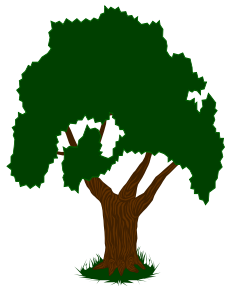


## Current Marked Trees:

Am. Mountain Ash	Kentucky Coffee
American Beech	Mossycup Oak
Balsam Fir	Paper (White) Birch
Balsam Poplar	Pepperidge
Basswood	Pignut Hickory
Black Cherry	Pin Oak
Black Locust	Quaking Aspen
Black Oak	Red Maple
Black Spruce	Red Pine
Black Walnut	Silver Maple
Canada Hemlock	Sourgum
Eastern Redbud	Sugar Maple
Flowering Dogwood	Swamp White Oak
Gray Birch	Tamarack
Gray Dogwood	Tulip Poplar
Green Ash	White Cedar
Hackberry	White Pine
Hop Hornbeam	White Spruce
Ironwood	Wild Sweet Crab
Jack Pine	Yellow Buckeye
Juneberry	

## Current Marked Shrubs:

Arrow-Wood  
False Indigo  
Nannyberry



Version 5/21/03

## The Endowment Fund

The Branstrom family not only donated the land for Arboretum Park, they also established with the City an endowment fund for the maintenance, improvement and expansion of both Arboretum and Branstrom Parks.



In 1986, the City transferred the assets of this Fund to The Fremont Area Community Foundation [FACF]. Each year, FACF grants to the City the annual net income of the Fund. In 2002, that income was \$26,056. As of March 2003, the Fund had assets of nearly \$400,000.

To help the City continue to maintain and improve these two parks, consider a tax-deductible donation to the "William Branstrom City Park Fund" % FACF, P.O. Box B, Fremont, MI 49412.



## Welcome to Fremont's Arboretum Park



*"A public park devoted to the many and fine native Michigan trees, shrubs and wildflowers... for teaching the student and for all those who find joy and peace with the beautiful things in nature."*

**-William J. Branstrom**  
*(As inscribed on the above 1968 dedication plaque.)*

## History of Arboretum Park

William J. Branstrom, a local attorney, bequeathed the seven-acre natural area to the City of Fremont upon his death in 1964. The property was to be used exclusively for park purposes. In his will, Mr. Branstrom expressed his feelings about the beauty of the area:

*"I cherish the land above described and the trees and shrubbery growing thereon. I have crossed it on foot many times and rested there on many occasions. It has been one of my familiar haunts in the study of nature and the mysteries of my Creator. In its purchase I had but one thought in mind, and that was to preserve this land for future generations."*

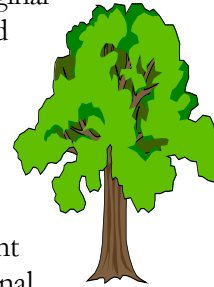
Mr. Branstrom and his wife Margaret were lifelong supporters of the Fremont area, leaving a legacy that has enriched this community and enhanced its quality of life. Regarding that legacy, in his will he wished that "his grandchildren and great-grandchildren ... give generously of themselves in the service to others."



## Development of the "Arboretum"

In 1965, the City commissioned a "Census of the Original Trees of the Branstrom Arboretum," noting there were more than 1,100 in the Park. The trees & shrubs are all native to Michigan; a unique diversity of species, most of which are adaptable to this area. In 1968, plans were drawn up for the enhancement of the public park on the Arboretum site.

The City recently re-inventoried the trees/shrubs in the park. Many species have been lost since the original "Census" due to disease, old age, wind damage and vandals. Cleanup is now complete of the damaged trees from the May 1998 windstorm. In the fall of 2001, many new replacement trees were planted. Additional species are being re-introduced each year.



Although this site is a "park," it should not be confused with a more formal park, such as Veterans Memorial Park in Downtown. Vets Park, with its amphitheater, playground & picnic areas is designed to be actively used for a variety of events, festivals and activities. In contrast, an arboretum is a place where "trees, shrubs and plants are cultivated for scientific and educational purposes." Hence, Arboretum Park shall be a serene, passive-use park with benches, wandering paths & informal landscaping. **Mother Nature is the eternal architect; Man has only to learn & enjoy!**

## Park Use Guidelines

To preserve the Park & enhance the enjoyment by all, the Community asks that visitors please observe the following common sense guidelines.

### Please **DO NOT**:

- ❖ Block or dam-up the stream
- ❖ Skate or bicycle off the paved paths
  - ❖ Build bike jumps
- ❖ Venture off the paths within the woods
  - ❖ Carve in or damage tree trunks
  - ❖ Remove or damage plants or wildlife
  - ❖ Smoke within the wooded areas
  - ❖ Litter (receptacles are provided)

### Please **DO**:

- ❖ Enjoy the peace and serenity
- ❖ Learn about Michigan's native trees
  - ❖ Teach the student
- ❖ Contemplate our Creator's mysteries
- ❖ Volunteer for cleanup projects
- ❖ Hold your wedding ceremony here (Contact City Hall for reservations)

This archway is dedicated to Fremont Troop # 106 and all Girl Scouts of America. Funds for its construction provided by an anonymous donor this year of 2002.

During 00/01, Girl Scout Troop 106 made the restoration of this Park its Silver Award project. In 2002, an anonymous donor paid for the installation of the new entry arch (seen at left) and several stone benches. The City sincerely thanks the Troop and our benefactor for their support & efforts.

