

Welcome to The Scott Arboretum

Our 300 acre site, also the campus of Swarthmore College, is home to many extraordinary specimen trees, beautiful gardens and outstanding plant collections. This introductory tour of the campus, which will take about two hours, will lead you to most of the major areas of the Arboretum and point out a few of the plants along the way. Enjoy your walk!

Many of these areas and collections have signs which house brochure boxes. The asterisks in this brochure designate the areas with such boxes; interpretive brochures can be found in these boxes. All other brochures can be found at the Arboretum Offices.

The cover illustration for this brochure was created by Barbara Seymour. This brochure was created by Ethan Cramer, 1995, and revised by Allison Necaise, Education Intern, 1998-1999 and Becky Wehry, Member and Visitor Programs Coordinator, 2006.

The Scott Arboretum is a public garden covering more than 300 acres of the Swarthmore College campus and exhibiting over 3,000 different kinds of plants (including over 2,000 kinds of woody taxa). The Arboretum is a garden of ideas and suggestions, displaying some of the best trees, shrubs, perennials and annuals for use in the Delaware Valley. Established in 1929 as a living memorial to Arthur Hoyt Scott, the Arboretum is open to the public year-round, free of charge, from dawn to dusk. Office hours are Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Memberships to the Scott Arboretum are available. The Scott Associates, an active membership organization, aid efforts through financial and volunteer support. For more information, please call the Scott Offices at 610-328-8025. We welcome your questions, suggestions and most of all, visits to the Arboretum.

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Introductory Tour

- A. The Scott Entrance Garden, which is in front of the Arboretum's administrative offices, features a Cedrus atlantica Clausa group (blue Atlas cedar), a Magnolia virginiana var. australis 'Henry Hicks' (a sweetbay magnolia cultivar named at the Scott Arboretum) and a mixed border re-planted in 1995.
- B. The *Cherry Border is built around the *Prunus* (flowering cherry) collection. Hostas, daylilies and groundcovers give this area interest through the growing season.
- C. The Meeting House Woods, legend has it, is a remnant of the forest that once covered the grounds. Look for the understory tree, *Ceris griffithii* (redbud) on the path to the Meeting House.
- D. The original Syringa specimens in the Lilac Collection were planted in 1931. This was the first collection planted after the founding of the Arboretum. As new cultivars become available, they are added to the planting. The lilacs are at their peak in May.
- E. The *Nason Garden is a gift from the class of 1948 in honor of John C. Nason, the president of Swarthmore College from 1940 to 1953. The garden is a unique combination of textures from the delicate leaves of ornamental grasses to the bold leaves of the princess tree and catalpa, both of which are treated as cutback plants in order to create large foliage.
- F. The *Hydrangea Collection blooms from June until fall. The collection includes Hydrangea macrophylla cultivars including both lacecaps and hortensia types and species ideal for the Delaware Valley. Also included are several interesting species hydrangeas.
- G. The *Harry Wood Courtyard Garden was originally designed by William H. Frederick Jr., Swarthmore class of '48 and includes rock arrangements and large Betula nigra (river birches). It was named for the Head Gardener of Swarthmore College from 1927 to 1958. Since the construction of the Science Center, the Harry Wood Courtyard has been redesigned, but still includes the trademark Betula nigra Heritage® (river birches) and Pocono rock arrangements. The new design has been described as more welcoming.
- H. The Pollinators Garden is notable from June through August. This garden is designed to attracted pollinators such as birds, bees, and butterflies. Experience the luscious blooms which attract these creatures.
- I. The *Winter Garden was designed to be of special interest from November until the end of March. For example,

- Jasminum nudiflorum (winter jasmine), Viburnum xbodnantense 'Dawn' (Bodnant Viburnum) and Helleborus xhybridus (lentenroses) provide stem, leaf and flower color during a season we least expect them.
- J. The Metasequoia Allee is a formal walkway framed by dawn redwoods. This white garden is designed to be primarily of fall interest. It is underplanted with flowering shrubs near the back and perennials in the front.
- K. The *Cosby Courtyard was built on the site of the old Parrish Annex. The footprint of the old building is evident in the garden. The courtyard is host to trees, shrubs, perennials, bulbs and a variety of bold containers.
- L. The peak bloom time for the Rhododendron Display Garden is mid-May. Dr. John C. Wister, The Scott Arboretum's first director, was a noted rhododendron and azalea expert.
- M. The *Arthur Hoyt Scott Amphitheater, dedicated in 1942, is the site of Swarthmore College commencement each year. Liriodendron tulipifera (tulip poplars) provide a canopy for this unique architectural space.
- N. The Parrish West Circle is a showcase for several important trees, including: Cladrastis kentukea, the American yellowwood; Nyssa sylvatica, the sour gum or tupelo; Halesia tetraptera, the Carolina silverbell; Ginkgo biloba, the maidenhair tree; and Ulmus americana, the American elm.
- O. At the Fragrance Garden, sit in the picturesque Clothier Cloisters among plants with fragrant flowers, foliage or bark.
- P. The *Quercus* xbenderi (Bender oak) is the result of a naturally-occuring cross-fertilization between a red and a scarlet oak. Our specimen is estimated to be over 300 years old and its massive spreading branches make it one of the most impressive trees in the area.
- Q. The Step Garden is of note year-round for the Maackia amurensis (Amur maackia) and Acer griseum (paper-bark maple), which exhibit appealing bark qualities.
- R. The Scott Arboretum's collection of conifers, the Pinetum, includes representatives of most of the hardy kinds of cone-bearing trees. It is laid out along the train tracks, but conifers are found throughout the Arboretum.
- S. The Quercus bicolor (swamp white oaks) which form Magill Walk were planted in 1881. Several of the original trees have succumbed to storms and disease. Younger replacement

trees have been planted to continue the tradition of the allee.

- T. The *Gold Medal Plant Garden contains plants chosen to receive the prestigious Gold Medal Award from the Pennsylvania Horticulture Society. Gold Medal Plants are recognized as woody plants of outstanding merit.
- **U.** The original plants of the *Magnolia Collection were brought to the Arboretum from Highland Park in Rochester, New York, with the help of the great horticulturist, Liberty Hyde Bailey. It is an outstanding mature collection; peak bloom time is the first two weeks of April.
- V. The Summer Bloom Border, next to Tarble Hall, includes a summer-blooming perennial border above the wall and summer-blooming shrubs and small trees closer to the building.
- W. By Bond Hall, a college residence hall, lies the **Dwarf** Conifer Collection. This collection represents a diverse selection of mature dwarf conifers which are perfect for the smaller landscape.
- X. The Biostream was designed as a creative way to handle storm water. The rock-filled drainage bed allows groundwater to re-charge and helps to filter out pollutants. The drainage area is surrounded by a variety of flowering shrubs and perennials.
- Y. The *Dean Bond Rose Garden displays over 200 examples of the genus Rosa. Designed by Gertrude Wister, former Assistant Director of the Arboretum, it was dedicated in 1956. It is in bloom from April until frost.
- Z. The *Terry Shane Teaching Garden features an annual border which changes each season, an arbor and a water garden. Named for a founding member of the Associates of The Scott Arboretum, it was dedicated in 1989 as part of the celebration of the 60th anniversary of the founding of the Arboretum.

Thank you for touring our gardens; we hope you have enjoyed yourself. Please come again!