

Student Union

Colden Hall

Freshmen Dorms

International Plaza

Colden Pond

Gaunt House

Mabel Cook Admissions Center



Gaunt Trail

Northwest Missouri State University

G1

G5

G4

G3

G2

G32

G31

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University Drive

College Drive

Fourth Street

Tree Descriptions - Gaunt Trail

G01 Sycamore *Platanus occidentalis*

Eastern United States. Simple, alternate leaves that are 4 to 9 inches wide. Trees can reach 150 feet in height with an equal spread. Nicknamed Button Wood. Bark peels in patches leaving a whitish brown patchy appearance. The underneath sides of the leaves are often covered with lace bugs. Indians used the logs to make dugout canoes. One-inch, round seed balls hang on single slender stems in groups of two and three. The wood grain is hard to cut and consequently suitable for making butcher blocks.

G02 European Filbert *Corylus avellana*

Leaves alternate, simple, 2 to 4" Long, 1 ½ to 3" wide. This tree grows from 12 to 20' in height, can be a small tree, but usually forms a dense thicket of erect stems and develops extensive shoots from the roots. . Nut ¾" long.

G03 Red Horsechestnut *Aesculus glabra*

Hybrid between *Aesculus pavia* and *Aesculus hippocastanum* thought to have originated in Germany. Leaves opposite, palmately compound with 5-7 leaflets. The flowers, produced on panicles, are red and very showy. Not as susceptible to leaf blotch and mildew as *Aesculus hippocastanum*. Height is 30-40 feet with a rounded shape.

G04 Northern Catalpa *Catappa speciosa*

Native. Leaves whorled (three at a node), simple, heart-shaped, 10 inches long and 8 inches wide. White, 2-inch tubular blooms form into 9 to 12-inch-long brown seed capsules. Height to 100 feet. Catalpa is a Creek Indian name. Branches give off an unpleasant smell when crushed. It is a messy tree but can tolerate extremely hot, dry conditions.

G05 Ohio Buckeye *Aesculus glabra*

Native. Leaves opposite, palmately compound with five leaflets. Leaflets 3 to 6 inches long. Stem gives off an unpleasant odor when bruised. Approximately 40-foot tree but can reach 80 feet. Good park tree. Light brown fruit capsules hold a single, shiny brown seed known as the "Buckeye". The seeds are poisonous.

G06 Flowering Crabapple *Malus spp.*

Europe. Leaves simple, alternate. Probably 400 to 600 types of crabapples can be found. Valued for the many sizes and colors of flowers and fruit. Some are thorny and some produce small sour fruit used for making jelly. Check for the cultivars that are best suited for your area.

G07 Shagbark Hickory *Carya ovata*

Native. Leaves 8 to 14 inches long with five leaflets. Mature trees have distinctive shaggy bark curling out at the ends, believed to be an evolutionary adaptation which keeps squirrels away from the nuts. Height to 90 feet.

G08 River Birch *Betula nigra*

Native. Can grow up to 80 feet. Leaves alternate, simple, 1 to 3 inches long with doubly toothed margins. Thin, peeling bark is pink to reddish brown on young trees. Likes wet springs but can tolerate dry summers. Needs a pH of 6.5 or lower. Arching branches.

G09 Black gum *Nyssa sylvatica*

Native. Leaves simple, alternate, 3-6 inches long. Beautiful scarlet fall color. height 30-50 feet. Pyramidal shape when young; rounded when mature. Bluish-black fruit is eaten by many species of birds. Makes an excellent specimen tree but prefers well-drained, acid soils with pH 5.5-6.5. Also known as Black Tupelo and Sour Gum.

G10 Golden Weeping Willow *Salix alba 'Tristis'*

China. Leaves alternate, simple, 3 to 6 inches long. Slender, pendulous branches that may hang to the ground. Can grow to 50 feet. May become messy with age. Willows, like poplars, are affected by numerous diseases and insects. Good for moist, wet places where little else will

G11 Washington Hawthorn *Crataegus phaenopyrum*

Native. One to 3 inch leaves with three to five lobes; sharply serrated. This thorny tree grows 25 to 30 feet. Clusters of glossy red fruit in fall with white flowers in spring. These trees should not be used in high traffic areas. Affected by hawthorn rust.

G12 Eastern Redbud *Cercis canadensis*

Native. Leaves alternate, simple, 3 to 5 inches long, and broadly ovate to heart-shaped. Showy lavender-pink flowers form flattened, brown seed pods which persist after leaves fall. Effective as a specimen tree or in naturalized settings. Twenty to 35 feet tall.

G13 Pecan *Carya illinoensis*

Native. Leaves alternate, pinnately compound, 12 to 20 inches long with nine to 17 leaflets. Bark light brown and broken into vertical scaly ridges. Tree grows to 100 feet and is grown commercially for wood and nuts. The nuts grow in clusters of three to 10 and each is in a dark brown husk.

G14 Austrian Pine *Pinus nigra*

Europe. Dark green needles, 6 inches long, two per bundle. Cones are 2 to 4 inches long and have scales tipped with tiny prickles. Grows to 100 feet. This is an adaptable species with extremely stiff needles. It develops its real character in old age when the branches become umbelliformly spreading and the bark colors develop fully. The species name refers to the color of the crown in mature trees. Another common name is "Black Pine."

G15 Star Magnolia *Magnolia stellata*

Japan. Leaves similar to the Saucer Magnolia but have smaller, more rounded leaf tips. Reaches only 20 feet in height. Flowers are white and 3 inches in diameter. Can be a shrub or small tree. Very showy in the early spring.

G16 Baldcypress *Taxodium distichum*

Southern United States. Deciduous tree drops the needle-like leaves in the winter. Native to marshes and swamps in the southern states where it is commonly nicknamed "Swamp Cypress." If grown in a wet area, it will develop structures known as knees which will take in air for the roots. Wood resists decay and termites.

G17 Colorado Blue Spruce *Picea pungens 'Galuca'*

Western United States. Needles are 1 to 1.5 inches long, silvery blue, and diamond shaped in cross section. Grows to 100 feet on mountain slopes in the Rocky Mountains. Over used as a specimen tree in front yards where it detracts from the rest of the landscape. Species name refers to the sharply pointed needles.

G18 Douglas Fir *Pseudotsuga menziesii*

Western United States. Used as Christmas trees and are important for lumber. Needles 1 to 1.5 inches long, flat, and stick out straight from branches. Cones 3 to 4 inches long and have bracts extending beyond ends of scales. Grows rapidly, attaining 250 feet heights in Pacific regions. The genus name refers to "false" because it was once assigned to the genus *Abies*. Common name in honor of David Douglas who introduced the seed to Europe. Known to be one of the strongest woods.

G19 Jack Pine *Pinus banksiana*

Northern United States, Canada. Dark green needles are in bundles of two and are 1 to 1.5 inches long. Cones stay on the tree for many years. Dark brown, scaly bark. Tree grows to 80 feet. Rugged in appearance, not especially ornamental, but adaptable for windbreaks and mass plantings.

G20 Ponderosa Pine *Pinus ponderosa*

Western United States. Needles in bundles of three, dark yellow-green in color, and 5 to 10 inches long. Cones are oval, 3 to 6 inches long, with stiff prickles on the scale tips. Mature trees have reddish orange bark in irregular, scaly plates which resemble a jigsaw puzzle. Can grow to 180 feet and is an important timber tree.

G21 Horsechestnut *Aesculus hippocastanum*

Greece. Leaves opposite, palmately compound with five to seven leaflets, 5 to 10 inches long. Spiny capsules contain large seeds. Terminal buds are very sticky. This tree reaches heights of 75 feet and should be planted in parks, golf courses, and open areas. Large, white flowers in spring. Fruits have been fed to horses.

G22 Sawtooth Oak *Quercus acutissima*

Japan, Korea, China. Leaves simple, alternate, 3-7 inches long with bristle-like teeth. Resembles leaves of chestnut. Yellow to golden-brown fall color. Height is 35-45 feet with an oval to rounded shape. Acorn cap has long, curving scales, which enclose approximately two-thirds of the nut.

G23 Texas Buckeye *Aesculus arguta*

East Texas native. Leaves opposite, palmately compound with 7-9 leaflets; margins doubly serrate. Height 15-20 feet. Known to withstand -25 degree F. Tends to defoliate early because of leaf scorch. Some botanists regard it as a variety of *Aesculus glabra*.

G24 Flowering Dogwood *Cornus florida*

Native. Leaves opposite, simple, 3 to 6 inches long. Scarlet color in fall. Small green and white flowers surrounded by petal-like bracts. They later bear small bright red fruit clusters. Flower buds identifiable on winter twigs. Mature bark is black and brown scaly blocks. Used as ornamental trees. Fifteen to 40 feet in height.

G25 American Linden *Tilia americana*

Native. Leaves alternate, simple, heart-shaped, 5 to 6 inches long and 3 to 4 inches wide, with serrated edges. Clusters of fragrant cream-colored flowers are produced in June. Fruits are small nutlets clustered beneath membranous bracts. The wood is soft, white and easily worked.

G26 Black Oak *Quercus velutina*

Native. Leaves alternate, simple, 4 to 10 inches long with seven to nine lobes. Cup of acorn is bowl shaped and encloses one-third of the nut. Height to 60 feet.

G27 White Fir *Abies concolor*

Western United States. Two to 3 inch needles are bluish-green and flat. The ends of the needles are pointed to rounded. Dark gray bark is heavily ridged. Grows to 150 feet with dome-shaped crown. Many are used as sources of paper pulp. Because of its growth habit and softer effect, it could well replace spruces in landscapes, especially those trees with bluish needles.

G28 Norway Spruce *Picea abies*

Europe. Needles are stiff, dark green, diamond shaped in cross section, and usually pointing forward. Cones are 4 to 7 inches long. Tree grows to 125 feet and branches tend to droop. Much overplanted. With old age may lose its form and its usefulness. Commonly used as a windbreak, shelter, or as a specimen tree.

G29 European Larch *Larix decidua*

Northern and central Europe. Introduced in colonial times. Leaves 1-2 inches long, needle-like, sometimes with 40 or more located on short spurs, deciduous. Yellow fall color. Height 70-75 feet. Shape is pyramidal with drooping branches.

G30 Tatarian Maple *Acer tataricum*

Western Asia and southeastern Europe. Leaves opposite, simple, 2 to 4 inches long, doubly toothed. Shrub or small tree growing 15 to 20 feet tall and spreading equally far. Grows in the forest understory and in sunny locations. Uncommon.

G31 White Fringetree *Chionathus virginicus*

Eastern United States. Leaves simple, opposite to sub-opposite, 3-8 inches long. Yellow fall color. Large shrub to small tree with height of 15-25 feet. Flowers, produced in late spring, are white and somewhat fragrant. Fruits are dark blue and well liked by birds.

G32 Paperbark Maple *Acer griseum*

China. Leaves opposite and composed of three leaflets. Each leaflet 2 to 2.5 inches long. Small tree of 20 to 30 feet. Stems exfoliate to expose rich brown and cinnamon colors. Leaves dark to bluish green in summer and bronze to red in the fall.