

Winter Guide

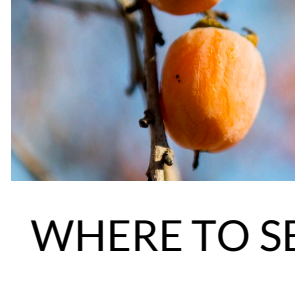


A light snow blankets Section 27 of the cemetery. (ANC/Elizabeth Fraser, 2021)



ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY EDUCATION SERIES

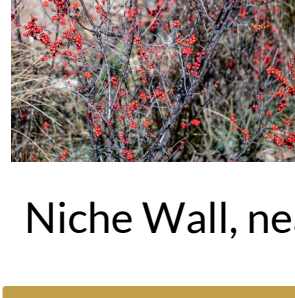
Persimmon (*Diospyros virginiana*)



In the late fall or early winter, a hard frost will sweeten the fruit of the persimmon tree. The fruit is wildlife and human friendly. Those who eat the fruit before a hard frost are left with an extremely dry mouth.

WHERE TO SEE IT: Along Grant Drive in Section 2

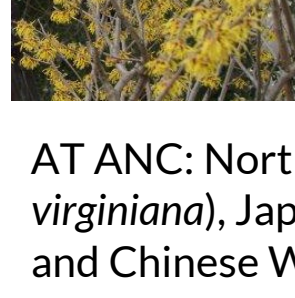
Winterberry Holly (*Ilex verticillata*)



In winter, the leaves of this deciduous shrub have fallen and bright red berries are visible. The berries provide winter food for wildlife.

WHERE TO SEE IT: Section 76, Columbarium Courts 10 and 11, the Niche Wall, near the Welcome Center and in rain gardens

Witch Hazel

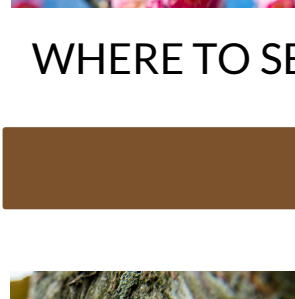


Coppery witch hazel flowers brighten winter with vivid color and a citrus fragrance. American witch hazel blooms in the late fall while Japanese and Chinese witch hazel may begin blooming in January.

AT ANC: North American Witch Hazel (*Hamamelis virginiana*), Japanese Witch Hazel (*Hamamelis japonica*) and Chinese Witch Hazel (*Hamamelis mollis*)

WHERE TO SEE IT: Sections 32 and 37

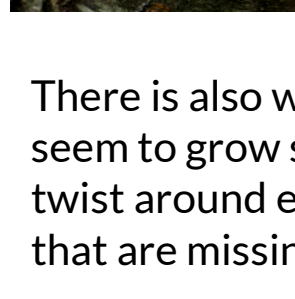
Japanese Apricot (*Prunus mume*)



In late winter, the naked stems of the Japanese Apricot tree are covered in soft, pale pink flowers for several weeks. Later, ping pong ball-sized apricots will provide food for wildlife.

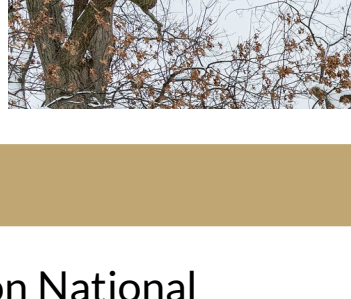
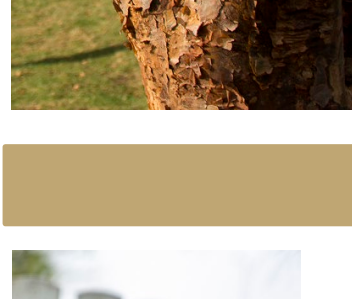
WHERE TO SEE IT: Columbarium Court 7

Bark and Branches

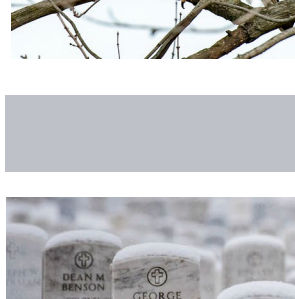


In winter, the branches that spend most of the year covered in leaves become visible. Bark can vary widely between species. Some trees have smooth bark, others have bark that peels or forms ridges. The appearance of the bark can also change over the lifetime of the tree.

There is also wide variation in the tree branches. Some seem to grow straight up. Other branches curve and twist around each other. You may also see older trees that are missing limbs from storm damage.



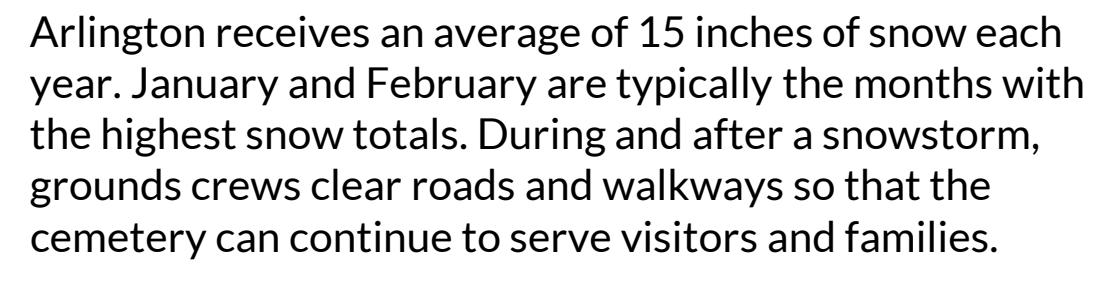
Wildlife



Wildlife visit Arlington National Cemetery throughout the year. However, they are often easier to spot or identify during the winter.

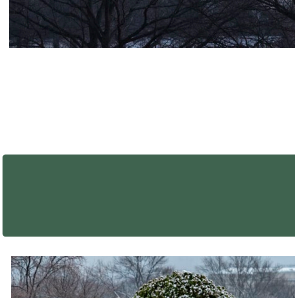
Paw prints and hoof prints are visible on freshly fallen snow. Birds perch in the bare limbs of deciduous trees or shrubs. While some birds have migrated south, Virginia is also an important stop for birds migrating from colder climates.

Snow



Arlington receives an average of 15 inches of snow each year. January and February are typically the months with the highest snow totals. During and after a snowstorm, grounds crews clear roads and walkways so that the cemetery can continue to serve visitors and families.

Unobstructed Views



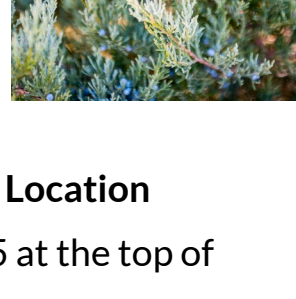
After leaves have fallen from deciduous trees and shrubs, views of the cemetery and nearby Washington, D.C. open up. Favorite locations for viewing the city, the Potomac River and other nearby landmarks include Arlington House and the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

Evergreens



Winter provides evergreens with their moment to shine. While deciduous trees shed their leaves and lose their color, evergreens provide consistent, year-round texture and color.

Evergreens also provide important habitat for wildlife. Arlington has a variety of evergreen trees and shrubs, including spruce, cedar, pine, hemlock, yew and holly. A few specific species are highlighted below.



Common Name	Latin Name	Location
Longleaf Pine	<i>Pinus palustris</i>	Section 45 at the top of the hill
Weeping Alaskan Cedar	<i>Chamaecyparis nootkatensis</i> 'Pendula'	Section 34
American Holly	<i>Ilex opaca</i>	Sections 35 and 48 and Memorial Amphitheater
Yule Brite Holly	<i>Ilex x koehneana</i>	Section 35 near the Memorial Amphitheater flagpole
Eastern Redcedar	<i>Juniperus virginiana</i>	Section 34
Colorado Blue Spruce	<i>Picea pungens glauca</i>	Sections 34, 35, 48 and Memorial Amphitheater
Lacebark Pine	<i>Pinus bungeana</i>	Section 80 close to Columbarium Court 11
Loblolly Pine	<i>Pinus taeda</i>	Near the Route 110 gate at the end of the parking garage
Canadian Hemlock	<i>Tsuga canadensis</i>	Sections 8 and 20 near Jessup and Clayton Drives and along Sections 7A and 35

