

Spring Park Native Woody Plant Checklist (November 2020)

TREES

White pine (*Pinus Strobus*)

Bald cypress (*Taxodium distichum*)

White oak (*Quercus alba*)

Chestnut oak (*Quercus prinus*)

Swamp White oak (*Quercus bicolor*)

Willow oak (*Quercus phellos*)

Red oak (*Quercus rubra*)

Pin oak (*Quercus palustris*)

Scarlet oak (*Quercus coccinea*)

Black cherry (*Prunus serotina*)

Tuliptree (*Liriodendron tulipifera*)

Black gum (*Nyssa sylvatica*)

River birch (*Betula nigra*)

Red maple (*Acer rubrum*)

American elm (*Ulmus americana*)

Northern Hackberry (*Celtis occidentalis*)

Black locust (*Robinia pseudo-acacia*)

Sycamore (*Platanus occidentalis*)

Cigar tree (*Catalpa speciosa*)

Sweetgum (*Liquidambar styraciflua*)

White mulberry (*Morus alba*)

Red mulberry (*Morus rubra*)

SHRUBS OR SMALL TREES

Dogwood (*Cornus florida*)

Muscle tree/ Ironwood / American hornbeam (*Carpinus caroliniana*)

Redbud (*Cercis canadensis*)

Possum Haw (*Viburnum nudum*)

Southern arrow-wood (*Viburnum dentatum*)

Virginia sweetspire (*Itea virginica*)

Winterberry (*Ilex laevigata*)

Black chokeberry (*Pyrus melanocarpa* or *Aronia melanocarpa*)

Swamp magnolia (*Magnolia virginiana*)

Non-natives worth noting:

Star magnolia (*Magnolia stellata*)

Bush honeysuckle

A HISTORY OF SPRING PARK

*(the following is from the “Chronology” section of **Takoma Park: Portrait of a Victorian Suburb 1883—1983** by Ellen R. Marsh and Mary Anne O’Boyle, Chronology by Terry F. Dammann, published by Historic Takoma, Inc.)*

1886:(B.F.) Gilbert purchased the tract now known as “New Takoma.” The boundary ran along Carroll to Ethan Allen Avenue from Pine Avenue and included the area south to a line just below Elm Avenue. Takoma Park’s most famous spring, “Big Spring” or Spring No. 2, at Elm and Poplar Avenues was included in this tract.....

1891: Gilbert sold the land on which both Spring No. 1 (in the District near the railroad track) and No. 2 were located to the Takoma Park Springs Co. Although these springs were supposed to be kept available for public use, no effort was made to hold Spring No. 1. After a fence was put up around Spring No. 2, the citizens tore it down and engaged in legal battles to insure public control of the spring. The town council eventually acquired the spring and the surrounding land for public use.

1948: In 1947 the historic “Big Spring” was sealed because it was polluted, and the stone building around the spring was torn down.

In 1948 a new playground called “Spring Memorial Park” was dedicated on the site at Elm and Poplar Avenues.

1980s: The statue of Chief Powhatan was added along with the surrounding landscaping. It was done by local resident Norman Greene. He also did the statue of “Roscoe” in 1999.

early 2000: Under the leadership of Todd Bolton, city arborist, the spring was “day-lighted” and the stream and “bog” created and planted.