SPRUCE

Spruce, or Picea, is a genus of about 50 species within the Pinaceae family. Spruce needles are attached singly to the branches, as opposed to bundles. They often grow densely on the twigs, spiraling around in all directions. The twigs appear bumpy and textured after the needles have fallen. Spruces can be prickly, however some are not, such as Picea orientalis, which is very soft. Their cones are cylindrical. Spruces prefer full sun and good drainage. They have soft wood that is lightweight and easy to work with, but often contains many knots. It is mainly used for pulp and paper purposes, such as newspapers, toilet paper and tissues. Spruces may be damaged by pests such as Adelgids and aphid-like insects. Spruce trees are popular in landscapes, and may also be used as holiday trees.

1. PICEA ABIES ‘LITTLE GEM’
   Little Gem Norway Spruce
   height: 4-5’; width: 4-5’
   ID: 1/4-1/2’ long green needles; light yellow new growth in Spring; moundling habit; dense growth; slightly prickly

2. PICEA ABIES ‘REPENS’
   Creeping Norway Spruce
   height: 2-3’; width: 5’
   ID: dark green foliage; resembles a spreading Juniper or Low forms; mound in center

3. PICEA ABIES ‘TABULIFORMIS’
   Tabuliformis Norway Spruce
   height: 3-4’; width: 5’
   ID: 1/2’ long; dark green needles; flat-topped mound of fanning branches

4. PICEA GLAUCA ‘CONICA’
   Dwarf Alberta Spruce
   height: 5-10’; width: 3-4’
   ID: 1/4-1/2’ long; grass-green needles; soft and aromatic; dense, erect branches; compact cone shape

5. PICEA OMORIKA ‘NANA’
   Dwarf Serbian Spruce
   height: 4-6’; width: 4-6’
   ID: green foliage; dense, horizontal spreading branches; broadly conical becomes pyramidal

6. PICEA ORIENTALIS ‘SKYLANDS’
   Skylands Oriental Spruce
   height: 30-35’; width: 12-14’
   ID: 1/4’ long golden green needles; inner needles are dark green; tightly set; soft to touch; tall and conical form

7. PICEA PUNGENS ‘GLOBOSE’
   ‘MONTGOMERY’
   Montgomery Blue Spruce
   height: 8-12’; width: 8-12’
   ID: 3/4’ long; silvery-blue needles; dense habit and rounded shape; stiff and prickly

8. PICEA PUNGENS ‘GLOBA’
   ‘THUME’
   Thume Blue Spruce
   height: 8-12’; width: 5’
   ID: 3/4’ long; silvery-blue needles; tight globe form; compact spruce; stiff and prickly

9. PICEA WILSONI
   Wilson Spruce
   height: 30-60’; width: 12-15’
   ID: green foliage; gray bark with large scales; dark green shiny foliage; pyramidal habit

SPRING GROVE CEMETERY AND ARBORETUM
A NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK

Spring Grove was chartered in 1845 as a non-profit cemetery. Encompassing 733 acres, 15 lakes, a waterfall, and over 14 miles of winding roads, Spring Grove remains a beautiful piece of Cincinnati history. In 1987, Spring Grove adopted its current name of “Spring Grove Cemetery and Arboretum”. From the beginning, landscape design was an essential part of Spring Grove’s development. Today there are over 1,200 different species of trees, shrubs, and perennials labeled for study. Included in this collection are both National and State champion trees and the patented Spring Grove Dogwood. In 2007, Spring Grove was designated a National Historic Landmark, a distinction that only five cemeteries in the nation hold. In 2010, Spring Grove started a horticulture volunteer program. Many opportunities are available, including invasive species control, annual/perennial bed maintenance, and woodland preservation. Please contact Spring Grove at 513-853-4941 or vcoordinator@springgrove.org.

The entry gates are opened at 800AM and locked at 600PM. The Main Gate only is open until 800PM throughout our extended summer hours on Mondays and Thursdays (May 1 - August 31). When visiting the cemetery, please park your vehicle along the right side of the road keeping the vehicle on the pavement. Public restrooms, located in the foyer of the Customer Service Center, remain open during regular gate hours. For more information, please visit our website at www.springgrove.org and become a fan on Facebook.

EVERGREENS

Spring Grove is home to many evergreen plants. Evergreens shed their leaves slowly as new growth emerges, allowing them to retain their color year-round; as compared to deciduous plants which shed all of their leaves during the colder months of the year. The majority of evergreens in this collection are conifers including spruces, pines, hemlocks, arborvitaes, and firs. Also included are hollies and boxwoods.

Conifers are cone-bearing plants. Their seeds, held in cones, are considered unenclosed. This characteristic classifies them as gymnosperms, a group comprised of less than one percent of plant species. Conifers have separate male and female cones, and they rely upon wind and birds for pollination and seed dispersal. They are very important ecologically, especially in forests of the Northern Hemisphere where native conifers often dominate the landscape. Conifers also claim the oldest and the tallest trees in the world.

Hollies and Boxwoods are considered broadleaf evergreens, as compared to conifers with their needle or scale-like foliage. The evergreens in this collection represent a variety of shapes, sizes, colors, and textures. They make great additions to gardens and landscapes as they are low-maintenance and long-living plants that provide year-round interest.

EVERGREENS
**ARBORVITAE**

*Arborvitae*, or *Tsuga*, refers to a genus of plants in the Cupressaceae (Cypress) family. A small group of only four species, all arborvitae are native to northern North America. The leaves are a rich evergreen, often bluish-green color, and are arranged spirally along the length of the branch. Needles are usually blunt tipped, flat in cross-section, and are arranged spirally on the stem. They have two white bands on their lowerside. A row of smaller needles located on the upper side of the branch appear flipped over, as their white bands are revealed. This species is native to the Eastern and Western United States and Canada. They prefer to grow in full sun to partial shade. Hemlock bark is rich in tannin and is of interest to the fiber industry. The wood is durable and is used for fencing and posts, and is often used for engraving and shaping very well. They prefer well-drained soils and are quite hardy and are often used for landscaping in cold climates. They are also used to provide erosion control, and are often used as a choice for foundations and retaining walls. They are also used to provide erosion control, and are not bothered by deer. Some arborvitae are known for their aromatic scent and are a favorite among deer, especially once established; occasional pruning may be done if desired. Hollies are happy in full sun or partial shade, but are generally produced in warm climates. They are placed in full sun. Holly berries retain their bright color through the fall and winter seasons. Holly wood is a whitish color and has a fine texture that is well suited for carvings, inlays, and detail work.

**BIRDS, BEES, AND BUTTERFLIES**

Birds, bees, and butterflies are important pollinators in our gardens. They rely on plants for sustenance. These pollinators are essential to our ecosystem. They are especially important to many bird species and butterflies. Though the ornamental berries are inedible for humans, many birds and animals rely on them for sustenance. These plants do not require much maintenance, especially once established; occasional pruning may be done if desired. Hollies are happy in full sun or partial shade, but are generally produced in warm climates. They are placed in full sun. Holly berries retain their bright color through the fall and winter seasons. Holly wood is a whitish color and has a fine texture that is well suited for carvings, inlays, and detail work.

**EVERGREEN COLLECTION MAP**

**BOXWOOD**

Boxwood or *Buxus* is a genus of plants in the Buxaceae family. There are typically shrubs or small trees and are widely used for hedging, formal gardens, and topiaries. Boxwood is a hardy, cold-resistant plant that is well-suited for cutting and shaping very well. They prefer full sun or partial shade, and many varieties are cold-hardy and do well in the color throughout winter. Their wood is quite hard and is chosen for engraving or detail work. It has also been used to create mathematical instruments, chessmen, and other objects of great craft.

*Abies koreana*  
*Korean Fir*  

*Korean Fir* in this collection is of the species *Abies koreana*, which is native to Southern Korea and is more heat tolerant. Firs are often grown as holiday trees, popular because of their shape, aromatic woods, foliage colors, needle retention, and softness.