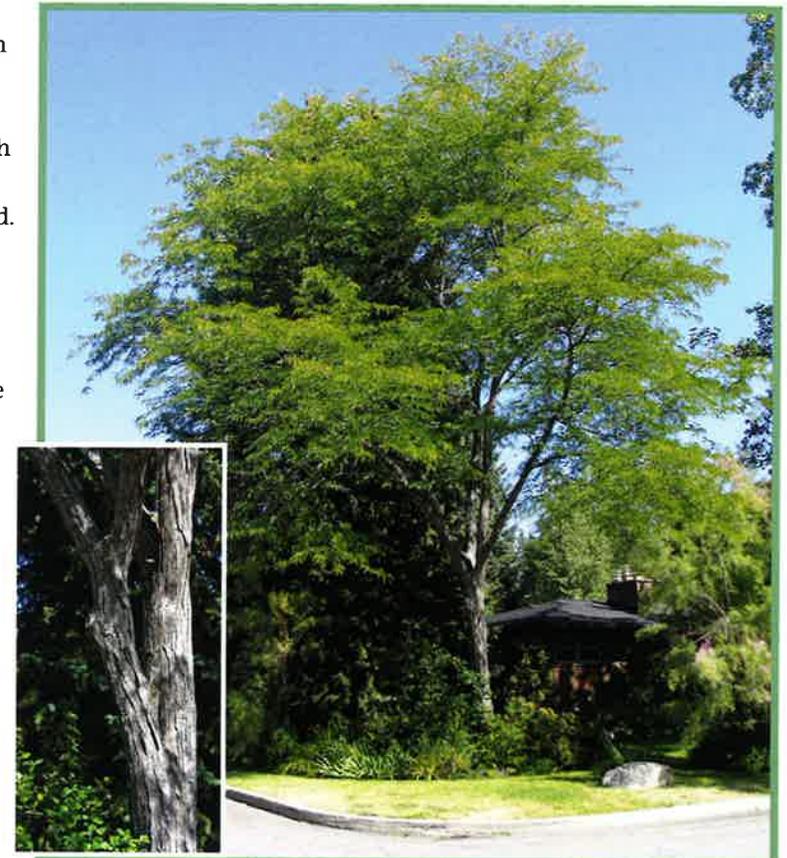


1104 Birch Street

The **honey locust** is fairly unique in producing a light shade that allows a lawn to grow beneath. The leaves are doubly compound and divided into many small leaflets which, when shed in fall, require a minimum of raking. Mature trees produce large, brown pods that some people find objectionable. The **honey locust** derives its name from these pods, which contain a sweet, gummy substance.

**Honey locust** is native to the central United States and is a widely planted street tree because of its spreading canopy and tolerance of poor soils, heat and drought.

Size varies widely but is usually in the range of 30 to 70 feet tall with a comparable spread. Growth is rapid, as a young tree will grow 2 feet or more per year over a 10-year period. This tree was also planted by Marion Ebbett, the original homeowner, in 1956.



## 13. Western Larch

*Larix occidentalis*



Lakeview Cemetery, south end of Division

Also known as tamarack, **western larch** is native to western North America. These long-lived trees (500 years is not unusual) were catalogued by the Lewis and Clark expedition. It is a large, deciduous conifer with a narrow conical crown bearing light green needles that turn a brilliant gold in the fall. This tree grows best in full sun and in its native habitats may be found in pure stands. It is prized as strong lumber as well as for firewood. American Indians used burls from older trees to make pots, and the gummy resin produced under the bark was used to heal cuts and bruises, chewed to ease sore throats, and even brewed into tea to relieve coughs and colds.

These larches live at the Lakeview Cemetery located at the south end of Division off Highway 2, next to Lake Pend Oreille. Formed in 1903, the cemetery holds the burial plots of the people who helped create Sandpoint. There are many other outstanding trees to see at Lakeview Cemetery.



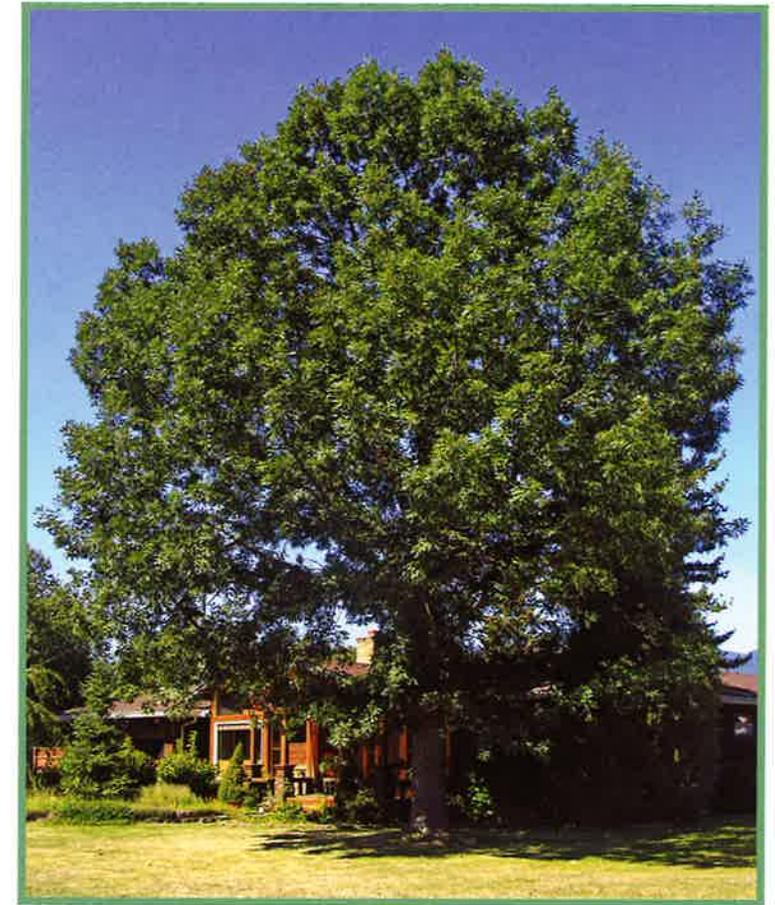
## 14. White Oak

*Quercus alba*



1108 Elm Street

Although called **white oak**, it is unusual to find an individual **white oak** with white bark; the usual color is an ashen gray. **White oak** is a long-lived species native to eastern North America. Though not a very tall tree (typically reaching heights of 65 to 85 feet), it nonetheless becomes quite massive with lower branches reaching far out and parallel to the ground. The leaves have rounded lobes, which distinguishes it from other oaks such as red, scarlet and pin oaks. Leaves emerge a delicate silvery pink in spring, become deep glossy green in summer and turn an unusual wine-red in autumn. The **white oak** makes an outstanding shade tree with its wide spread and it almost never drops limbs. Its wood is the most valuable of all the oaks, prized for its density, strength and resiliency.



## 15. Native Plant Arboretum



South side of Lakeview Park

The Native Plant Arboretum, an ongoing educational project of the Kinnikinnick Native Plant Society, was founded in 1999. One of the reasons that the founders chose this spot was the presence of so many mature native trees, now more than 100 years old. The site features seven different areas of native plants – from subalpine to meadow to dry forest habitats. Also noteworthy are the trees surrounding the arboretum at Lakeview Park. There are about 61 **river** or **western paper birches** (diameters up to 26 inches), 55 **western red cedars**, 25 **Douglas firs** (diameters up to 28 inches), four **grand firs**, six **subalpine firs** and about 50 **ponderosa pines** with trunk diameters up to 36 inches.



## 16. Western Red Cedar

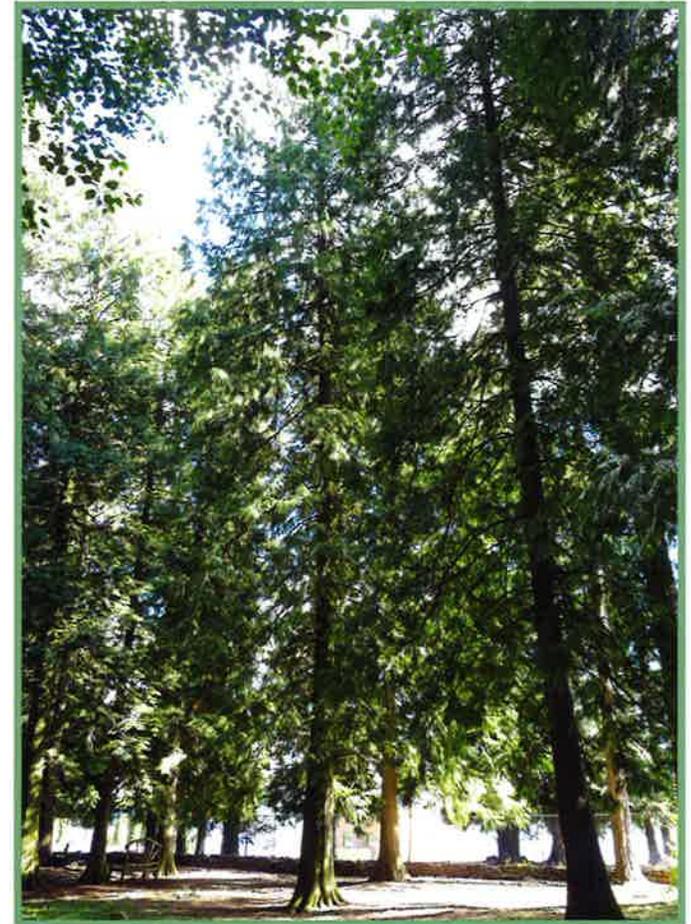
*Thuja plicata*



Native Plant Arboretum at Lakeview Park

**W**estern red cedar is an evergreen native to the coastal and Inland Northwest which occurs both naturally and as a planted tree in Sandpoint. Mature trees can exceed 500 years old and grow to heights of more than 150 feet with a crown spread greater than 50 feet. With trunks growing well over 10 feet across, it is easily the most massive tree found in northern Idaho. They have beautiful, lacy, dark green foliage with many little cones. The tree can tolerate a relatively wide range of soil conditions, though it prefers somewhat moist and heavier soils. The soft, brown wood is valued for its resistance to decay and is used as fence posts, decks, shingles, and siding.

Although cedars abound in the forests around Sandpoint and some big specimens may be found in back yards, the best place to see the **western red cedar** is in our arboretum at Lakeview Park. This location contains 58 **western red cedars**, more than half of which have trunks with diameters larger than 2 feet.



## 17. Golden Weeping Willow

*Salix x sepulcralis 'Chrysocoma'*



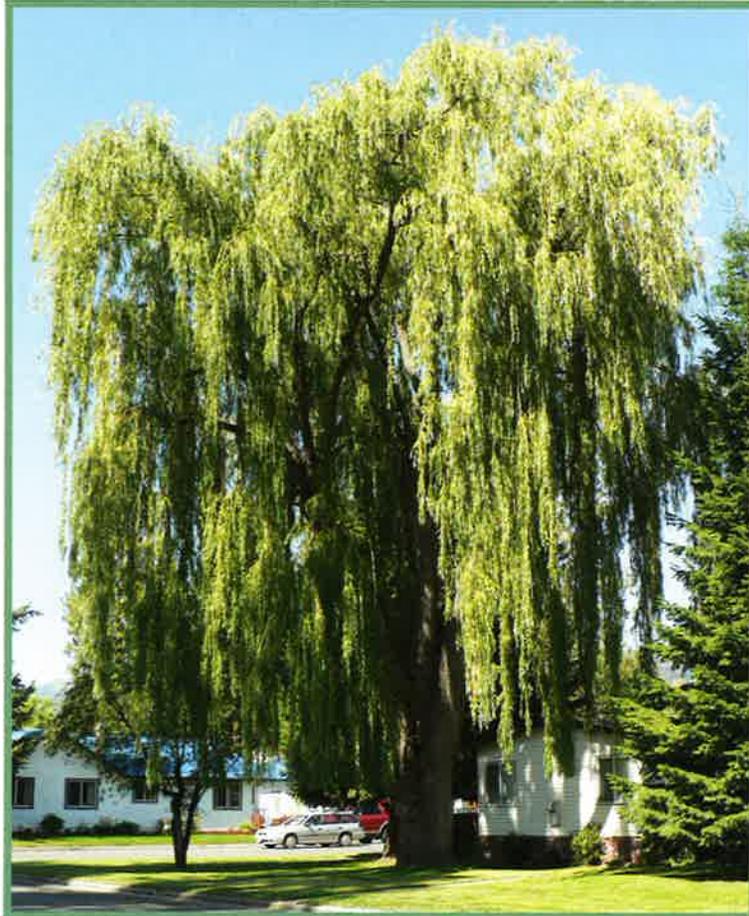
1020 Pine Street

The willow at this address is a fabulous example of what this tree can become if it is well-cared for. The owners spend hours in trimming and caring for this tree. Willows are a popular tree in Sandpoint.

**Golden weeping willows** can reach heights of 50 to 70 feet and develop a massive trunk. The light-green leaves are born on long, pendulous, yellow stems.

The tree grows quickly into a lovely, weeping form. It requires damp soil and can tolerate wet conditions. Unfortunately, branches tend to be brittle and are easily broken in wind or snow-storms.

Good for a large lawn, the tree's roots can reach far in search of water and may begin to grow at or near ground surface; therefore, it is prohibited as a street tree. This willow is a hybrid of white willow and Peking willow.



## 18. Ponderosa Pine\*

*Pinus ponderosa*

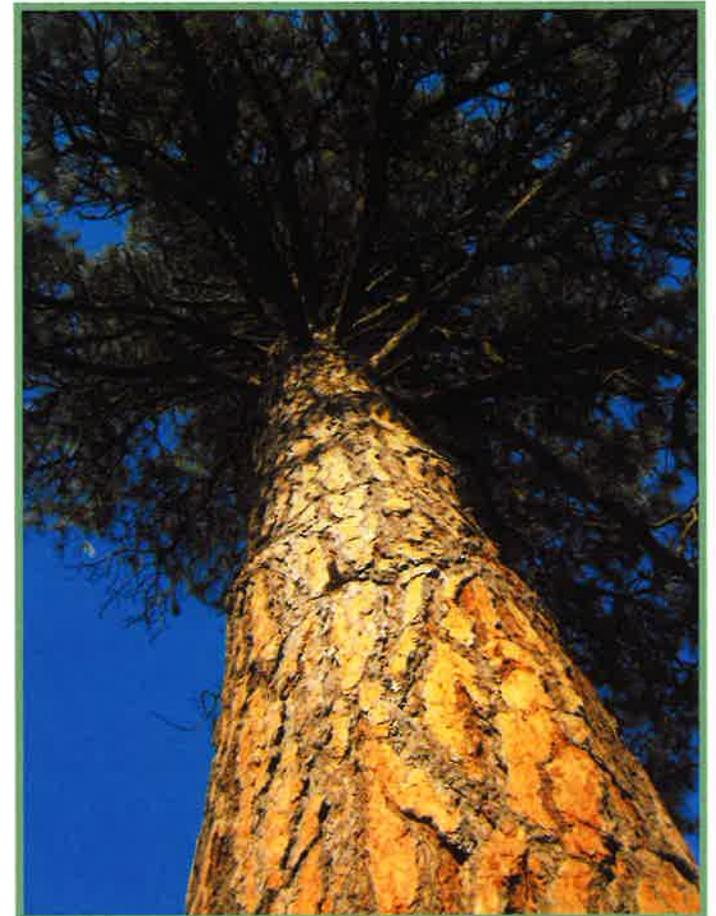


723 Church Street, on Forest Avenue

Sometimes called bull pine or western yellow pine, **ponderosa pine** is a widespread pine native to western North America. It was first described by David Douglas in 1826, from a site in eastern Washington near present-day Spokane.

The bark of the **ponderosa pine** is dark when young, but older trees develop yellow to orange plates with black lining the crevasses, where the bark "splits." This is noticeable amongst the older **ponderosa pines** that live along the west coast of Canada. On a warm day, the bark has a smell similar to vanilla.

Sandpoint is home to hundreds of **ponderosa pines**, many of which could have been included in this booklet. We picked this particular **ponderosa pine** because it was one of many plat markers used for the "West End Addition" created by Isaac Boyer (of Boyer Avenue "fame") in December 1906. The proud owners of this tree have lived on the property for 43 years, grooming this pine for survival.



## 19. London Plane Tree

*Platanus x acerifolia*



401 Church Street

The patchy olive-green bark on this sycamore is perhaps their most striking feature, but other attributes make these trees unique as well. Leaves on sycamores, also known as plane trees, resemble those of maple but do not turn color in fall. The ball-shaped seed balls dangle from branches into the winter. A tall, wide, fast-growing tree, the **London plane** is popular because of the shade it provides. Because of its size, it is best planted in large lawns or avenues. This tree, though large, has yet to achieve its mature size which may reach 100 feet tall and 80 feet wide. Sycamores are tolerant of urban stresses. They prefer full sun or light shade and will grow in almost any soil.



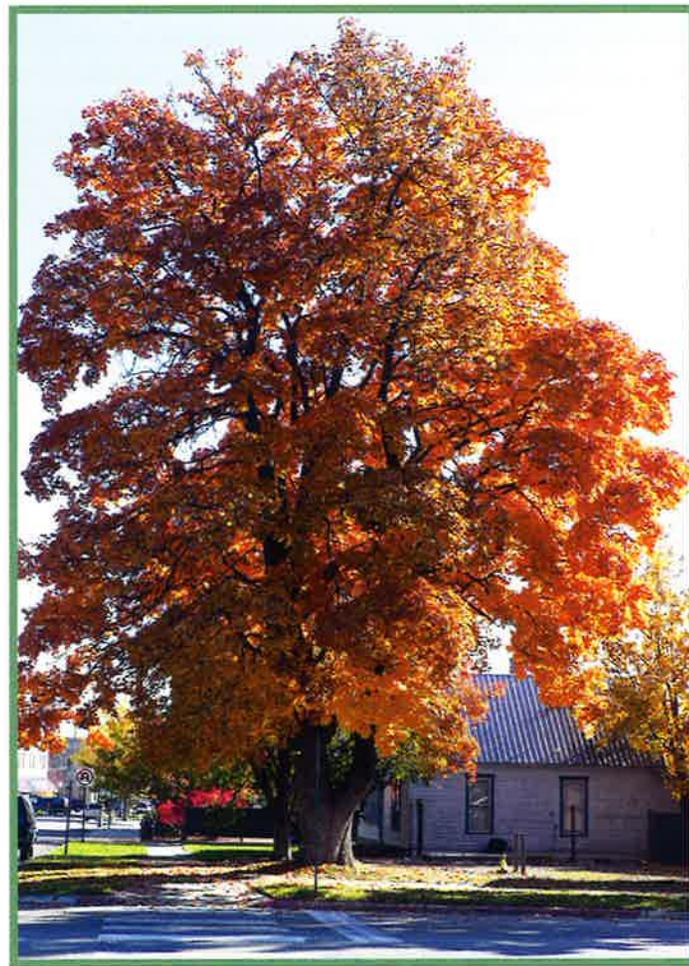
## 20. Norway Maple

*Acer platanoides*



Corner of Fourth Avenue and Oak Street

The **Norway maple** is the most commonly planted street tree in Sandpoint, making up more than 40 percent of our inventory. Although it grows well here, it is commonly seen in too small a space where it buckles the sidewalk and splits the curb. It is a medium to large deciduous tree with a broad, rounded crown. Leaves are palmately lobed and turn yellow to orange-red in autumn. The wood is hard and used for furniture and turnery. Many cultivars have been selected with distinctive leaf shape or coloration. The dense crown produces deep shade beneath the tree, and these trees have created attractive shaded lanes where the canopies close across a street. The ability to grow in tough urban sites makes the **Norway maple** desirable in many areas. It withstands a variety of site conditions, including restricted rooting areas and a large range of soil textures, from sands to moderately compacted clays.



## 21. Pin Oak\*

*Quercus palustris*

Corner of Second Avenue and Main Street



The **pin oak** is native to eastern North America. It is a medium-sized deciduous tree growing 60 to 70 feet tall. Most will develop a deep red fall color before turning brown and retaining their leaves through the winter. Wood is generally marketed as red oak but is of significantly inferior quality, as it is somewhat weaker and often with many small knots. The name “**pin oak**” is possibly due to the many small, slender twigs, but it may also be from the historical use of the hard wood for pins in construction. It is one of the most popular ornamental trees in the United States. It is easy to transplant and tolerant of poor soils. As evidence of this, these two **pin oaks** are doing extremely well in what amounts to a planter box at the building's entrance.



## 22. Little Leaf Linden\*

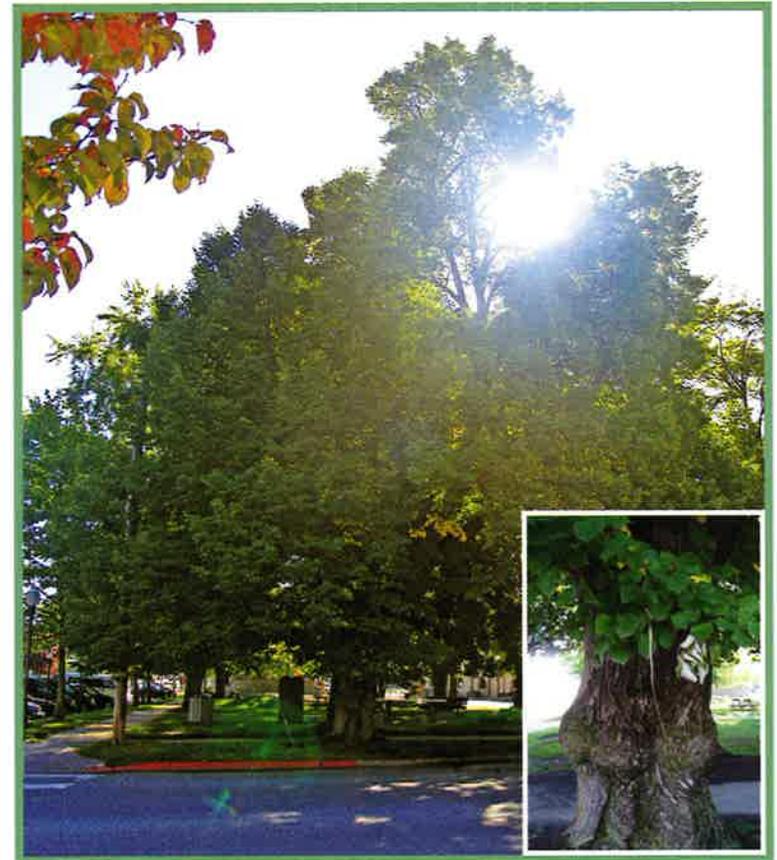
*Tilia cordata*

West end of Farmin Park



**Little leaf linden**, native to Europe, is an especially fine tree for streets or spacious lawns – or for providing shade to the Sandpoint Farmers Market at Farmin Park. Both the **little leaf linden** and American linden, also known as basswood, are fast growing and favored as shade trees. The distinctive pyramidal shape of the **little leaf linden** is recognizable in summer and winter. Their heart-shaped leaves appear in the early spring and stay on the branches until frost. In midsummer, lindens bear tiny, extremely fragrant flowers. Bees are attracted to the blossoms and the abundant nectar that they use to produce a fine honey. **Little leaf lindens** grow best in fertile soils but are adaptable to a variety of conditions. They

are well-known to be tolerant of urban stresses. This is the national tree of the Czech Republic and the Republic of Slovakia. In Berlin it is found lining an historic boulevard called “Unter den Linden.”



## 23. Blue Spruce

*Picea pungens*



506 North Fourth Avenue

Also known as Colorado blue spruce, Colorado spruce or silver spruce, **blue spruce** is a slow-growing, medium-sized conifer. Prized for its bluish to silvery-gray foliage, **blue spruce** is widely used as an ornamental both in the United States and in Europe. At least 38 cultivars have been named. **Blue spruce** is able to grow under a wide variety of conditions and is considered quite desirable as a landscape plant. It is used in parks, gardens and as a windbreak. The American National Christmas Tree, located behind the White House at the center of the Ellipse, is a Colorado blue spruce. It is the state tree of Colorado. Several **blue spruce** may also be seen in the 500 block of South Boyer.



## 24. Norway Spruce

*Picea abies*



West end of Boyer Park

**Norway spruce** is a large evergreen conifer, native to central and northern Europe, including Norway, for which it was named. Mature trees have a broad, pyramidal shape and produce long, smooth cones which make it easy to distinguish from other spruces. Scaly mature bark is gray to brown. Adapted to cool, temperate climates, growth is best in full sun in deep, rich, moist soils. It is one of the most widely planted spruces worldwide. It is used in timber and paper production as well as an ornamental in parks and gardens. Every Christmas, the Norwegian capital city of Oslo, provides the cities of New York, London, and Washington, D.C., with a Norway spruce to be placed in the central square of each city in gratitude for the aid these countries gave during World War II.

This grove of six was planted in 1973 by the Rocky Mountain Rover's 4-H Club that included Laurie and Pam Newton, daughters of Helen Newton, one of the 4-H leaders then and the city council liaison on the 2009 Tree Committee.



## 25. Black Walnut

*Juglans nigra*



502 Boyer Avenue, on Alder Street

**B**lack walnut trees range in height from 70 to 150 feet, are a long-lived tree sometimes exceeding 200 years in age, and can have a diameter of 2 to 4 feet. It is native to the central and eastern United States. A major characteristic of this tree is its deeply furrowed, black bark. The compound leaves are between 1 and 2 feet long. This tree is prized for its beautiful wood – some think the finest in the world – and the tasty nuts that are avidly harvested in the autumn.

Practically everyone recognizes a walnut tree when the nuts are on it. Their distinct shape, pattern and smell are hard to miss. The stain the hulls leave on your skin when you hull walnuts is hard to get off; pioneers used this to dye

cloth. The butternut, hickory and pecan are close relatives.

This **black walnut** is thought to be nearly 100 years old. The Sammons family treasures this tree and has been the keepers of it since the early 1940s.



## 26. Northern Catalpa

*Catalpa speciosa*



703 North Boyer Avenue

**C**atalpas are native to warm, temperate regions of North America. Their name derives from the American Indian name for these trees, Catawba. A transcription error on the part of the describing botanist resulted in the name catalpa. **Northern catalpas** may be recognized by their large, heart-shaped leaves. They have showy, white flowers, which is most unusual for a large, deciduous tree. Their long fruits resembling a bean pod accounts for the nickname of vanilla bean tree. Catalpas provide dense shade and are a popular habitat for many birds.

Originally there were four **northern catalpas** that surrounded this property on North Boyer. Now there are only two.



## 27. American Smoke Tree

*Cotinus obovatus*



727 Sixth Avenue

Again and again in tree literature one reads: “The **American smoke tree** should be used more often in American landscapes.” There are many shrub versions of this tree in Sandpoint, the non-native common smoke tree (*Cotinus coggygria*), both green leaf and purple leaf. The tree, however, is not widely grown and, in fact, the owners of the tree, native Sandpoint residents, had to purchase the tree from a nursery in the Midwest in the 1950s.

A North American native, the **American smoke tree** is tolerant of a wide range of adverse urban conditions – wet soil, wind, drought and compacted soil. No pests or diseases are of major concern. It has distinctive fall foliage.



## 28. Western Paper Birch

*Betula papyrifera*



302 Larch Street

One of several varieties of paper birch, **western paper birch** is a small- to medium-sized tree native to forests in the Northwest. The genus *Betula* means “pitch,” referring to the bituminous content of the bark, which makes it highly flammable. The species name *papyrifera* means “paper bearing,” referring to the white, papery peeling bark. Paper birch was also very important to native peoples. The bark was used to make canoes and baskets by many American Indians throughout the region. They also used the bark for lining storage caches and wrapping food, and drank the sap as a medicine for colds. Paper birch is often a multistemmed, deciduous tree and can grow to 100 feet tall. The bark is coppery-brown when young and turns white to cream, peeling with age. Birches are often short-lived due to the birch borer.

There is another outstanding birch at the Lakeview Cemetery.



## 29. Douglas Fir

*Pseudotsuga menziesii*



1015 Oak Street, on Ella Avenue

Also called red fir, Oregon pine and Douglas spruce, the **Douglas fir** is not a fir, pine or spruce. It is a distinct species named after Archibald Menzies, a Scottish physician and naturalist who first discovered the tree on Vancouver Island in 1791, and David Douglas, the Scottish botanist who later identified the tree in the Pacific Northwest in 1826. It is one of the world's most important and valuable timber trees, prized for use as dimensional lumber. **Douglas fir** is also one of the most commonly marketed Christmas tree species in the United States. Two varieties of the species are recognized: coast Douglas fir and Rocky Mountain Douglas fir.

**Douglas firs** are large, pyramidal evergreen conifers. The needles are flat and linear, resembling those of true firs. The cones are distinctive, bearing a long, three-pointed bract that extends beyond the cone scales.

It is unusual to have so many large and healthy conifers in a city right-of-way as the 11 that grow in a row on Oak Street. The largest **Douglas fir** of the group is on private property around the corner on Ella and is almost 4 feet in diameter.



## 30. Silver Maple

*Acer saccharinum*



1020 Poplar Street

**Silver maple**, also called creek maple, river maple, silver leaf maple, water maple or white maple, is native to eastern North America. It is one of the most common trees in the United States. It is a relatively fast-growing deciduous tree, commonly reaching heights of 50 to 80 feet. It is often found along waterways, hence the common name water maple. The name **silver maple** comes from the silver color found on the undersides of the leaves. Autumn color is not as striking as other maples, generally a pale yellow color, though some specimens can produce more brilliant yellow and even orange and red colorations. It is widely used as an ornamental tree because of its rapid growth and ease of propagation. It is highly tolerant of urban conditions. There are several large specimens in Sandpoint with trunk diameters greater than 30 inches.



## 31. Western White Pine

*Pinus monticola*



1214 Main Street

**W**estern white pine, Idaho's state tree, lured the timber barons from the Great Lakes states into northern Idaho more than a century ago to mill valuable lumber and matchsticks from this prized species. While much can be written about the **western white pine**, read these poetic words penned by some juniors at Sandpoint High School for their 1914 yearbook, "The White Pine," which was later named "Monticola":

*The words "White Pine" are words of charm. They bring to the mind visions of forests illimitable; of lakes as clear and pure as the mountain streams that feed them; of deep, dense and silent woods where the foot of man has scarcely trodden. Or they bring us under the spell of a mighty industry, the wealth of which has made an empire. We see the work in the forests, the gigantic mills and the busy traffic. We see a happy and prosperous people. We see, in fact, our own northern Idaho in its prosperity, its beauty and its grandeur.*



## 32. Black Cottonwood

*Populus trichocarpa*



105 Gooby Road

**J**ust barely outside of Sandpoint, this **black cottonwood** is an Idaho State Champion Tree since 1991. This multistem giant measures 8 feet in diameter and reaches a height of 113 feet. Also in the same yard is the largest western paper birch in Idaho.

**Black Cottonwood** ranks as both the largest tree in the poplar genus as well as western North America's largest hardwood. It prefers moist soils and readily grows along stream banks and floodplains.

The species name, "*trichocarpa*," is Greek for "hairy fruits." The **black cottonwood** is notorious for the "summer snow" resulting from its seeds covered with cotton-like hairs blowing in an early summer breeze.



Pat Gooby and daughter Ann Sater provide scale for the giant **black cottonwood**'s trunk; Pat said both generations had treehouses and played in the cottonwood as kids, which was already a large tree in 1943 when the Gooby family moved into the home.

*Continued from first page*

As anyone who lives here knows, we have a lot of conifers in our general area – our town was built on the harvesting and milling of them – and a lot of maple trees. Similarly, anyone who knows how poor the soil is in our area also knows that maples, like hawthorns, can tolerate clay soils and wet or drought conditions. In this booklet we show eight species of conifers and four species of maples, but we also have 20 other trees that show the diversity of trees that can grow here.

The tree committee members who worked on this booklet are:

**RICH DEL CARLO**, arborist, Peregrine Tree and Landscape, Inc.

**EILEEN ATKISSON**, tree lover and former President of the Native Plant Society

**BILL LAMSON**, tree lover

**BILL LOVE**, Private Forestry Specialist, Idaho Department of Lands

**BOB WILSON**, former professor of horticulture at the University of Idaho

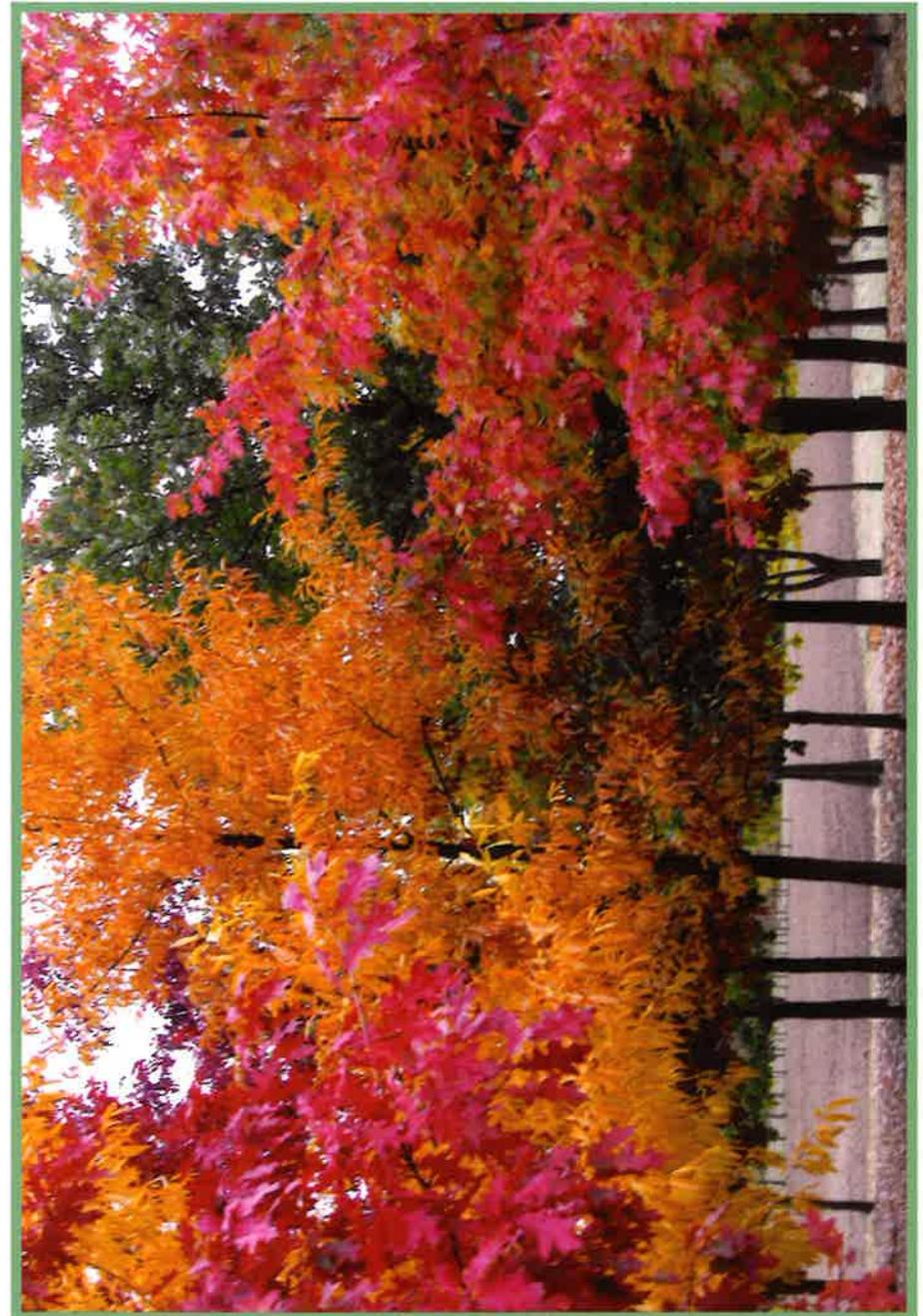
**GAIL LYSTER**, tile artist, tree lover and guardian

**HELEN NEWTON**, Sandpoint City Council liaison

**STEPHEN DRINKARD**, City of Sandpoint's community forester

We would like to thank Ms. Linden Maxwell, former community forester for the Sandpoint Independent Highway District, and the tree committee members in 1999 who published the first edition of *Outstanding Trees*. Eighteen species of trees they selected are in this booklet, and eight trees are the same, which are marked with an asterisk (\*). This second edition uses some of the original text and continues to honor some of the same trees they chose.

Picture Credits: Sean Haynes of Keokee, tree numbers 1, 7, 8, 10, 12, 14, 15, 22, 23, 25; Billie Jean Plaster of Keokee, tree numbers 4, 24, 26; Stephen Drinkard, tree numbers 11, 13, 16, 17, 19, 20, 21, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31; Brenda Evans, tree numbers 5, 6, 9; Bob Wilson, tree number 3. Gail Lyster, tree number 18. Chris Bessler of Keokee, tree number 32. Additional, smaller images come from the joint venture of the University of Georgia and the U.S. Forest Service: <http://www.forestryimages.org>.



Second Place Winner of the First Annual Tree Photography Contest  
**MARLENE RORKE, Sagle**



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OUTSTANDING  
**TREES**  
OF SANDPOINT, IDAHO

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