

## Visit Your Local Champion Trees!

Champion trees are often a wonder to behold. As some of the largest known trees in the area, many champion trees possess truly mammoth size. In the [Featured Article](#), we introduced the six champion trees that reside on the Bethesda campus. Additionally, there is a former-champion tree and two potential future-champion trees also on the Bethesda campus. We would like to encourage everyone to pay these trees a visit while on campus. To this end, the following page contains a map of all the trees mentioned above. We hope this will assist anyone curious to find the champion trees on campus!

Visiting a champion tree is an incredible opportunity to reflect on the lifetime of the tree. A champion tree may have attained its stature through very advanced age or perhaps the tree was lucky enough to grow in very favorable conditions. How many significant events have occurred near the tree throughout its lifetime? For example, the Champion Golden Larch was likely planted just after Building 41 was constructed and has seen many of the changes made to the southern side of the campus. The Champion Black Willow is thought to be a remnant of the Town & Country Golf course that used to reside on the Bethesda campus. Who might this tree have witnessed golfing? We could also consider the conditions that have allowed these trees to grow taller or wider than any others near it? How did this tree come to grow in this spot? Was it an accident or thoroughly planned? Many of these questions may never have answers, but it certainly leads to a greater appreciation of nature!



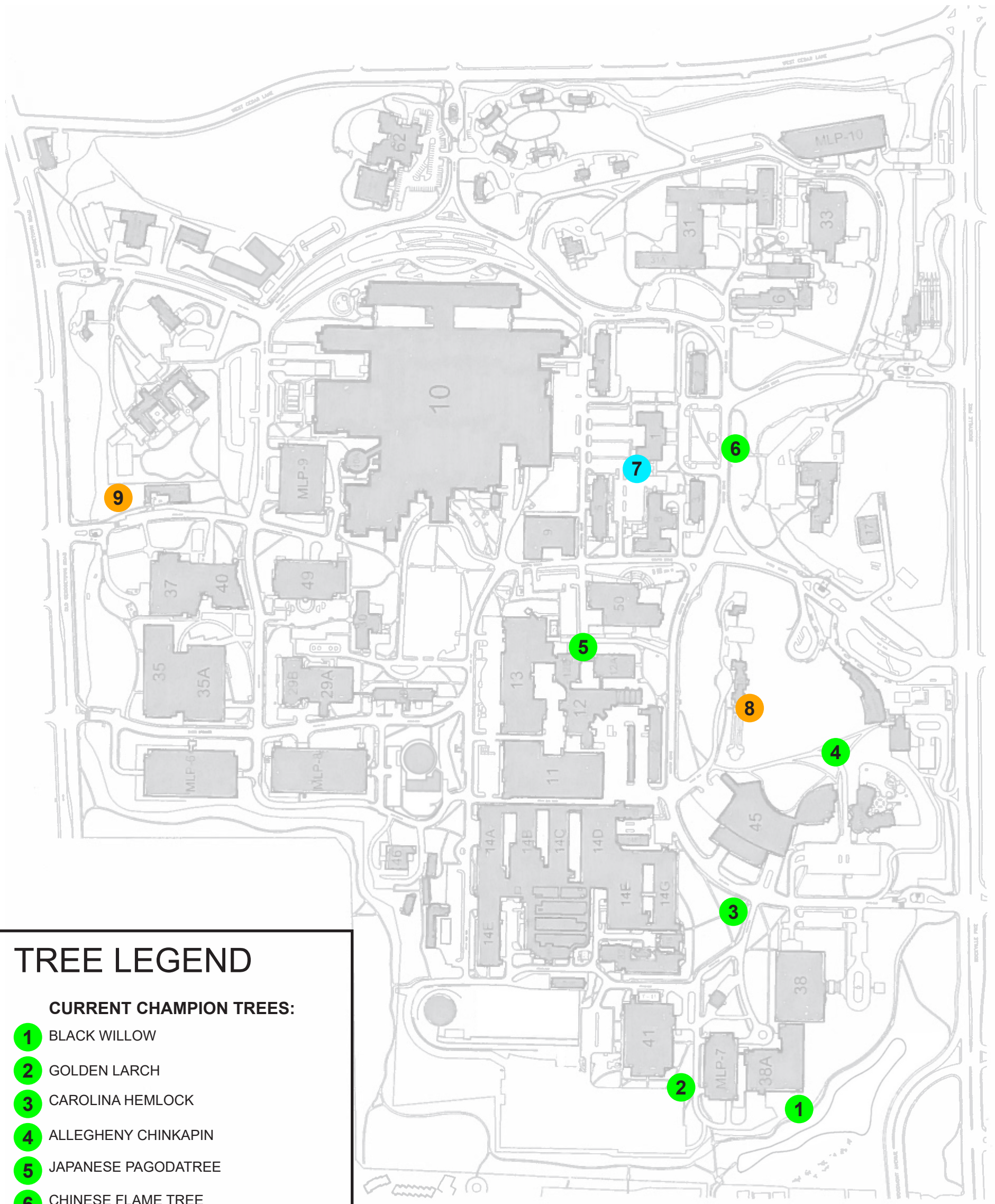
County Champion Black Willow



Former Champion Japanese Zelkova



County Champion Carolina Hemlock



## TREE LEGEND

### CURRENT CHAMPION TREES:

- 1** BLACK WILLOW
- 2** GOLDEN LARCH
- 3** CAROLINA HEMLOCK
- 4** ALLEGHENY CHINKAPIN
- 5** JAPANESE PAGODATREE
- 6** CHINESE FLAME TREE

### PAST CHAMPION TREES:

- 7** JAPANESE ZELKOVA

### TREES W/ CHAMPION POTENTIAL

- 8** SAUCER MAGNOLIA
- 9** MAIDENHAIR TREE

# CHAMPION TREE MAP

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