

Grabenhorst Garden

# Adopt-a-Tree Program

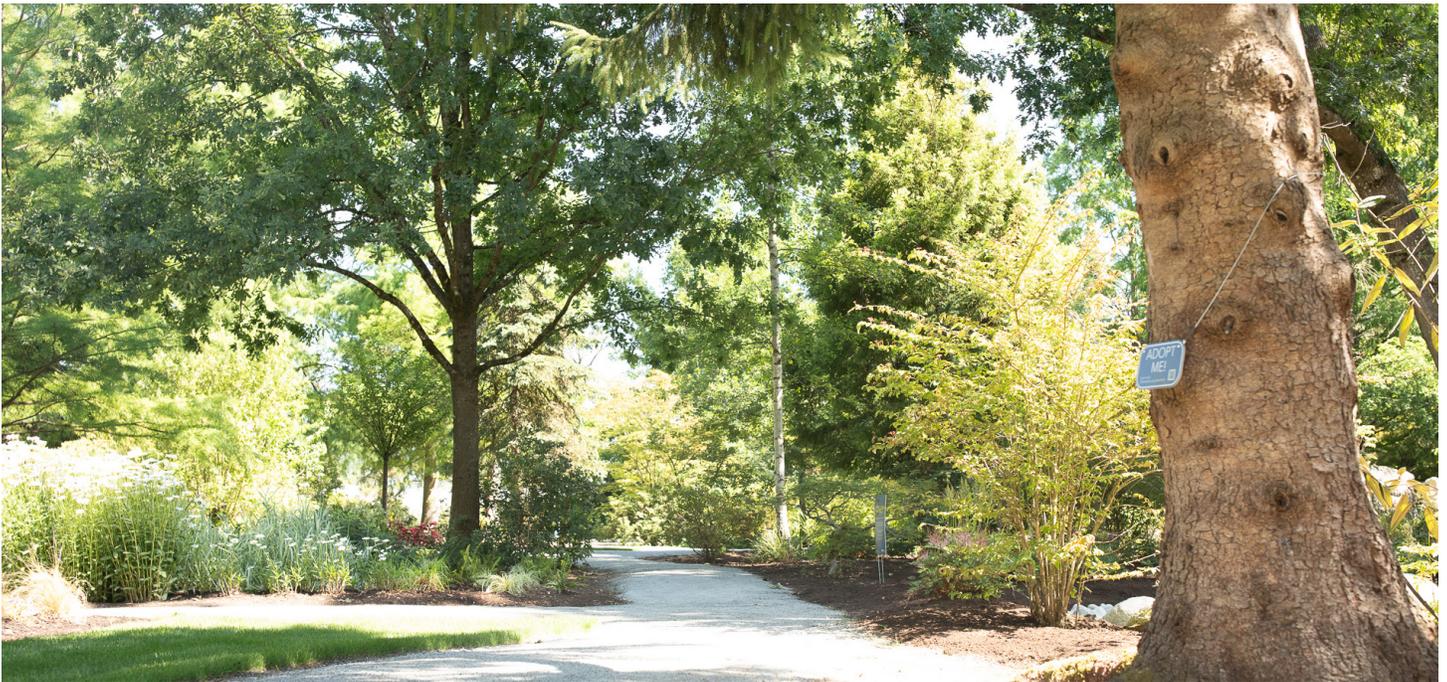


**Grabenhorst Garden**, 13895 Harris Road, Pitt Meadows

**Questions?** Call 604-465-2434

**Email:** [parkdonation@pittmeadows.ca](mailto:parkdonation@pittmeadows.ca)

**Learn more:** [pittmeadows.ca/grabenhorst](http://pittmeadows.ca/grabenhorst)



The City of Pitt Meadows offers a variety of opportunities for residents to participate in the enhancement of community spaces and programs through the donation of park amenities. Programs include the Park Donation Program and Grabenhorst Garden programs, such as the Place of Remembrance, Adopt-a-Tree and general garden donations.

## Grabenhorst Garden **Adopt-a-Tree Program**

Create a lasting tribute by adopting a mature tree in the garden. This program allows you to honour a loved one or celebrate a special milestone with a personal connection to nature. Your adoption supports more than a plaque — it helps fund ongoing tree care and Grabenhorst Garden maintenance, keeping the space healthy and beautiful for generations to come.

Each adoption includes: a custom plaque and ongoing care and maintenance for a 10-year period. Dedicate a mature tree in memory or celebration with a minimum donation of \$3,000.



## How to **Get Started**

### **Review the tree list**

Look through the Adopt-a-Tree document and choose your top three trees.

**Get in touch** - Have questions or want to discuss your options? Email us at [ParkDonation@pittmeadows.ca](mailto:ParkDonation@pittmeadows.ca) or call **604-465-2434**.

**Wait for confirmation** - Once you have made your selections, our Park Donation staff will contact you to confirm availability. If your choice is available, you will be sent an adoption form to complete and return.

**Make your donation** - After your form is approved, a minimum donation of \$3,000 must be dropped off in person at City Hall, located at 12007 Harris Rd, Pitt Meadows.

**Receive your adoption package** - Once your donation is received, a custom plaque will be placed on your adopted tree. You will also receive a photo and adoption certificate by email.

Trees are adopted for 10 years. If the tree is removed, damaged or dies during that time, a replacement will be offered for the remainder of the term. When the 10-year period ends, you'll have the option to renew the adoption.



## List and Location of Available Trees

1. Giant Sequoia
2. Dawn Redwood
3. Weeping Ash
4. Bald Cypress
5. Norway Spruce
6. Japanese Umbrella Pine
7. Garry Oak
8. Japanese Cedar
9. Douglas Fir
10. European Beech
11. Western Red Cedar
12. Coastal Redwood
13. Dove Tree
14. Red Oak
15. Weeping Beech ADOPTED

## About Grabenhorst Garden

Located at 13895 Harris Road, Pitt Meadows

Established in 2025, Grabenhorst Garden is a stunning five-acre sanctuary nestled within the Agricultural Land Reserve. This land has a rich story—once a horse pasture in the 1970s, then a Christmas tree farm, and now a flourishing public garden shaped by decades of love and care.

Over several decades, long-time resident Rose Grabenhorst transformed the property into a breathtaking woodland garden. With dedication and vision, she planted more than 700 rhododendrons, carved out meandering walking trails, and created peaceful spaces for reflection, connection and learning.

The City was honoured to work in partnership with Rose’s family to help bring her vision to life—transforming the land into a public garden that continues to grow, inspire and bring people together.

Discover ornamental gardens, a tranquil pond, accessible pathways, a historic barn, a place of remembrance and spaces for environmental education. You’ll also find a community orchard and edible garden generously funded by the Local Food Infrastructure Fund, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada—living reminders of the land’s enduring legacy.

## About Rose Grabenhorst

Rose Grabenhorst was an avid gardener, environmental advocate and dedicated Pitt Meadows resident for more than 50 years. From the 1970s until her passing in 2020, she poured her passion into transforming her property into a peaceful, and vibrant woodland garden. Her thoughtful design, love of nature and deep community spirit are reflected in every corner of the landscape.





**1** **Giant Sequoia**  
*Sequoiadendron giganteum*

**Located near the picnic shelter.**

This species is one of the world’s largest and longest-living trees, reaching over 300 feet (91 meters) tall and surviving for more than 3,000 years. Native to California’s Sierra Nevada, its thick, fire-resistant bark and deep roots enable resilience, while its cones release seeds after wildfires, aiding regeneration. These majestic trees support biodiversity and stand as enduring symbols of strength.

*I am Giant Sequoia—the Titan of Earth.  
 I rise like a living monument, my bark thick with centuries, my roots woven through the bones of mountains. I have seen fire, storm, and snowfall beyond memory and I remain. In my shadow, generations have walked. In my stillness, strength endures. I am the keeper of time.*

—The Giant Sequoia



**2** **Dawn Redwood**  
*Metasequoia glyptostroboides*

**Located across from the Place of Remembrance.**

This deciduous conifer has bright green, feathery foliage that turns coppery-orange in fall. Thought to be extinct until rediscovered in China in 1941. This tree represents rediscovery, resilience, and connection to ancient Earth.

*I am Dawn Redwood—the Ancient Returned.  
 Once thought lost to stone and time, I waited, rooted in quiet valleys unaware the world had forgotten me. My needles fall in flame each autumn, only to rise again in spring’s soft light. I am the memory of forests long vanished, breathing once more in the present. I am the tree that vanished. The tree that endured. The tree that came home.*

—The Dawn Redwood



### 3 Weeping Ash

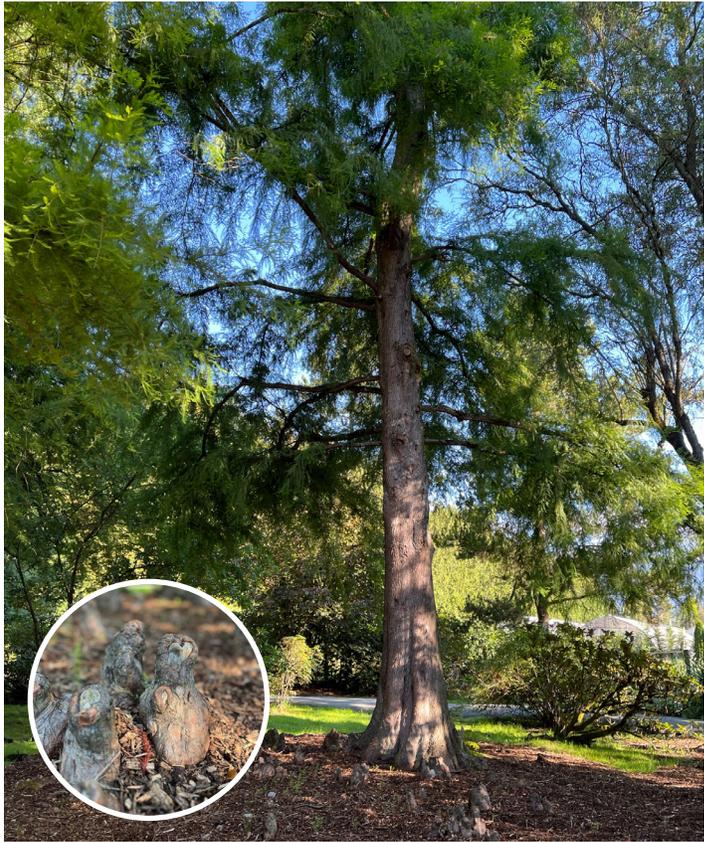
*Fraxinus excelsior 'Pendula'*

**Located near the Picnic Shelter.**

The European Weeping Ash is a cultivated variety with graceful, cascading branches and pinnate leaves, making it a standout in ornamental gardens. This tree carries cultural significance in Norse mythology as the World Tree, Yggdrasil, symbolizing wisdom, adaptability, and the connection between life's realms.

*I am Weeping Ash—Grace in Stillness.  
My branches fall like silver rain, swaying gently  
with each breath of wind. Though my limbs lean  
low, I do not break. I carry quiet strength beneath  
sorrowed form—a beauty born of resilience. I am  
sorrow's silhouette, and serenity's soul.*

—The Weeping Ash



### 4 Bald Cypress

*Taxodium distichum*

**Located near the Cypress Grove**

This deciduous conifer can live for over 1,000 years and thrives in wet, swampy areas. This species is known for its "knees" (pneumatophores) that rise above water or soil. These knees help with stability and gas exchange in swampy conditions. The wood is resistant to decay, making it valuable for construction and furniture.

*I am Bald Cypress—Rooted in Water, Ancient and  
Unmoved.*

*I grow where rivers slow and fog lingers, my knees  
rising from the earth to breathe. Each fall I shed my  
cloak of copper, bare and patient through winter's  
hush. I have stood in storm and stillness alike. I am  
time carved in wood and water.*

—The Bald Cypress



## 5 Norway Spruce

*Picea abies*

**Located behind the Place of Remembrance.**

This tall evergreen tree has swooping branches and cylindrical cones, commonly used as a Christmas tree. It grows rapidly and adapts well to various climates, making it a favorite for timber and garden displays.

*I am Norway spruce—Evergreen Sentinel.  
My branches sweep like green drapery, heavy with snow, alive with song. I stand through long winters and endless silence, rooted deep in northern soil. I do not rush. I do not fall. I endure. I am steadfast beneath the stars.*

—The Norway Spruce



## 6 Japanese Umbrella Pine

*Sciadopitys verticillata*

**Located near the Garry Oak Tree.**

This unique evergreen tree features long, dark green needles arranged in umbrella-like clusters. Native to Japan, this species is over 230 million years old. This living fossil is often planted near places of worship. It symbolizes uniqueness, endurance, and timeless beauty.

*I am Japanese Umbrella Pine—The Whispering Wonder.  
My needles arc in perfect spirals, a quiet symmetry beneath the sky. Slow to grow, slow to change—yet always becoming. I hold stillness within me, a rare and ancient rhythm. I am patience in green. A secret in the forest.*

—The Japanese Umbrella Pine



**7** **Garry Oak**  
*Quercus garryana*

**Located near the Place of Remembrance.**

This tree is BC’s only native oak, found in select areas of the Lower Mainland but more common on Vancouver Island and the Gulf Islands. Growing up to 30 meters tall with deeply ridged bark, lobed green leaves that turn golden in fall, and acorns supporting local wildlife, Garry Oaks thrive in dry, well-drained soils and are key to a rare, threatened ecosystem home to species like Western Bluebirds and native wildflowers. Conservation efforts focus on habitat restoration as urbanization and invasive species threaten its survival. The Garry Oak symbolizes strength, resilience, and ecological interconnectedness—representing endurance through harsh conditions, deep-rooted wisdom, Indigenous cultural heritage, and the urgent need for conservation in a changing climate.

*I am Garry Oak—Old Soul of the Coast.  
Twisted by wind, shaped by fire, I rise from dry,  
stony ground. I bend, but I hold fast. Around me,  
life flourishes—insects, owls, wildflowers—all woven  
into my limbs. I am strength in adversity. A relic of  
wild resilience.*

—The Garry Oak



**8** **Japanese Cedar**  
*Cryptomeria japonica*

**Located near the Place of Remembrance.**

Evergreen conifer with soft, needle-like foliage and a pyramidal shape. Native to Japan and often planted near temples as a sacred tree. Known as “Sugi” in Japan, it is Japan’s national tree. Symbolism: Sacredness, spirituality, and endurance.

*I am Japanese Cedar—Sacred and Still.  
I grow where mountains meet mist, my trunk rising  
in calm silence. My wood carries warmth. My scent  
lingers like memory. In temple groves and quiet  
paths, I have stood for centuries. I am a breath of  
forest spirit. A living prayer.*

—The Japanese Cedar



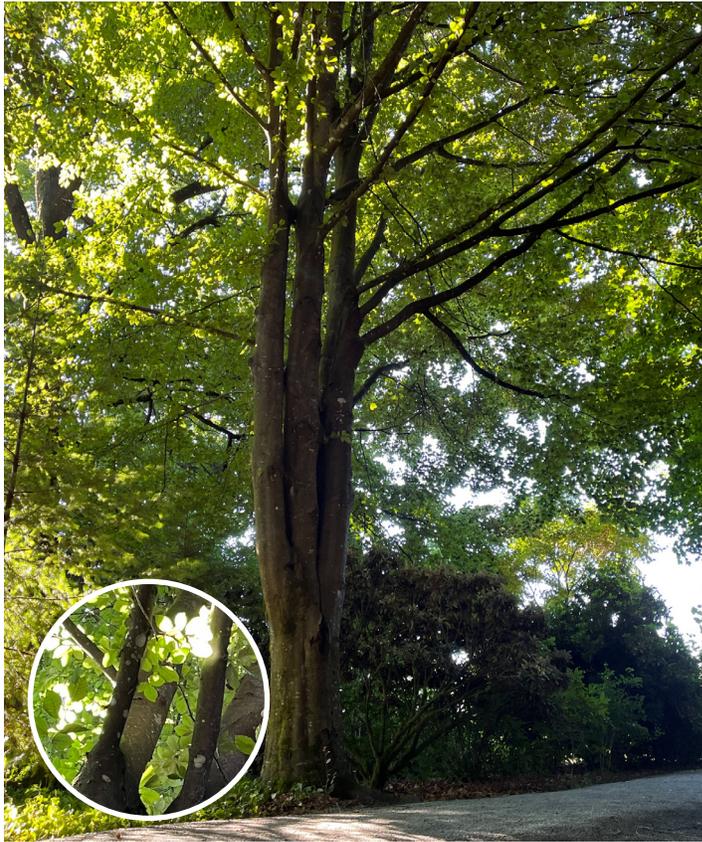
**9** **Douglas Fir**  
*Pseudotsuga menziesii*

**Located at the entrance to the woodland area.**

A young tree that will grow up to be a tall evergreen conifer with a distinctive cone that has three-pointed bracts. One of the most important timber trees in the world. Its wood is used for construction, paper pulp, and even Christmas trees. Symbolism: Stability, reliability, and connection to nature.

*I am Douglas Fir—Heart of the West.  
My cones bear the stories of fire. My bark holds the heat of summer and the chill of mountain air. I have stood through centuries of change—towering, unwavering. I am the backbone of wild places. I am timber and time.*

—The Douglas Fir



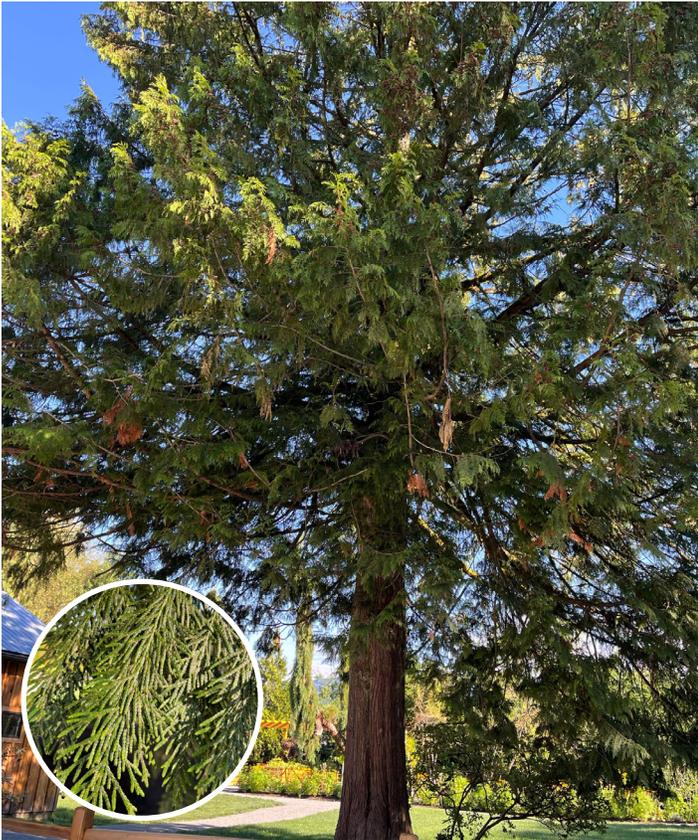
**10** **European Beech**  
*Fagus sylvatica*

**Located near the Rhododendron Walk.**

This majestic deciduous tree has smooth, gray bark, and a dense, spreading canopy. The glossy green leaves turn coppery-gold in the fall. The beechnuts, serve as a food source for wildlife, while its wood is prized for furniture, flooring, and tools due to its strength and durability. Historically, beech trees were considered symbols of knowledge and wisdom, appearing in European folklore and literature as sacred or protective trees.

*I am European Beech—Keeper of Quiet Forests.  
My smooth grey bark holds no scars, only light. My leaves shimmer like green silk, turning to gold with grace. I offer shade, shelter, and centuries of stillness. I am elegance made root. Dignity in leaf and limb.*

—The European Beech



# 11 Western Red Cedar

*Thuja plicata*

**Located near the barn.**

British Columbia’s official tree, is a towering giant of the coastal rainforests, reaching up to 70 meters tall. Its rich, reddish-brown bark peels in long strips, resistant to decay and fire, while it’s fragrant, scale-like foliage thrives in the cool, misty climate of the Pacific Northwest.

*I am Western Red Cedar—Tree of Life. My bark peels in long, red strands. My scent fills the rain-soaked air. I give—shelter, warmth, healing. In the shadows of my boughs, stories are born and whispered. I am medicine. Memory. The forest’s heart.*

—The Western Red Cedar



# 12 Coastal Redwood

*Sequoia sempervirens*

**Located near the road entrance.**

Earth’s tallest tree, stretching over 100 meters tall with thick, reddish brown fibrous bark. This long lived conifer tree has soft, dark-green needles that absorb moisture from coastal fog, sustaining it through dry summers, while it’s shallow yet wide-spreading roots interlock with neighboring trees, creating a resilient network of support.

*I am Coastal Redwood—Mist-Seeker, Sky-Reacher. I rise through fog and cloud, taller than thought itself. My roots entwine with kin, anchoring a forest older than empires. Time moves slowly here, in my hush and height.*

*I am ancient breath, alive in light and silence.*

—The Coastal Redwood



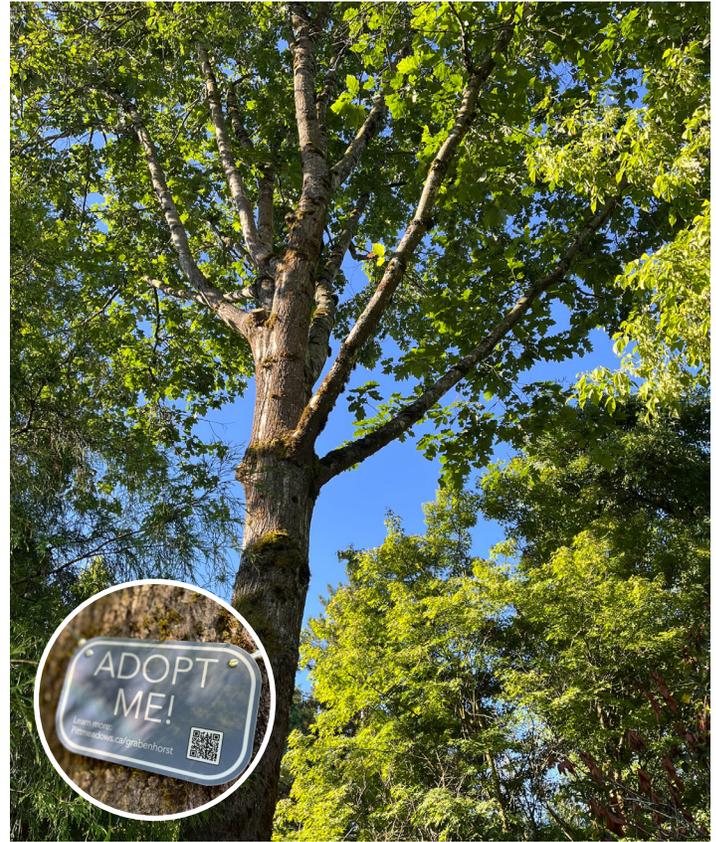
**13** **Dove Tree**  
*Sciadopitys verticillata*

**Located near the parking area.**

This rare and striking deciduous tree is native to the misty mountains and valleys of central and southwestern China. Known for its signature white bracts that flutter like doves in the wind each spring. Growing up to 20 meters tall, it features a pyramidal to rounded canopy, heart-shaped green leaves with serrated edges, and small, clustered flowers. In fall, its foliage turns golden-yellow, and round, nut-like fruits develop, providing food for wildlife. Historically revered and once nearly lost to history, it stands as a symbol of rarity, peace, and resilience, embodying the quiet beauty of nature’s fleeting yet unforgettable moments.

*I am Dove Tree—The Ghost in Bloom.  
Each spring, my petals drift like wings—white,  
weightless, serene. Rare and fragile, I bloom in  
memory and peace. In quiet groves, I carry the  
breath of something sacred.  
I am beauty made visible. I am a prayer in blossom.*

—The Dove Tree



**14** **Red Oak**  
*Quercus rubra*

**Located near the Stormwater Pond.**

A towering deciduous tree known for its broad canopy and vibrant red foliage in autumn. Red oak grows quickly and can reach heights of up to 30 meters, with a sturdy, straight trunk and ridged, grayish bark. Its distinctive lobed leaves turn a brilliant scarlet in fall, while its strong, deep roots anchor it through storms and droughts alike. Adaptable and resilient, red oak supports a rich ecosystem, offering food and habitat for birds, mammals, and pollinators throughout the seasons.

*I am Red Oak—Fire in the Canopy.  
In autumn, I blaze across the hills—scarlet, crimson,  
alive. My limbs stretch strong and wide, welcoming  
all beneath. Fast to rise, enduring to the end.  
I am passion in leaf. Strength in root.*

—The Red Oak

✓ ADOPTED



## 15 Weeping Beech

*Fagus sylvatica 'Pendula'*

**Located near the pond.**

This unique cultivar is known for its cascading branches, distinctive form, and striking presence that brings year-round charm. Though the weeping form produces fewer nuts, it still provides valuable habitat for wildlife.

*I am the Weeping Beech. A tree of grace, memory, and quiet strength. My sweeping branches drape like a curtain creating a hidden world beneath my canopy. Children often duck beneath my limbs giggling in secret forts. My smooth grey bark holds stories of many seasons, and in autumn, my leaves turn a rich copper before they fall gently to the earth. I've stood here for years watching generations pass, offering shade, shelter, and a place to pause. If you sit with me for a while I might just share a secret or two on the wind.*

—The Weeping Beech