

More than 150 years ago,

the first Masonic home of its kind, where widows and orphans of Masons received housing, meals, clothing and health care was established in Kentucky. As the need for these services grew, a location near the Crescent Hill and St. Matthews neighborhoods was selected for its Louisville Campus. Today, the 82-acre campus offers aging care and other services to nearly a thousand residents, children and guests each day.

While the community is known for its quality care and broad range of lifestyle options, it's beautiful, park-like campus is a crowning joy. The landscape plan was created by Olmsted Brothers, the inherited nation's first landscape architecture business founded by Frederick Law Olmsted. The campus has been named a Health Care Tree Campus by the Arbor Day Foundation since 2019.

Many of the trees specified in the original Olmsted landscape plan remain today among the thousands of trees on our campus. Additionally, our dedicated grounds and landscaping team take great care and consideration in preserving elements of the original design and replicating it whenever possible.

To create a unique holistic outdoor experience, a walking path intertwines the historic and contemporary community buildings introducing visitors to the notable nature and features of the campus. It is an extension of the quality care available within our communities. **We hope you will enjoy it, too.**



PLANT A *Legacy*

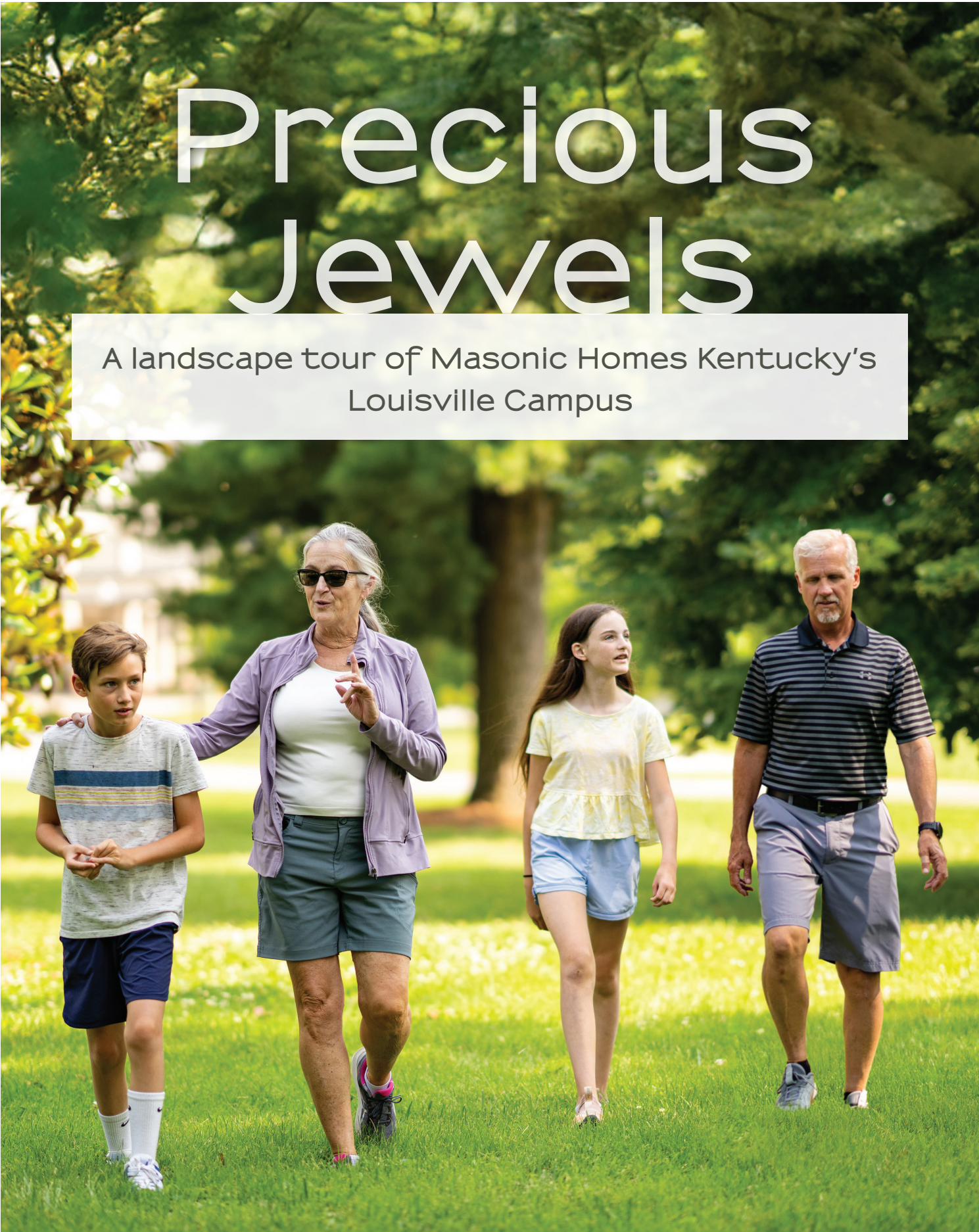
Tribute gifts give the gift of green and shade or a place to stop and enjoy the day. Celebrate someone special with a tribute gift to Masonic Homes Kentucky, and you can honor a life while adding beauty to our campus. Various giving options are available.



To learn more, contact
Senior Vice President of Development
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masonichomesky.com



A video of the landscape tour and a downloadable map can be found at masonichomesky.com/tree-tour.

Locations 1 - 9 highlight featured trees and notable landscape elements. Scan the QR code to watch the video.



"The creation of a landscape is the interplay between human intention and nature's generosity, shaping spaces that tell stories and endure through time."
~ Frederick Law Olmsted





BLACK GUM GROVE
Nyssa sylvatica

Height: 30 - 50 feet
 Crown spread: 20 - 30 feet

- Known for its fiery-reddish-purple fall foliage, it is prized by beekeepers for producing tupelo honey.
- Small flowers appear in the spring on long stalks, and develop into dark blue fruits. The mature fruits attract birds and wildlife, while the flowers are an excellent source of nectar for bees.



RED BUCKEYES
Aesculus pavia

Height and Crown spread:
 10 - 20 feet

- Budding in early spring, the red buckeye produces six to 10 inch, tubular bright red flowers, and a pair of buckeye seeds appear in late fall inside a smooth, light-brown leathery husk.
- According to folklore, carrying buckeye seeds in your pocket wards off rheumatism and other ailments and is considered a good luck charm. The folklore said, "You'll never find a dead man with a buckeye in his pocket."



SCARLET OAK
Quercus coccinea

Height: 40 - 75 feet,
 but can reach 120 feet

Crown spread: 20 - 30 feet

- This tree holds true to its name as its lobed leaves with bristle tips turn a brilliant scarlet red in the fall.
- It produces ½ to 1 inch acorns covered by a shallow, scaly bowl-like cap that are an important food source for mammals and migratory birds.



Precious Jewels



MONARCH WAYSTATION

A Monarch Waystation provides milkweed, nectar plants and shelter for monarchs throughout their annual cycle of reproduction and migration. The creation and maintenance contributes to monarch conservation and helps assure its continuation in North America.

Kentucky falls into the Northeast eco-region for milkweeds. Common milkweed, swamp milkweed, butterfly milkweed and poke milkweed are native to the region. Visit Monarch Watch and Gardenia for tips on creating a successful Monarch Waystation.



SLIPPERY ELM MEMORIAL

Masonic Homes Kentucky was once home to the nation's largest slippery elm, according to the American Forests' National Register of Big Trees. It was noted for its 83-foot crown and 282-foot circumference. Lost in 2022 due to disease, a plaque now stands in its place



CHERRYBARK (PAGODA) OAK
Quercus pagoda

Height: 100 - 130 feet
 Crown spread: 50 - 80 feet

- It is one of the largest growing oaks with ½ inch acorns that are a favorite for wildlife found on campus including squirrels, foxes and white-tailed deer.

- Pagoda refers to the tiered shape of the leaves.



BUR OAK
Quercus macrocarpa

Height and Crown spread:
 60 - 80 feet

Producing the largest acorns of any oak, the acorns from this tree inspired the name and logo for Sproutlings Pediatric Day Care & Preschool.

- The bur oak is fire-resistant, and is the official city tree of Lexington, Kentucky.



SAUCER MAGNOLIA GROVE
Magnolia x soulangeana

Height and Crown spread:
 25 feet

Nicknamed the Three Sisters, this collection was part of the Olmsted Brother's original landscape plan and carefully protected during the construction of Grove Pointe Assisted Living Community.

- In late winter, grayish-pink buds create cup-shaped blooms usually with nine petals.
- It is also known as a tulip magnolia due to its tulip-shaped blossoms.



CORAL BELL MEDITATION GARDEN
Heuchera

A collection of coral bells surround this quiet serenity garden. The stone seating is from an original campus structure dating before the 1850s and were reclaimed during campus construction.

- Coral Bells have nearly 50 different species with various leaf and bloom colors.
- American species with pink and red flowers are known to attract hummingbirds, butterflies and bees making them a great addition for pollinator gardens.



BEECH GROVE
Fagus grandifolia

Height and Crown spread:
 50 - 70 feet

The grove of American beech trees provides a comfortable canopy for people to gather. Lovers often choose a beech tree to carve their initials because of its

- thin, smooth bark, but please spare these trees, as the thin bark is highly susceptible to decay.
- In the spring, new leaves appear from buds resembling feathery tassels. In the fall, the foliage turns golden bronze.
- The bark is smooth, thin, light gray and wrinkled resembling an elephant's hide.



**KENTUCKY DECAF®
COFFEETREE**
Gymnocladus dioicus
‘McKBranded’

Height: 40 - 50 feet
Crown spread: 30 - 40 feet

Coffeetree wood is often selected by cabinetmakers and carpenters. This tree is a tribute

to the orphans who learned a variety of apprenticeship trades at Adams Hall, now a part of Village Active Lifestyle Community.

- The Kentucky Decaf® Coffeetree is a patented male cultivar of the native Kentucky coffeetree. Unlike the female cultivar, it does not produce the large seed pods.
- Leaves emerge a caramel color in the spring, turns a bluish-green in the summer and then a vibrant yellow in the fall.



GINKGO TREE
Ginkgo biloba

Height: 70 - 110 feet
Crown spread: 30 - 40 feet

- This type of maiden hair tree is believed to be one of the oldest living plants.
- When it loses its leaves in the fall, it does so very quickly often

within a day, creating what is called a “ring of fire” with its dark gold and amber leaves.



**MARGARET RICKETTS
RESIDENT GARDENS**

Named in memory of Village resident Margaret Ricketts, these raised-bed gardens are located behind Morris Hall, a part of Village Active Lifestyle Community. A second resident garden to grow flowers, vegetables and herbs is located next to Miralea Active Lifestyle Community.



OAK GROVE
Quercus

Height: 50 - 70 feet
Crown spread: 40 - 60 feet

- There are more than 500 different species of oak trees.
- The iconic hardwood is part of the beech family and produces acorns that sit inside a cup-like structure called a cupule.



DOGWOOD GROVE
Cornus florida

Height: 15 - 30 feet
Crown spread: 15 - 25 feet

- The tree offers four-season interest with showy spring white bracts and lush green foliage in the summer. Its leaves change to a red-purple in the fall before

producing ruby-red berries in the winter.

- The dogwood flower is a cluster of small, flowers surrounded by white bracts.



EUROPEAN HORNBEAM
Carpinus betulus

Height: 40 - 60 feet
Crown spread: 30 - 40 feet

- Known for its unique smooth, muscle-like fluted trunk, the European Hornbeam’s steel-grey wood is very hard and dense.

- The tree is a perfect accompaniment for a pollinator garden as it supports moth larvae. It also serves as a food source, shelter and nesting for small birds and mammals.



CHINKAPIN OAK
Quercus muehlenbergii

Height: 40 - 60 feet
Crown spread: 50 - 70 feet

- This medium-sized deciduous oak bears small oval acorns up to ¾ inches long with scaly cups that extend about half the acorn length.

- While oaks are susceptible to a variety of diseases, the chinkapin oak is generally a low-maintenance, long-lived tree.



NORWAY SPRUCE
Picea abies

Height: 50 - 60 feet
Crown spread: 25 - 30 feet

- As a fast-growing, evergreen conifer, the Norway spruce is widely used as a traditional Christmas tree and is a favorite landscape addition providing

privacy screening and windbreaks when planted in a group.

- Its semi-weeping appearance is created from the cylindrical-shaped cones, measuring up to six inches in length, hanging ornamentally from its branches.



WHITE OAK
Quercus alba

Height: 60 - 100 feet
Crown spread: 60 - 100 feet

- The white oak has a long life span surviving 200 to 300 years.
- Turning a vibrant red in autumn, its leaves are five to nine inches long with rounded lobes.



SOUTHERN MAGNOLIA
Magnolia grandiflora

Height: 50 - 100 feet
Crown spread: 20 - 40 feet

- It is the largest evergreen tree producing glossy dark green leaves and beautiful, six-inch, thick petaled, fragrant flowers with elongated, cone-like fruits

with red seeds, known as an aggregate of follicles.

- The fruit of the southern magnolia is attractive to birds and small mammals.



KENTUCKY YELLOWWOOD
Cladrastis kentukea

Height: 30 - 50 feet
Crown spread: 40 - 55 feet

- An excellent ornamental shade tree known for its fragrant, pendulous white flowers in the spring, lush summer foliage and golden-yellow fall color.

- The wood of the tree contains a yellow dye that colors the heartwood giving the tree its common name.



TULIP POPLAR GROVE
Liriodendron tulipifera

Height: 70 - 120 feet
Crown spread: 30 - 50 feet

- The tulip poplar is the state tree of Kentucky, Indiana and Tennessee and one of the tallest hardwood trees in North America.

- It produces large, fragrant tulip-shaped flowers in May and its unique-shaped leaf resembles a cat’s face.



LINDEN GROVE
Tilia americana

Height: 50 - 80 feet
Crown spread: 30 - 50 feet

- Littleleaf Linden trees blossom in June and July featuring a cyme of fragrant pale yellow flowers that droop from the tree and is often alive with the sound

of bees gathering nectar.

- Its flowers and leaves are both edible, and have long been used in traditional herbal remedies and tea.



HEMLOCK GROVE
Tsuga canadensis

Height: 70 - 100 feet
Crown spread: 30 - 35 feet

- It resembles a large Christmas tree with its expansive pyramidal, drooping branches and dark green needles arranged along the branches,

giving the tree a delicate lace-like appearance.

- Cones measuring up to 1 inch hang from the needles. After the cones have matured, they release seeds which are an important food source for wildlife.



**OCTOBER GLORY®
RED MAPLE**
Acer rubrum

Height: 40 - 50 feet
Crown spread: 30 - 40 feet

- While it is one of the last trees to change colors in the fall, the October Glory® maple eventually turns a brilliant

crimson to reddish-purple in autumn.

- This special tree was planted in memory of Scott Smith, who served as Masonic Homes Kentucky’s Security Director until his passing in 2025.



SWEETGUM
Liquidambar styraciflua

Height: 60 - 75 feet
Crown spread: 40 - 75 feet

- Its shiny green star-shaped leaves display beautiful fall colors of yellow, purple, orange and red.

• Woody, spiky capsules referred to as “gumball” fruits can be quite sticky and messy to humans, but provide food for game birds, pollinating insects and small mammals.