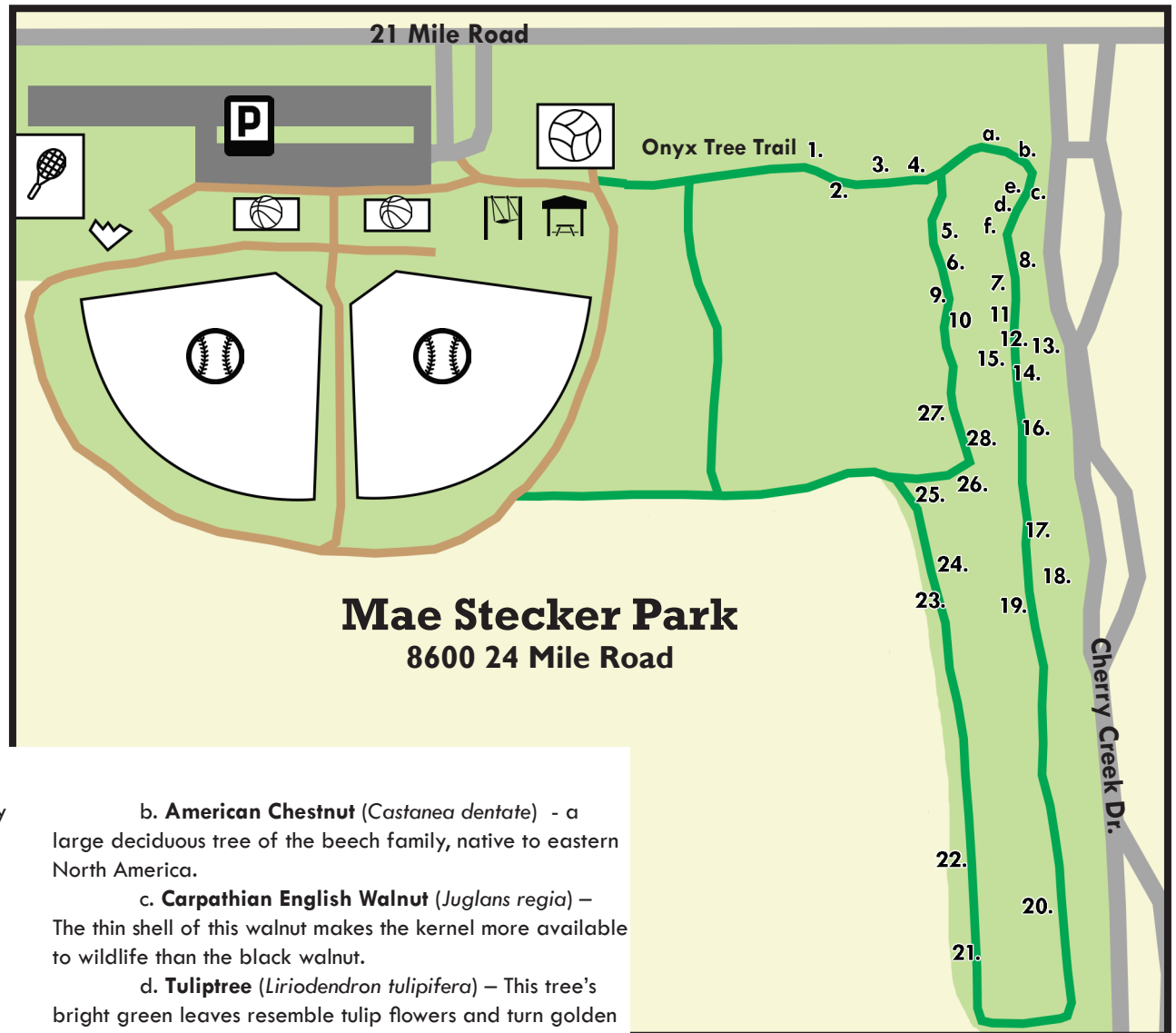
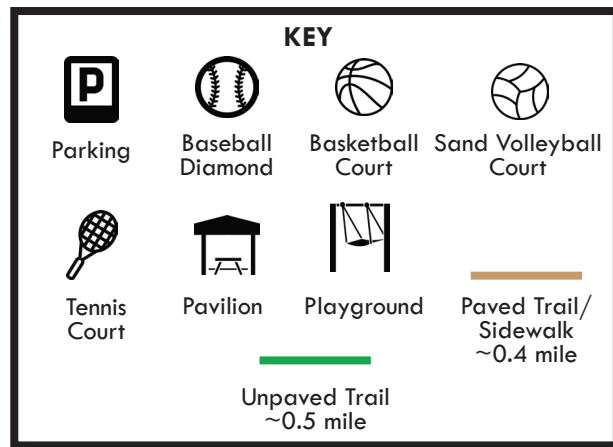


Onyx Tree Trail

This trail is a joint effort of the Shelby Township Parks, Recreation and Maintenance Department and the Beautification Committee. Enjoy the beauty of nature through the trees found on this trail.

The trail is located at Mae Stecker Park at 8600 24 Mile Road and is unpaved.



TREE GUIDE:

- 1. Blue Spruce** (*Picea pungens*) – The blue spruce has silvery blue needles and is a favorite pick for Christmas trees.
- 2. White Pine** (*Pinus strobus*) – This is the Michigan state tree and can grow more than 24 inches per year.
- 3. Tree of Heaven** (*Ailanthus altissima*) – Native to China, this is an invasive tree species brought over in the 1700s.
- 4. Box Elder** (*Acer negundo*) – flowers in the spring and produces winged pair fruit in the fall.
 - a. Redbud** (*Cercis Canadensis*) – The rosy pink flowers this tree is named after appear in April before changing to dark green, and then yellow. They're a favorite in the early Spring for nectar-seeking insects, like butterflies.

- b. American Chestnut** (*Castanea dentate*) - a large deciduous tree of the beech family, native to eastern North America.
- c. Carpathian English Walnut** (*Juglans regia*) – The thin shell of this walnut makes the kernel more available to wildlife than the black walnut.
- d. Tuliptree** (*Liriodendron tulipifera*) – This tree's bright green leaves resemble tulip flowers and turn golden yellow in the fall.
- e. Sourwood** (*Oxydendrum arborum*) – The spring flowers attract bees and produces gourmet honey. It turns a purplish-red in the fall.
- f. Baldcypress** (*Taxodium distichum*) – This conifer tree loses its short needles in the fall and does well in swampy areas.



Charter Township of Shelby
**PARKS, RECREATION,
AND MAINTENANCE**
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TREE GUIDE (cont.):

5. Redbud (*Cercis Canadensis*) – The small size and beautiful spring flowers make this a popular landscaping tree.

6. River Birch (*Betula nigra*) – This tree naturally grows along riverbanks and has a unique curling bark during dry times.

7. Paper Birch (*Betula papyrifera*) – The classic image of a birch, these trees produce bark that's eaten by moose and deer.

8. Black Tartarian Cherry (*Prunus avium*) – This is a popular choice for home orchards because these trees produce large, purplish-black fruit with sweet, rich-bodied flavor.

9. Amur Maple (*Acer ginnala*) - This invasive species is a small tree that can spread hundreds of seeds a year.

10. White fir (*Abies concolor*) – This fir's short needles and needle retention make it a popular choice for Christmas tree.

11. Norway Spruce (*Picea abies*) – This spruce is an important cover for deer and small game in the winter and home to song birds. It also makes a good roosting tree for hawks and owls.

12. Slippery Elm (*Ulmus rubra*) – The name of this tree comes from a sticky mixture of sugars under the elm's bark that is often used in herbal remedies and supplements.

13. Silver Maple (*Acer saccharinum*) – The undersides of this maple's leaves are a silver-white that shimmer in the wing. They have a wide-spreading root system and needs to be planted away from sidewalks and sewer systems.

14. Red Oak (*Quercus rubra*) – Acorns from the red oak are the top of the preference food list for blue jays, wild turkeys, squirrels, small rodents, deer, raccoons and black bears.

15. Red Maple (*Acer rubrum*) – The fruit of the red maple is called a samara, more commonly known as "helicopters" because of the swirling motion they make as they fall to the ground.

16. White Pine Stand (a group of white pines) – This group of trees was planted by Mr. Art Onyx from the Macomb Conservation District.

17. Ironwood (*Ostrya virginiana*) – This tree has very dense wood used for things like tool handles or gold clubs.

18. Norway Spruce (*Picea abies*) – This tree hails from Europe and while it does grow in Norway, it grew in Eurasia, the Black Forest and other parts of the continent before it spread over into Norway around 500 B.C.

19. American Beech (*Fagus grandifolia*) – This tree was a sign to early settlers of rich, fertile soil which ultimately meant it was removed in order to farm the land.

20. White Spruce (*Picea glauca*) – The bark of a white spruce tree is enjoyed by porcupines and black bears.

21. Sassafras (*Sassafra albidum*) – The original recipe of root beer used the roots of the sassafras tree.

22. While Pine Trail – This trail was planted by the previous property owner, Mr. Art Onyx.

23. Sugar Maple (*Acer saccharum*) – The sap in this maple is high in sugar, hence the name. It's the first choice for making maple syrup.

24. Redcedar (*Juniperus virginiana*) – These trees covered large portions of the continent and early explorers said they were the tallest and reddest cedars of the world. Today, few are given the time to grow to their full potential.

25. Red Pine (*Rinus resinosa*) – Red pine has long been a fast-growing, attractive and relatively disease-free forest tree species.

26. Kentucky Coffeetree (*Gymnocladus dioicus*) – Though it doesn't produce coffee beans, early settlers of Kentucky gave this tree the name because the beans it produces resemble coffee tree beans.

27. Bridal Wreath Spirea (*Spirae aprunifolia*) – This is a medium-sized shrub that produces bright white flowers in early spring.

28. Flowering Dogwood (*Cornus florida*) – This tree is beautiful in all four seasons, with white flowers in the spring, dark green leaves in the summer, reddish-purple leaves in the fall and beautiful red berries in the winter.

DISCLAIMER: This is a living trail. As trees grow, they may lose their signs. The Parks, Recreation and Maintenance Department maintain this trail to the best of their ability. If you find a sign missing, contact the department at 586-731-0300. Thank you.