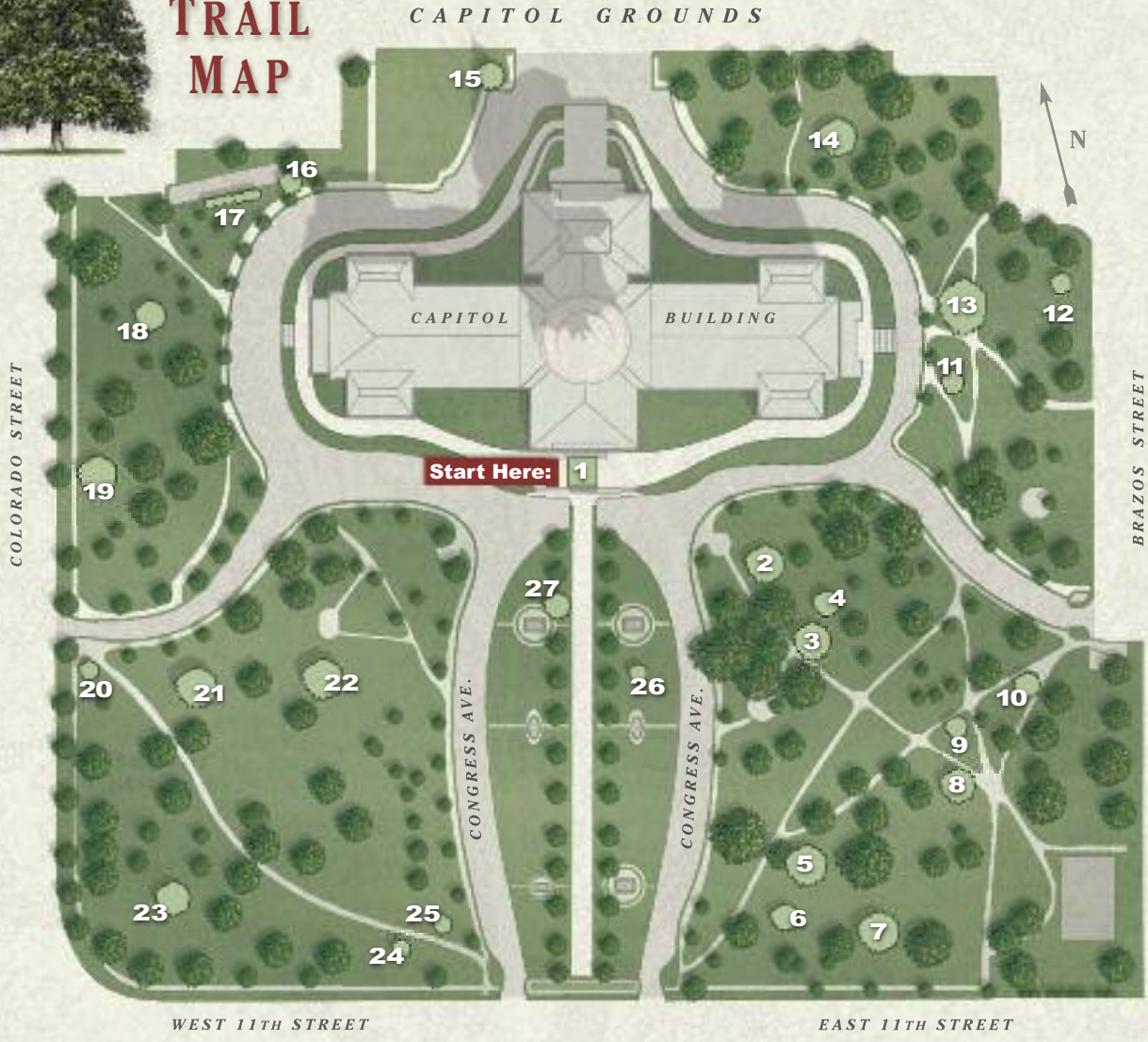
Trail of Trees

AT THE TEXAS CAPITOL

A Guide to the
Historic and Significant Trees
on the Texas Capitol Grounds

Trail Map



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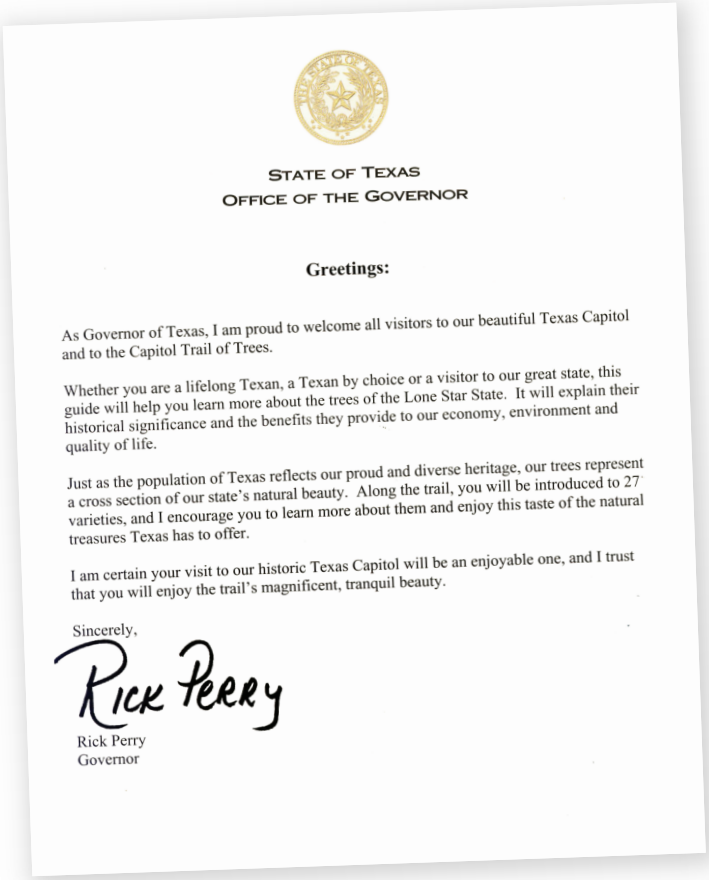

STATE OF TEXAS
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Greetings:

As Governor of Texas, I am proud to welcome all visitors to our beautiful Texas Capitol and to the Capitol Trail of Trees.

Whether you are a lifelong Texan, a Texan by choice or a visitor to our great state, this guide will help you learn more about the trees of the Lone Star State. It will explain their historical significance and the benefits they provide to our economy, environment and quality of life.

Just as the population of Texas reflects our proud and diverse heritage, our trees represent a cross section of our state's natural beauty. Along the trail, you will be introduced to 27 varieties, and I encourage you to learn more about them and enjoy this taste of the natural treasures Texas has to offer.

I am certain your visit to our historic Texas Capitol will be an enjoyable one, and I trust that you will enjoy the trail's magnificent, tranquil beauty.

Sincerely,

Rick Perry

Rick Perry
Governor

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A Brief History of the Capitol Grounds

Photo courtesy of Texas State Library and Archives, 1/103-48.

Dedicated as the site for a permanent Capitol in 1839, the Texas Capitol grounds comprise one of the most historic landscapes in the state. As early as 1849, Austin citizens used the area for recreational purposes, making it one of the first state parks. In 1852, work began on a small, white-limestone statehouse in the Greek Revival style at the center of the block.

In the 1850s, the rocky hill that comprised Capitol Square possessed only sparse native vegetation, including a few live oak and other trees as well as wild flowers. In 1856, the Legislature appropriated $10,000 "for boring an Artesian Well, and otherwise improving and ornamenting the Capitol Grounds..." The measure required "that the well shall be completed and in successful operation previously to the setting out of trees and shrubbery."

The well, drilled from 1857 to 1859, proved a failure, and the Civil War and Reconstruction further hindered improvement of the grounds during the 1860s and 1870s. Thus, the area received little attention until implementation of an elaborate landscaping plan began in 1874. This work resulted in terracing the grounds in front of the Capitol and in planting "evergreens, shrubbery and shade trees" as well as many flowers. A supply of water was secured via a new well, probably on the southwest corner of the grounds.

In November 1881, a fire destroyed the limestone Greek Revival Capitol, ending further improvement of the grounds. With the completion of the present Renaissance Revival-style statehouse in 1888, attention turned to landscaping the grounds. William Munro Johnson, a prominent Dallas civil engineer, designed and implemented a formal Capitol grounds plan. Completed in early 1890, it included the Great Walk with its allée — parallel rows of trees —in front of the statehouse, the curving "carriage drives" with limestone curbing and the iron fence surrounding the grounds.

The first Arbor Day observed in Texas included the planting of an apple tree, "ornamental evergreens," and two live oaks in front of the Capitol. By 1903 the City Beautiful movement — a nationwide crusade to beautify cities — began to exert an

"The grounds surrounding the Capitol embrace about 20 acres and have several miles of gravel and cement walks crossing the grounds in all directions. Broad drives have been constructed around the Capitol on each side .... There are a number of artificial lakes, pools and fountains where aquatic plants are grown in tropical luxuriance and where innumerable gold-fish disport themselves.

"A great number and variety of flowers both annual and perennial are grown upon the grounds as well as shrubs and trees of almost every known variety embracing the magnolia, oleander, cape jessamine and banana of the tropics, as well as the hardy lilac, syringa and other shrubs of the North; these together with the acres of Bermuda grass lawns, miles of terraces and grassy slopes give a pleasing variety to the landscape."

Superintendent W.C. Day, *Austin Souvenir* c. 1908

important influence in Austin.

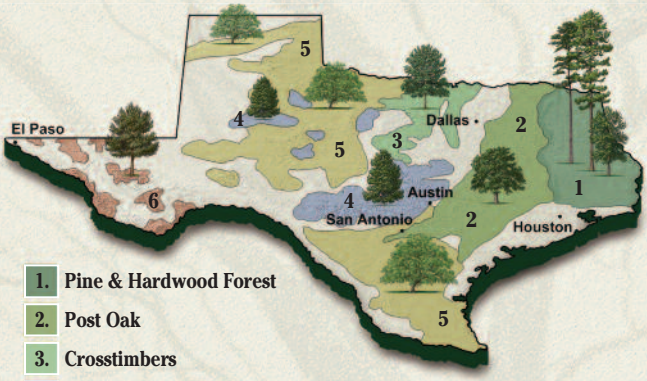
The Capitol grounds received hundreds of new trees, including dozens of American elms, one of the favorite trees of the City Beautiful movement. The adoption of the pecan as the state tree in 1919 and an increasing interest in native Texas plants also encouraged the cultivation of many pecans and other native Texas trees such as mountain laurel and huisache.

As the trees matured, some were lost to natural causes such as storms or old age. Some of the trees used as replacements over the years have been planted by resolution of the Legislature to commemorate historic events or to honor prominent Texans.

In 1983, state legislation created the State Preservation Board to preserve, maintain and restore the Capitol, the General Land Office building, their contents and grounds. One of the first grounds projects undertaken was the 1987 replacement of the elms along the allée with a more disease-resistant variety. In the 1990s, the Capitol Extension was constructed to provide additional office and meeting space for the Legislature, leading to the transformation of the primarily non-historic north grounds.

A master plan for the historic grounds of the Texas Capitol was developed in March 1995. The subsequent restoration of the grounds to their turn-of-the-century appearance was completed in 1997. Ongoing maintenance and preservation of the grounds is the responsibility of the State Preservation Board. For more information about the State Preservation Board, please visit the agency web site at: **http://www.tspb.state.tx.us**

Forest Regions of Texas



1. Pine & Hardwood Forest
2. Post Oak
3. Crosstimbers
4. Cedar Brakes
5. Mesquite
6. Mountain Forests

Open Prairies, Treeless Plains or Desert

"The time will surely come when Texas will need, for the multiplying demands of civilization, more timber, and especially timber more generally and widely distributed. Only one-fifth of the state, or about 35,000,000 acres can now be called timbered land. This, with care, might suffice, were it distributed throughout the state. But, as a matter of fact, this timber land lies almost exclusively in the Eastern and South Eastern counties.

"The remainder of the state, if we except the cross timbers and the growth along ravines and water ways, may be characterized as a 'vast treeless plain.' If the great populations that will undoubtedly people this plain during the next century are to have timber at hand for their purposes, the present generation must plant the trees."

Dr. Leslie Waggener, Chairman of the Faculty of the State University, From the address: *Welcome to the Texas Arbor Day and Forestry Convention*

The Texas State Capitol, February 17, 1890

Trail of Trees Descriptions

Welcome to the Texas Capitol Trail of Trees. This guide is designed to help you recognize and appreciate 25 tree species found on the historic Capitol grounds. The trail starts at the State Seal of Texas located on the steps just outside the south Capitol entrance door. The trail can be traveled comfortably in one hour. The map inside the front cover should help you find your way. Good luck!

Start Here: State Seal of Texas 1

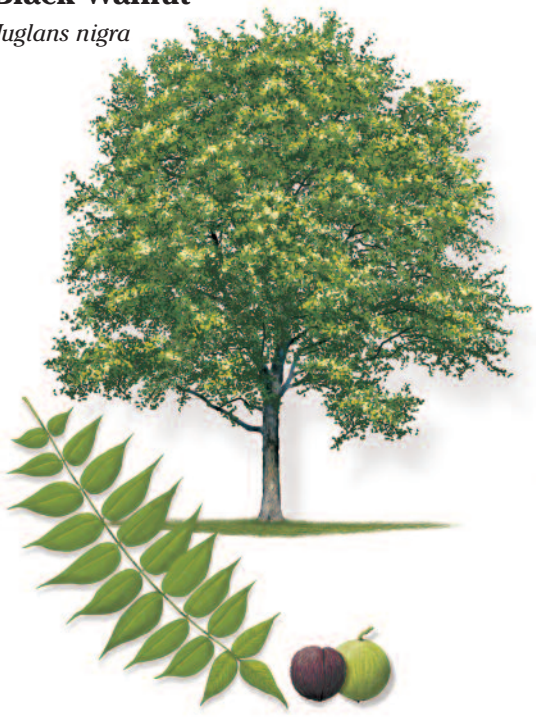
In 1839, three years after the Texas Revolution, the Third Congress of the Republic of Texas adopted a new seal: a five-pointed, white star on an azure background surrounded by olive and live oak branches with the letters "Republic of Texas" around it. Historians believe the olive branch symbolizes peace while the live oak branch represents strength.

When Texas was admitted to the Union in 1845, the lettering was changed to "The State of Texas." This terrazzo seal was installed during the 1936 Texas Centennial celebration and consists almost entirely of Texas stone.

2

Black Walnut

Juglans nigra



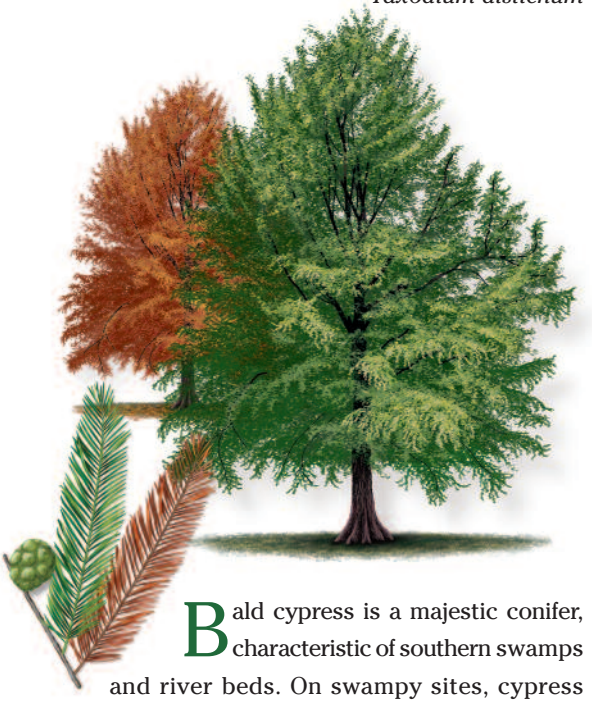
Black walnut is a large tree, standing 70 to 100 feet tall, and has long been considered the finest American wood for woodworking. Still a popular furniture wood, it has a rich, brown, fine-grained wood that is strong, heavy, hard, easily worked and does not warp, shrink or swell much.

During the Civil War, this wood was used to make gunstocks and later, in the first and second World Wars, for both gunstocks and airplane propellers. Walnut and many other types of wood including oak, pine, cherry, cedar and mahogany, were used extensively in the construction and finish of the Capitol interior. Walnut was also used for several original furnishings in the Capitol, including the Senate Chamber members' desks and the Supreme Court judges' bench.

Bald Cypress

Taxodium distichum

3



Bald cypress is a majestic conifer, characteristic of southern swamps and river beds. On swampy sites, cypress can develop peculiar cone-like structures off of the roots known as “knees.” Various experts say these knees absorb oxygen, provide anchorage in mud and/or trigger root growth in the spring.

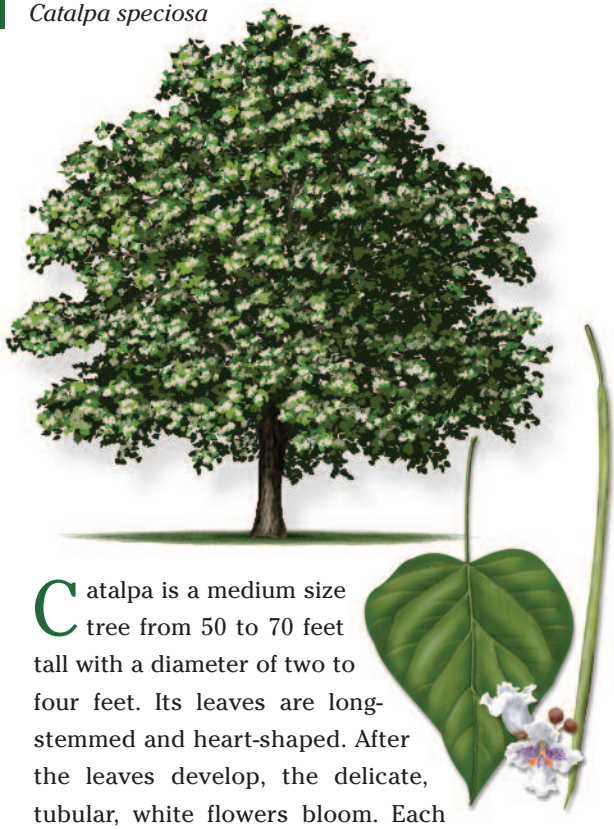
In Leakey, Texas, the state's largest bald cypress has been recorded by the Texas Forest Service in the Texas Big Tree Registry. It measures 11 feet in diameter and is 94 feet tall.

If you know of a tree that would qualify as a national or Texas champion tree, contact the Texas Forest Service through their website at: **http://texasforestservice.tamu.edu**

4

Catalpa

Catalpa speciosa



Catalpa is a medium size tree from 50 to 70 feet tall with a diameter of two to four feet. Its leaves are long-stemmed and heart-shaped. After the leaves develop, the delicate, tubular, white flowers bloom. Each flower produces a long, brown capsule full of many small seeds, inspiring common names such as Indian cigar and smoking bean. Catalpa is a fast-growing tree that can be easily injured by insects, storms and fungi.

For professional advice on what trees to plant and how to care for and preserve your trees, call an arborist. A listing of Texas Certified Arborists can be found at the Texas Chapter of the International Sociey of Arboriculture website at: **http://www.ISATexas.com**

Osage Orange

Maclura pomifera

5

A medium size tree that grows to 50 feet in height, the Osage orange has a short, crooked trunk and a broad, rounded or irregular crown of spreading branches.

A member of the mulberry family, it has milky sap and stout thorns on the twigs. Be careful; the sap can cause a rash on some people. The fruit, a heavy yellow-green ball, ripens in the fall. The bark, which breaks into broad, rounded, scaley ridges, has a high tannin content and was once used to tan leather. Boiled root chips also yield a yellow dye used by early Texas settlers to dye clothing.

The wood is orange or yellow and is heavy, hard and durable. In fact, one common name, bois d'arc, is French for bow-wood referring to the common Indian practice of using this wood for bows. Osage orange was widely planted as a living fence before the invention of barbed wire.

6 Eastern Red Cedar

Juniperus virginiana

A medium size tree up to 40 to 50 feet in height, the eastern red cedar has a dense pyramid-shaped crown. There are two types of leaves on the four-sided twigs: one is scale-like, the other is sharply three-sided and needle-like.

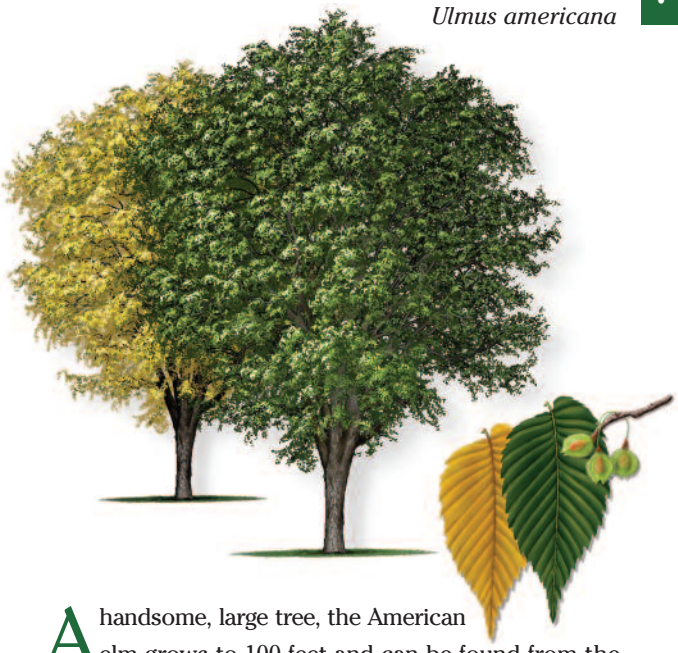
The wood of red cedar is aromatic and rose-brown in color with white sapwood. It is light weight, strong, durable and easy to work. It is used for fuel, fence posts and, because of its reputed moth-repellent properties, cedar chests, closet linings and cabinets. Oil made from the leaves and wood still is widely used for perfumes and medicines.

Over 50 varieties of birds, including the cedar waxwing, which gets its name from the tree, devour its fruit.

American Elm

Ulmus americana

7



A handsome, large tree, the American elm grows to 100 feet and can be found from the East Coast, west to the Dakotas and south to Coke County in Texas. A large elm can have about one million leaves on it, equaling an acre of leaf surface. One botanist called the American elm the “Noblest Vegetable.”

Unfortunately, Dutch elm disease, a fungus related to oak wilt, has destroyed over 40 million elms in the United States since its 1930 introduction from Europe. It was confirmed in Texas in 1970 and has been found as recently as 2009 in the Fort Worth area.

This tree species was planted as part of a plan to replace the allée elms in 1987. It was imported from New Jersey and was of a selection resistant to Dutch elm disease. It had the same parents as those currently planted on the mall of our Nation's Capitol.

8

Post Oak

Quercus stellata

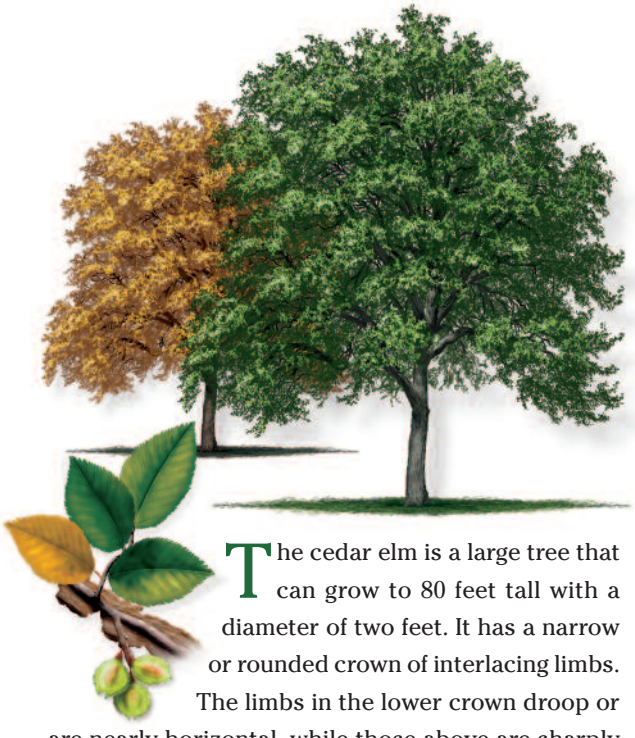
The post oak is a medium size tree, reaching 60 feet in height and two feet or more in diameter. In the wild, its crown of gnarled, twisted branches usually has dead branches that stay attached for many years. The leathery leaves are lobed and resemble a cross. Post oak has a wide range in Texas, dominating the broad vegetational area known as the "Post Oak Savannah" characterized by sandy soils in North and Central Texas.

Oaks as a family provide about one-half of all hardwood lumber produced in the United States. In fact, when construction on the Texas Capitol was completed in 1888, several miles of wainscoating had been installed in the building. Most of the original 404 door frames and 924 window frames were made of oak and pine.

Cedar Elm

Ulmus crassifolia

9



The cedar elm is a large tree that can grow to 80 feet tall with a diameter of two feet. It has a narrow or rounded crown of interlacing limbs. The limbs in the lower crown droop or are nearly horizontal, while those above are sharply upright. The small leaves have a rough upper surface, hairy underside and an unequally-sized base.

Cedar elm is the most common elm in Texas since it grows on a wide variety of sites from streamsides in deep, rich soil to dry, limestone hills. It reaches its greatest size on the bottomlands of the Guadalupe and Trinity rivers. Cedar elm is widely planted as a street and shade tree because of its hardiness and good growth in a variety of soils.

10

Chinese Tallow

Sapium sebiferum

A small, short-lived tree, the Chinese tallow ranges from 30 to 40 feet in height and a foot or so in diameter. Native to China, tallow has been widely planted in Texas for its rapid growth, fine fall color and its ability to tolerate a wide range of soil conditions. It has established itself in Texas and in some areas has become a serious pest, choking out other vegetation. In fact, tallow is so invasive that a Texas Forest Service study of the eight-county Houston area forest found that 23%, or 152,498,000 of the estimated 663 million trees were Chinese tallows.

To learn more about invading plants that threaten native Texas plants and plant communities visit: **http://www.texasinvasives.org**

Sweetgum

Liquidambar styraciflua

11

The sweetgum is a large tree with a straight trunk that can grow from 60 to 80 feet tall. Its unique leaves are star-shaped and have a fragrant odor when crushed. They have amazingly varied fall colors ranging from gold to crimson. This tree is easy to identify in the winter by the one-inch fruit balls that hang from its branches. It is native to moist, rich soils in East Texas and its wood is second only to oak as a commercial hardwood.

Sweetgum resin was once made into a gum that was used by Confederate doctors to treat dysentery in the troops.

12

Chinese Arborvitae

Thuja orientalis

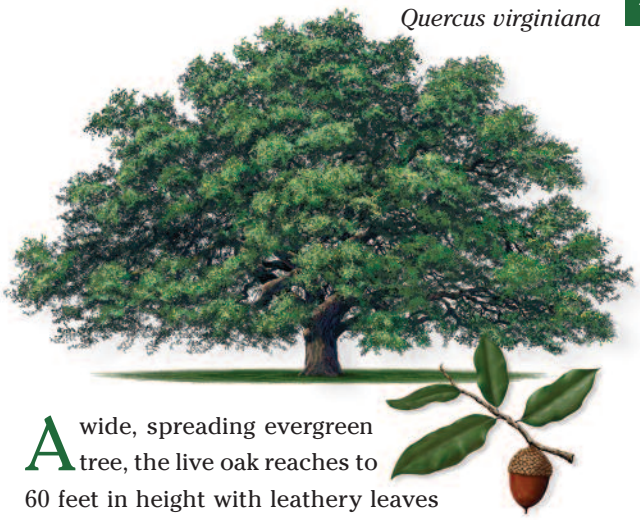
As the common name implies, this tree is native to China, Korea and Taiwan. It appears as a shrub or small tree that branches near the base with twigs growing in the vertical plane in fernlike sprays. The Chinese use the fragrant evergreen branches as good luck signs at New Year's celebrations.

This and the other trees around the Capitol serve as resting and feeding places for small, perching birds such as warblers, grosbeaks, flycatchers, vireos and orioles. From April to May and September to October, these birds migrate at night using natural features like the Colorado River to navigate. From high above they spot the well-lit Capitol grounds standing out like a green island in Austin's central business district. The local Audubon chapter has recorded over 75 species of birds on the grounds.

Live Oak

Quercus virginiana

13



A wide, spreading evergreen tree, the live oak reaches to 60 feet in height with leathery leaves and massive limbs close to the ground. Live oaks are very long-lived trees. As a result, many events in Texas history including duels, marriages, speeches, auctions and treaties have been recorded in their shade.

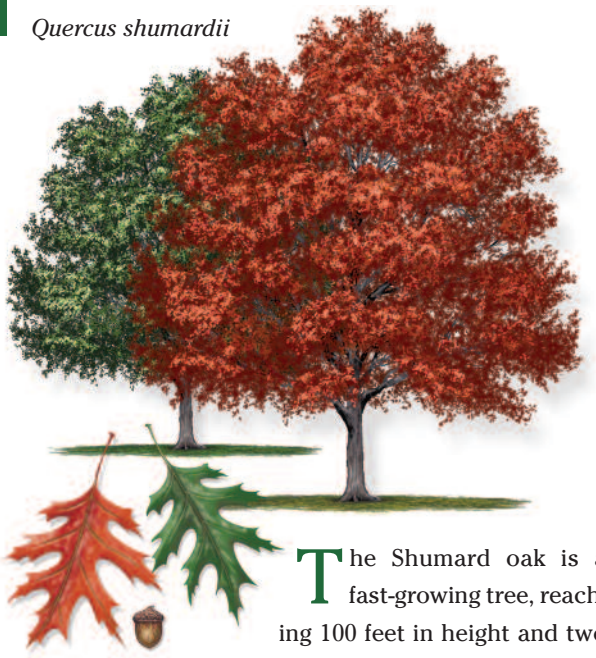
During the Texas War of Independence from Mexico, with the defeat of the Texas forces at the Alamo, San Patricio, Agua Dulce Creek and the execution of Texas soldiers at Goliad, it seemed the young Texas Republic was fading. In his retreat from Gonzales, General Sam Houston and his army of less than four-hundred men camped out around a huge live oak, known today as the Runaway Scrape Oak. In the morning, Houston mustered his men under the tree saying that those who saw fit to stay behind must suffer the consequences.

The army continued on, grew in size and engaged the Mexican forces at San Jacinto on April 21, 1836, and won. The next day, under a live oak near the battlefield, the wounded General Houston accepted Santa Anna's surrender, assuring Texas' independence from Mexico. William Henry Huddle's painting depicting this event hangs inside the south entrance foyer of the Texas Capitol.

14

Shumard Oak

Quercus shumardii



The Shumard oak is a fast-growing tree, reaching 100 feet in height and two to three feet in diameter with an open crown. It is usually found mixed with other hardwoods in moist woods and along streams in the eastern third of Texas.

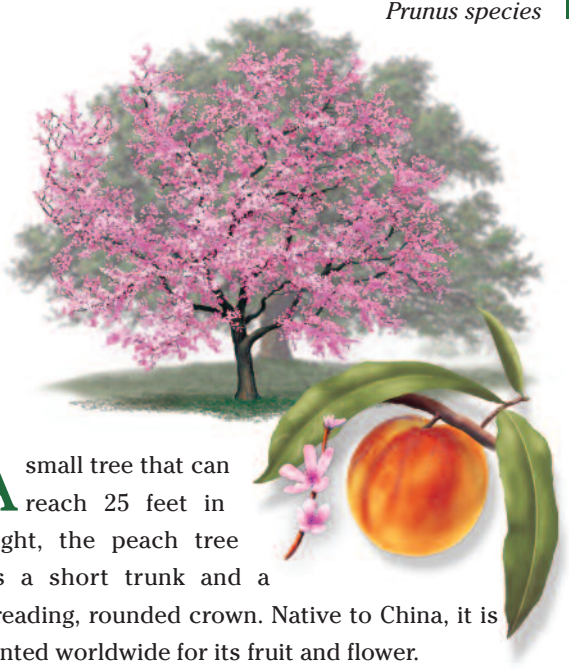
A smaller variety known as Texas or Spanish oak is found growing on limestone hills and ridges on the Edwards Plateau in North Central and Central Texas.

Shumard oak is in the red oak group since it has bristles at the vein tips on the leaf edges. The leaves also have tufts of hair where veins come together on the underside of the leaf. The wood is a light reddish-brown and is heavy, hard, strong and close-grained. It is commercially important for lumber, flooring, furniture, interior trim and cabinetry. This tree species was named after Benjamin Franklin Shumard (1820-1869), state geologist of Texas.

Peach

Prunus species

15



A small tree that can reach 25 feet in height, the peach tree has a short trunk and a spreading, rounded crown. Native to China, it is planted worldwide for its fruit and flower.

This species of peach is ornamental and does not have edible fruit. The delicate white or pink flowers appear before the leaves to mark the beginning of spring. Today, there are many edible varieties available including freestone, where the pulp separates from the pit, and cling, where the pulp sticks to the pit.

To find a tree that will grow well in your yard, visit: **http://texastreeplanting.tamu.edu**

16

Sabal Palm

Sabal texana

The only native, tree-size palm in Texas, the sabal palm reaches 50 feet in height and has a dense, rounded crown. The large evergreen, fan-shaped leaves hang on after they die forming a skirt or petticoat.

The sabal palm once formed a 40,000-acre palm forest along the Lower Rio Grande Valley. Today, due to extensive land clearing for development and agriculture, less than 50 acres are left and 32 of these are in the National Audubon Sabal Palm Grove Sanctuary outside Brownsville. Sabal palm is widely planted as an ornamental tree in South Texas and can survive as far north as Austin.

Yaupon Holly

Ilex vomitoria

17

The yaupon holly is an evergreen, thicket-forming shrub or small tree that grows to a height of 20 feet with a low, dense crown. It reaches its largest size on moist, fertile sites in the East Texas bottomlands. Yaupon is the only North American plant species to contain caffeine and the leaves and fruits have been used since ancient times for their purgative effects.

This plant is becoming popular as an ornamental since it has beautiful shiny green leaves, a light-colored bark and a great number of scarlet fruits that persist throughout the winter.

Yaupon is often used as a Christmas decoration and as a food source by birds. If you want to plant a yaupon, you have a choice of a regular, dwarf-sized, weeping form or red-fruited. However, if you want berries, be sure to plant a female yaupon.

18

Alianthus

Alianthus altissima

The alianthus is a naturalized tree from China that grows to 60 feet in height. It has large leaves with central axes up to two feet long divided into as many as 20 pairs of leaflets. This tree can grow six to eight feet per year and spreads by seeds and root suckers. Note the large leaf scars on the twigs and branches.

The alianthus seems to prefer urban waste places — growing near building foundations and from cracks in sidewalks. In fact, its tropical appearance and habit of urban growth has earned this tree the nickname, "Ghetto Palm." One story tells how it was imported via England to the United States in the 1700s to grow silkworms for the manufacture of silk. The silk enterprise was not profitable, but alianthus became a popular ornamental.

Bur Oak

Quercus macrocarpa

A large tree that can reach over 100 feet tall, the bur oak has muscular, spreading limbs. It is easy to identify with its large leaves of up to one foot long, its large, distinctive fringed or "mossy cup" acorn and its twigs with corky ridges on the branchlets. Bur oak has a deep and extensive root system and can do well on dry sites.

As conservation of natural resources has become a wider concern, bur oak and other well-adapted Texas natives are being planted more often. Creative landscaping for energy and water conservation is known as xeriscape. The seven principles of xeriscape are: reduce turf, use well-adapted and native plants, improve the soil, irrigate efficiently, practice good maintenance, use mulch, and use good landscape design. For more information on xeriscape and plants suitable for your area, contact your local Texas AgriLife Extension Service county agent at: **http://texasextension.tamu.edu**

20

Texas Redbud

Cercis canadensis var. texensis

The Texas redbud is a small tree with a short trunk that grows up to 40 feet tall. It has small, edible, pink flowers that cover the branches in the spring before the heart-shaped leaves appear. After the leaves turn bright yellow in the fall and are lost, the fruit, a two or three inch pod, is left hanging on the branches.

There are several varieties of redbud in Texas. The Texas redbud is better adapted to the thin, limestone soils of the Hill Country than its cousin in East Texas. This variety has shiny, waxy leaves that help it reduce moisture loss. Redbud has been used as an ornamental in the United States since 1641, and today white varieties of the Texas redbud are available.

21

Pecan

Carya illinoensis

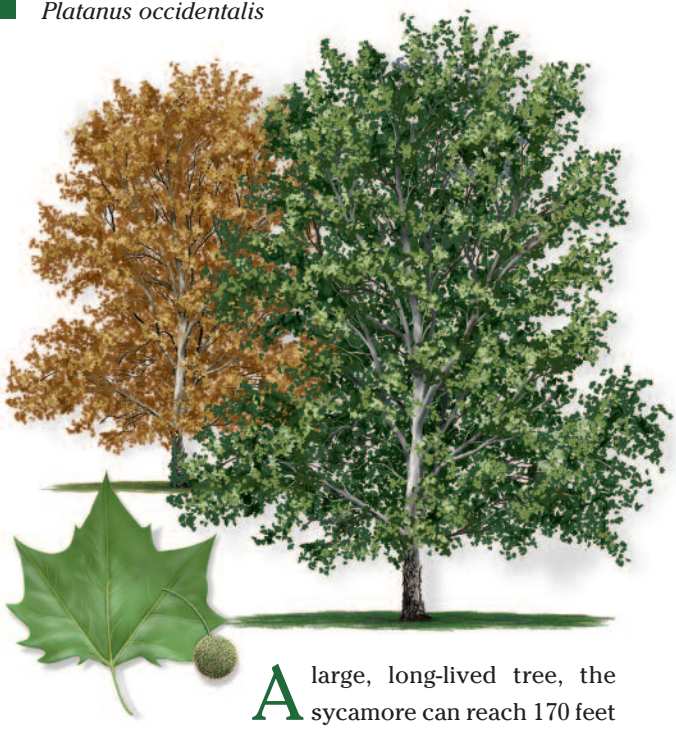
Our state tree since 1919, this fast-growing, long-lived tree can reach heights of 100 feet and trunk diameters of four feet.

Although Native Americans utilized pecans for tens of thousands of years, the first mention of them by a European was from Cabeza de Vaca, an early explorer in Texas. In 1532, he reportedly kept from starving after capture by Indians by stuffing himself with nuts he collected along the Guadalupe River.

Texas produces an average of 60 million pounds of pecans annually. About 60 percent of these are improved varieties from planted orchards and 40 percent are from native trees. For more information on growing pecans, visit:
http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu

22 Sycamore

Platanus occidentalis



A large, long-lived tree, the sycamore can reach 170 feet tall with a diameter of 11 feet. It is found as a forest tree along stream beds and banks from East Texas, west to Zavala County. The white bark of a sycamore makes it easy to identify in any season, and the one-inch fruit balls hang on the tree after the leaves fall.

Sycamore is widely planted as an ornamental. Its cousin, the London plane, a cross between an American and a Turkish sycamore, is the most widely planted urban tree in the world. Sycamore is an ancient tree and scientists have found fossilized leaves of the sycamore in Greenland dated to almost 100 million years ago. Sycamore has even older relatives; the earliest evidence of forests is from fossils found in New York dated to 370 million years ago — some 140 million years before dinosaurs.

Southern Magnolia

Magnolia grandiflora

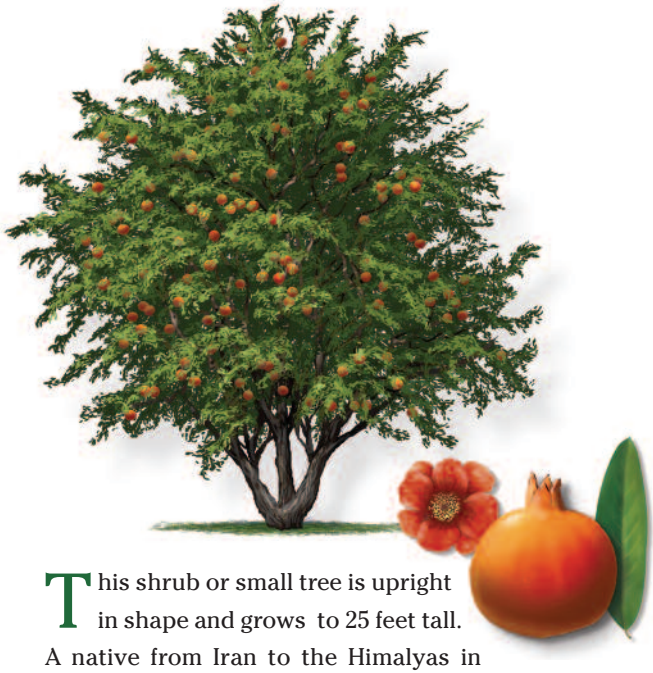
23

A medium-sized tree of the South, the southern magnolia grows to 80 feet tall with a dense, pyramidal crown. It is found on rich, moist soil from the borders of swamps and nearby uplands of the Coastal Plains to the valley of the Brazos River. It is widely planted for the beauty of its leaves, flowers and fruit. The large, evergreen, leathery leaves stay on the tree for about two years. The six to eight inch wide fragrant flowers have pure white petals with a splash of purple in the center. When ripe, the large, brownish, cone-like fruit structures release bright crimson seeds on silk-like threads from many slit-like openings.

If you are going to grow a magnolia tree, give it good soil, adequate moisture and let the branches grow to the ground to prevent interference with the sensitive and shallow roots.

24 Pomegranate

Punica granatum



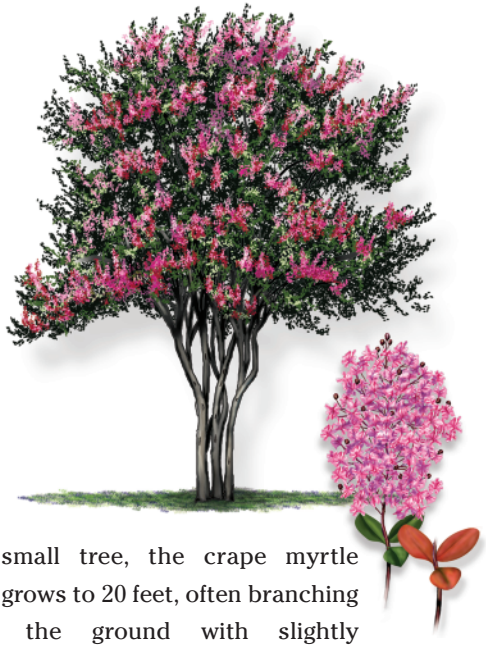
This shrub or small tree is upright in shape and grows to 25 feet tall. A native from Iran to the Himalyas in Northern India, its fruits have been used for food and flavoring since the days of Solomon. Spanish settlers first brought both pomegranate and fig to Texas in the 18th century.

The leaves turn from a glossy green to yellow in the fall. It is a drought and heat-tolerant tree that can provide an easily grown fruit crop for those who enjoy its unusual texture and flavor. Colorful orange-red or cream-colored flowers in late spring and early summer are followed by a many-seeded fruit wrapped in a leathery covering. Fruitless and dwarf varieties also are available.

Crape Myrtle

Lagerstroemia indica

25



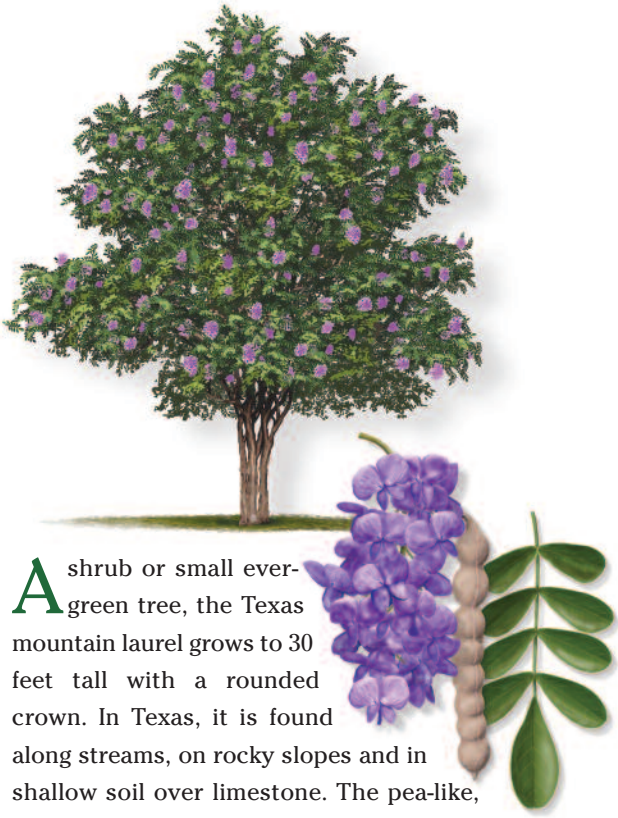
A small tree, the crape myrtle grows to 20 feet, often branching near the ground with slightly angled or curved trunks and an open, spreading, rounded crown. Crape myrtle is a very popular ornamental in Texas. The odorless, showy flowers are massed in upright-branched clusters and give a burst of white, pink, red or purple in the late summer when few other flowers bloom. Its small leaves have a beautiful red fall color.

The scientific name was given to the crape myrtle by the famous Swedish botanist Linnaeus for his friend, Magnus von Lagerstroem (1696-1759). “Indica” refers to its native range of China and Southeast Asia. Many Texas crape myrtles were severely damaged by the big Christmas freeze of 1989 when temperatures in Austin dropped to 6 degrees Fahrenheit.

26

Texas Mountain Laurel

Sophora secundiflora

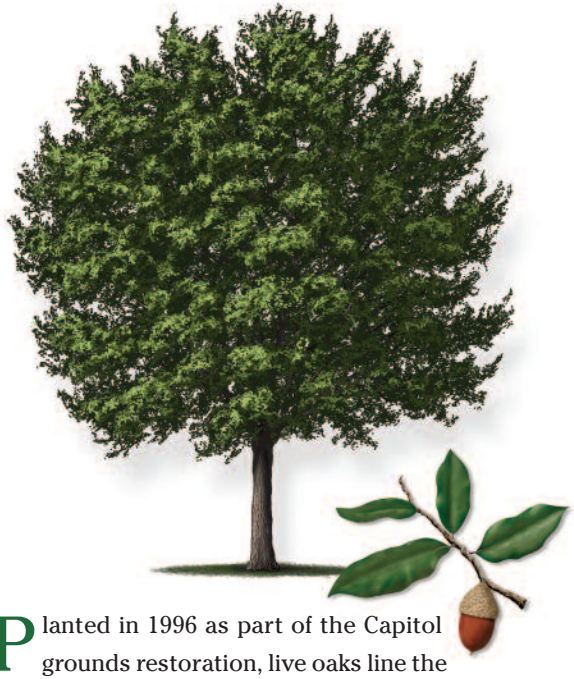


A shrub or small evergreen tree, the Texas mountain laurel grows to 30 feet tall with a rounded crown. In Texas, it is found along streams, on rocky slopes and in shallow soil over limestone. The pea-like, bluish-purple flowers appear in thick clusters in the spring and have a fragrance reminiscent of grape Kool-Aid. The hard fruit pod has a bead-like appearance from the constrictions between the seeds.

In 1539, Cabeza de Vaca reported that Texas Indians used the beans in barter. The earliest evidence of their use in Texas is some 10,000 years ago at the Bonfire Shelter area on the Lower Pecos River. The flowers and fruits of this plant contain a poisonous alkaloid called cystine. Consumption of one seed produces nausea, convulsions and sometimes death.

Grand Allée Live Oaks

Quercus virginiana



Planted in 1996 as part of the Capitol grounds restoration, live oaks line the grand allée and shade the checkerboard-patterned concrete walk at the Texas Capitol.

Of all the oak species found in the United States, Texas has almost three quarters, or 43 of the 58, within its boundaries. Texas also contains over one third of all the tree species found in the United States. With over 300 types of trees, Texas has more tree species than any other state.

In spite of the live oak's intimate association with Texans and their history, today it is threatened by Oak Wilt disesase. This fungus has already destroyed hundreds of thousands of oaks in 72 Texas counties. For more information visit: **http://www.texasoakwilt.org**

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The State Preservation Board's Capitol Fund supports preservation and public education activities at the historic Texas Capitol Complex. For more information, please call 512.463.5495 or write to:

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c/o State Preservation Board
P.O. Box 13286
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Texas Forest Service

Texas Forest Service was created in 1915 by the 34th Legislature as an integral part of the Texas A&M University System. Its mission is to provide statewide leadership to assure that Texas trees, forests and related natural resources are protected and sustained for all.

http://texasforestservice.tamu.edu

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The State Preservation Board preserves and maintains the Texas Capitol, the Capitol Extension, the 1857 General Land Office Building, other designated buildings, their contents and their grounds; provides facilities and grounds keeping services for the Texas Governor's Mansion; and operates the Bob Bullock Texas State History Museum. They provide educational programs centered on Texas history. These services benefit the citizens of Texas and its visitors.

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The International Society of Arboriculture is a professional organization with 20,000 members dedicated to the continuing education for arborists, to tree care research, and to serving tree care customers around the world. The Texas Chapter shares this same dedication, with the further commitment to serving the needs particular to Texas' professional arborists and tree care customers.

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