This is the "The Medical Buildings" Tree Tour. It starts at the west end of the Family Medicine Center, tours the trees on both sides of the street between the medical buildings, goes around the Pennington Medical Education Building and Howard Medical Sciences to the roundabout, and ends in a large parking lot north of the Pennington Health Sciences Education Building.

OK, let’s get started!
There is a large conifer between the Family Medical Center and the street at number 1 on the map. It is:

**Columnar Eastern White Pine** (scientific name *Pinus strobus* 'Fastigiata', planted 1988), a cultivar found in Germany in 1884. The species has more or less horizontal limbs; this tree has upswept limbs. It is one of three cultivars of Eastern White Pine: Weeping Eastern White Pine is featured on the "West of Manzanita Lake" Tree Tour, and Contorted Eastern White Pine is featured on the "Center Street Parking Area" Tree Tour.

The purple-leaved small tree at the corner of the building at number 2 on the map is **Purple Leaf Plum** (scientific name *Prunus cerasifera* 'Krauter Vesuvius'). This tree has purple leaves all of the growing season. It is very popular because it stays small (thus can be planted in smaller yards) and because its purple leaf color contrasts with the green color of most other landscape trees.

The conifer at the entrance to the parking lot at number 3 is **Giant Sequoia** (scientific name *Sequoiadendron giganteum*, planted 1985). This tree is popular on campus because it has a conical shape when young and it grows rapidly.
Cross the street, following the sidewalk to the main door of the Medical Buildings. Turn left onto the sidewalk next to the building. Look at the tree in the grassy area near the left side of the sign on the wall at number 4. This is Tupelo (scientific name *Nyssa sylvatica*, planted 1987). It has smooth-edged leaves about the same size as Crabapple's, but its flowers are indistinct. Native to the Southeastern U.S., this slow-growing tree has brilliant red leaves in Fall.

At number 5 is Paul's Scarlet Hawthorn (scientific name *Crataegus laevigata 'Paul's Scarlet*'). This cultivar appeared as one branch of an English Hawthorn in 1858; because it is covered in purple-pink flowers in May, it has become the most popularly-planted Hawthorn.

The large tree nearest the door at number 6 is the first Oak species on this Tree Tour, Pin Oak (scientific name *Quercus rubra*), a native of eastern North America. This tree has leaves with pointed lobes (indicative of the Red Oak Group). Pin Oak has lobes with deep indentations, and the lowest branches tend to droop. It has excellent Fall color (red, orange and yellow), but it is intolerant of high pH soils. This tree must be in the appropriate soil, because it looks good.
To the right of the doorway at number 7 is **Lodgepole Pine** (scientific name *Pinus contorta var. murrayana*), native to Western U.S. It grows anywhere from sea level to tree line, and is the first conifer to appear along highways where road construction has disturbed the soil. It has short needles and one-inch cones, and is little-planted in Reno. This particular tree is multi-trunked, planted too close to the building and hemmed in by the building.
8
European White Birch

Flanking the sidewalk to the street at number 8 are two European White Birches (scientific name *Betula pendula*), native to northern Europe. These trees, with their white bark and slightly weeping habit, were once very popular in Reno; but they are susceptible to the Bronze Birch Borer, which has killed many mature trees. In the last few years, European White Birches have seldom been planted.

9
Capital Pear

The trees left of the birches against the building at number 9 are Capital Pear (scientific name *Pyrus calleryana* 'Capital'). This is one of four cultivars of Callery (or Flowering) Pear present on campus. Its foot-long branches grow all around the limb, giving the limb a cylindrical appearance. This cultivar grows only about 12 feet wide, so it is planted in areas with not much room. In the parking lot island across the street are some more of this cultivar. The white flowers of this tree appear to be in round clusters. Fall color is reddish-purple to bronze.

10
Arizona Cypress

The three conifers at number 10 are Arizona Cypress (scientific name *Cupressus arizonica*, planted 2002). This native of the southern parts of New Mexico, Arizona and California, as well as Northern Mexico, can be mistaken for a silver-gray Juniper, but its cones are larger and have grooves in them. In the wild the cones only open after wildfires, but there are young seedlings -- i.e. sprouting naturally -- at the beginning of the "Southwest Benson Garden" Tree Tour.
11 White Oak

At the end of the parking lot island across the street at number 11 is the second Oak species, White Oak (scientific name *Quercus alba*), native to eastern and midwestern U.S. It has the rounded lobes of the White Oak Group, of which it is the flagship species. Supposedly this tree has good Fall color, although this doesn't seem to be the case in Reno. Nevertheless, it makes a good-looking landscape tree and should be planted more.

12 Common Hackberry

The tree at the corner of the Nell J. Redfield Building at number 12 is Common Hackberry (scientific name *Celtis occidentalis*, planted 1989), native to eastern and midwestern North America. It has insignificant white flowers, followed by red or purple single berries in Fall. Its Fall leaf color is dull yellow.

13 Columnar Red Maple

Around the east side of Redfield at number 13 is the first of four Maples on this Tree Tour, Columnar Red Maple (scientific name *Acer rubrum* 'Columnare,' planted 1989), native to the eastern and midwestern U.S. This tree is tough, grows quickly, is cold-hardy and provides reliable red Fall color (which is possibly why there are so many Red maples on campus). There are perhaps 100 cultivars of this species with different leaf shapes, some of which provide orange-red color. This cultivar has a columnar shape.

14 Blue Atlas Cedar

Cross the parking lot to the sidewalk around Pennington Medical Education. Walk on the sidewalk past two more Pin Oaks to two more silver-gray conifers on your right at number 14.
These are **Blue Atlas Cedar** (scientific name *Cedrus atlantica* 'Glauca,' planted 2002). Though they have a similar color to number 11, these natives of Algeria and Morocco have upright white to beige cones about 4 inches long. Note that the branches have needles radiating about points on the branch.

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**Northern Red Oak**

Walk past three more Aristocrat Pears to a grassy area between the sidewalk and the building at number 15. The small tree opposite the Aristocrat Pears is the third Oak species, **Northern Red Oak** (scientific name *Quercus rubra*), native to eastern and midwestern North America. It is the flagship species of the Red Oak Group, which is characterized by points on each lobe. This is perhaps the best Oak for this area: it has reliably good Fall color, is relatively trouble-free and grows quickly.

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**Sweetgum**

The two small trees between the sidewalk and the street at number 16 are **Sweetgum** (scientific name *Liquidambar styraciflua* 'Worplesdon', planted 2015). The species, with its Maple-like leaves, is native to eastern and midwestern U.S.; this cultivar is bought for its pyramidal shape and apricot-orange Fall color.

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**Canada Red Chokecherry**

The purple-leaved tree in the patio area at number 17 is **Canada Red Chokecherry** (scientific name *Prunus virginiana* 'Canada Red'). This cultivar of the North American native chokecherry has leaves which come out green and turn maroon in May and June. The purple fruits are a delicacy for birds, but are pretty tart when eaten out of hand.
Tree No.

18

Paperbark Maple

The two small trees with red-brown peeling bark at number 18 are the second Maple, **Paperbark Maple** (scientific name *Acer griseum*), native to China and introduced in 1901. It has bronze to red Fall color, but its bark is its best selling point: after all, leafless Winters last six months in Reno!

19

Green Ash

Across the sidewalk at number 19 is **Green Ash** (scientific name *Fraxinus pennsylvanica*), a native of Eastern North America. It has compound leaves with a central stem going out from the branch and with 5 to 9 leaflets. It has reliable bright yellow Fall color. For these reasons, **Green Ash** is one of the five most-planted trees in Northern Nevada.

20

Freeman Maple

In the middle of the turnaround at number 20 is the third Maple, **Freeman Maple** (scientific name *Acer x freemanii*), an offspring of Red Maple (which has matte red Fall color and Silver Maple (which has shallow roots and dull yellow Fall color). The offspring is better than either parent: it has deeper roots and brilliant orange-red color. There are several cultivars of this tree available.

21

Austrian Pine with 3-inch cone

The conifers at number 21 are the almost-ubiquitous **Austrian Pine** (scientific name *Pinus nigra*), native to southern Europe. They are a very popular medium-sized conifer in this area because, if
given good growing conditions, they grow quickly, have straight trunks and are relatively trouble-free.

22 Sugar Maple

The trees between the Austrian Pines and the street at number 22 are the fourth Maple species, Sugar Maple (scientific name *Acer saccharum*), native to eastern and midwestern North America. Not only do they have arguably the most striking Fall color in good years, but they are also the species from which most maple syrup is harvested. These trees are underplanted in Reno, but UNR is doing its part: there are a bunch of them at the Hixson Softball Field across Evans Street from here.

If you are interested in comparing the Maples on this Tree Tour, please compare the leaf shapes of the four Maple species at numbers 13, 18, 20 and 22, then return to the Tree Tour.

(Hint: Sugar Maple has a central point and two small points on each of the three big shallowly-indented lobes, Freeman Maple has a number of points on each deeply-indented lobe, but some leaf margins are perpendicular to the leaf veins, Red Maple has shallowly-indented lobes with jagged edges, and Paperbark Maple leaves have three completely separate lobes with dull points on the leaf margin)

At end of this landscape island there is a small parking lot. Next to it and the street is another Common Hackberry.

23 London Planetree

Across the small parking lot, at number 23, is a tree with maple-like leaves. But this is not a Maple (check out the one-inch round balls in pairs hanging down from the branches. This is London Planetree (scientific name *Platanus X acerifolia*), an extremely popular park and parking
lot tree because it grows rapidly and provides great shade. But this tree can have a diameter of up to five feet when mature, so it is best for larger parking lot islands.

24 Crabapple

The two trees at the other end of the small parking lot at number 24 are Crabapple (scientific name *Malus sp.*). This tree has been cultivated for thousands of years because it stays small, it has gorgeous flowers in Spring and its fruits, if present, are small and not messy in a lawn setting. It is planted all over the campus.

25 Bur Oak

Go to the rectangular grassy area nearby. The tree on the right at number 25 is the fourth Oak species, Bur Oak (scientific name *Quercus macrocarpa*). This Eastern North America tree is a member of the White Oak Group, which is identified by rounded leaf lobes. Bur Oak is identifiable because the leaves are widest about halfway out and have deeply-cut lobes. Its acorns are also distinctive -- they have a fringed cap. Bur Oak is a desirable species in Northern Nevada today because it is drought-tolerant.

This and the two nearby trees were transplanted here in the last few years, a chancy proposition because it is hard to transplant trees of this size successfully. This Bur Oak is the toughest of the three trees, so it has a better prognosis.

26 and 27 Northern Red Oak Pin Oak

To its left, at number 26, is a Northern Red Oak; beyond, at number 27, is a Pin Oak, possibly the weakest of the three trees.

(Now would be an excellent time to compare the three trees. Should you wish to, please press "pause" and give yourself time to compare them. Hint: Bur Oak has a rougher appearance and leaf shape just described; Northern Red Oak has shallowly-Indented lobes with points and a straighter appearance, and Pin Oak has deeply-Indented lobes with points)
Go to the middle of the turnaround at number 28. After your experience with the Paperbark Maple's un-Maple-like leaves, you are probably prepared for this tree. This is the fifth Oak species, **Shingle Oak** (scientific name *Quercus imbricaria*), native to eastern and midwestern U.S. and introduced in 1724. The leaves of this tree may not look like the traditional Oak leaves, but the acorns it bears dispel all doubt.

In the patio area between the turnaround and Howard Medical Sciences at number 29 are a bunch of **Autumn Purple White Ash** (scientific name *Fraxinus americana* 'Autumn Purple', planted 2010), a cultivar of the species native to eastern and midwestern North America often chosen because it has even better Fall color than the species: bronze, yellow, orange or purple, depending on the year and the individual tree. In recent years this tree has been more-popularly planted than Green Ash.

Return on the sidewalk to the rectangular grassy area, then cross the street and walk to a small tree about three parking spaces into the parking lot island at number 30. It is **Manchurian Cherry** (scientific name *Prunus maackii*), native to Manchuria, Siberia and Korea. It has red-brown bark similar to Japanese Flowering Cherry and flowers reminiscent of Canada Red Chokecherry. It is extremely uncommonly-planted, and there may be as many in his parking lot as there are in the rest of Reno combined.

This concludes the "The Medical Buildings" Tree Tour.