

DUKES 4 TREES

2023 / April 21 / Walk 14



TOP - Two flowering dogwood trees, one pink and one white almost look like the same tree. (JMU/A.Sloop)
BOTTOM RIGHT - The showy white bracts of the dogwood surround the tiny yellow flowers. (JMU/A. Sloop)

Dogwood Days of Spring

With the premier designation of being both our state flower and our state tree, the flowering dogwood is important not only to Virginia, but to our campus landscape. There are many species of dogwoods found in Virginia and on campus, only a couple are considered native to the state. The first to flower is the Cornelian Cherry dogwood in March, the Flowering dogwood in April, the Kousa dogwood in May and then lastly the Pagoda dogwood in June. Only the first two listed above flower before the leaves appear, while the rest flower after the tree leafs out. (Piedmont Master Gardeners)



Tree Houses Trees

Greek Row & Tree House Trees



Greek Row houses at the edge of Newman Lake (JMU Content Marketing)

This part of campus is known as Greek Row, where sororities and the occasional fraternity reside in on-campus housing along Newman Lake. At the end of Greek Row are five on-campus housing dorms called the Tree Houses: Cedar, Dogwood, Oak, Willow, and Magnolia Halls. Tree species that dominate the canopy here include: Elm, Cherry, Weeping willows, Pine and Oak trees.

Japanese zelkova or Chinese Elm?

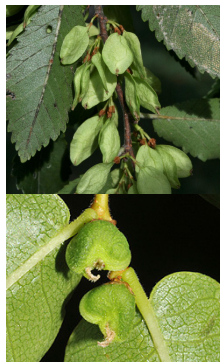
Both the Japanese zelkova and the Chinese elm have become well known due to their hardiness in pretty much any soil and any landscape. They are often used in urban settings due to their resistance to Dutch elm disease. These two can be difficult to differentiate. Chinese elm is also called Lacebark elm, due to its unique bark pattern which can be seen from sapling to adult trees. On the other hand, zelkova's bark is a smooth gray initially with lenticels cherry-like, only resembling Chinese elm bark on mature trees, but still not as exfoliating as the Chinese elm.



Left: Japanese zelkova tree's full form (Jim Robbins)
Right: Chinese elm tree's full form (Deborah Brown)



Left: Bark of a mature zelkova (Morton Arb.)
Right: Bark of Chinese elm (E. Hedborn)



Top: Chinese elm fruit (E. Hedborn)
Bottom: Japanese Zelkova fruit (Virginia Tech Dendro)



Left: Chinese elm leaves (Edward Hedborn Jr.)
Right: Japanese zelkova leaves (Morton Arboretum)
