

The History of Klehm



Klehm owes its unique collection of mature trees and shrubs to our site's nearly 100 year history, beginning as a tree nursery.



• 1923 to 1968: William Lincoln Taylor, a landscape architect, ran Rockford Nurseries on this site with his brothers Everett and George. The Taylor brothers planted seeds and cuttings from around the world.

• 1968 to 1985: When the Taylor brothers retired, they sold their nursery and its tree-filled land to Carl Klehm who continued the business with his sons. In 1985, the Klehm brothers donated the land to the Winnebago County Forest Preserve to be used as an arboretum named after their parents, Carl G. and Lois Klehm.



• 1989: The Winnebago County Forest Preserve offered use of the site to the Northern Illinois Botanical Society—and Klehm Arboretum & Botanic Garden grew from the legacies left by two families of nurserymen.

As you walk Klehm's grounds, see if you can spot the old nursery tree configurations!

Hours
Open Daily
For up-to-date hours, please visit
www.klehm.org

Daily Admission

- \$10 per adult
- \$8 per senior citizen (age 62+)
- \$8 per student with valid ID
- \$8 per child (age 4 - 18)
- FREE for children age 0 - 3, Klehm members, and visitors with state-issued EBT cards*

*For more information, visit www.klehm.org/museums-for-all/.

Visit klehm.org for:

- Membership levels and benefits
- Schedule of year round events & programs
- Online resources, activities, & more!



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Phone: 815.965.8146 Email: info@klehm.org

klehm.org



Klehm Arboretum & Botanic Garden is operated in partnership with the



GARDEN MAP & TRAIL GUIDE



Your Day at Klehm



Klehm Arboretum & Botanic Garden is truly a one-of-a-kind destination. Thanks to our special history, the beautiful landscapes, rare trees, themed gardens and gently winding paths and trails throughout our 155-acres, there is something for everyone to explore.

A visit to the Nancy Olson Children's Garden and it's Kid's Creek natural play water feature and splash pad is sure to delight young and old alike. Be sure to take in the view from the observation tower!



And don't forget to stop by our Visitors Center to browse the great variety of hand-selected items available in our Gift Shop!



How to Read a Tree Label

Scarlet Oak
Quercus coccinea

Beech Family
Fagaceae

E North America
4 97 0002

common name

scientific name
(genus, species)

native habitat

accession number

common family name

scientific family name

DWARF CONIFER GARDEN

Don't be afraid to get up close and personal with our four-season dwarf conifer garden—the miniature stature of these cone-bearing trees invites closer exploration of their unique shapes, colors, and textures!



VI BATES WOODLAND WILDFLOWER GARDEN

This gorgeous garden is home to early springtime blooms, as well as other native woodland species.



NANCY OLSON CHILDREN'S

Explore the Kid's Creek for interactive stream play and frolic through our splash pad! This fun play area is perfect for cooling off on a hot summer day, no matter your age.



PREHISTORIC GARDEN



This garden showcases some of the trees and plants which grew in prehistoric times, including the highly recognizable ginkgo. You'll also find Klehm's Dinosaur mascots, Flora-Fauna and Tree-Rex.

AMERICAN CHESTNUT

Once plentiful in North America, only a precious few mature American Chestnuts survived a disastrous blight in the early 1900s.



FOUNTAIN GARDEN

This elegant garden features fountains, curated flowerbeds, and an ornate wooden trellis.



- INFORMATION

RESTROOMS & HANDICAP ACCESSIBLE

GIFT SHOP

WATER FOUNTAIN

PARKING

- LAWNS

SPECIALTY GARDENS

WOODED WALKING TRAILS

BUILDINGS
- SELF-GUIDED TRAIL POSTS

INTERPRETATIVE SIGNS

PAVED PATHS

CHIPPED TRAILS



Amenities

Restrooms and water fountains with bottle fillers can be found in the Visitors Center and on the south side of the Clarcor Pavilion. A soft drink vending machine is also located in the Visitors Center.

Accessibility:

- All buildings and paved garden paths are accessible to strollers and wheelchairs.
- Klehm is in ADA compliance and will assist in providing for individuals with special needs. Call for special accommodations.
- A limited number of non-electric wheelchairs are available at the Visitors Center, and should be returned after use.

Attractions

Gift Shop

The Gift Shop can be found in the Visitors Center and is stocked with Klehm branded merchandise, apparel and souvenirs, along with books, puzzles, field guides and other unique and specialty items. Klehm members receive a 10% discount on all purchases made in Klehm's Gift Shop.

Library

The resources of the Harding Horticultural Library, also located in the Visitors Center, are available whenever the building is open and the Library is not in use.

Visitor Etiquette

Klehm Arboretum & Botanic Garden is kept beautiful and healthy for your enjoyment and learning. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Be Kind

It is permissible to pick up leaves, seeds, or cones that have fallen to the ground, but please refrain from picking leaves, fruits, or seedheads from trees or other plants. Stay on paved paths, nature trails and grass. Footsteps elsewhere crush plants and damage soil. Leave everything here for others to enjoy.

Be Safe

Please do not climb on trees or hang from branches. Only leashed, well-behaved pets are allowed on the grounds. Please clean up after your pet. Pet waste bags can be found at the Visitors Center or at a station located south of the Clarcor Pavilion near the paved path. Pets may not be left in cars during your visit. Swimming is not permitted in the water features.

Be Respectful

Children must be accompanied by an adult. No bikes, scooters (traditional or motorized), skateboards, or in-line skates. Respect others in your group and other visitors. Weddings and other private events regularly occur on Klehm grounds.

Photos and videos for personal use are welcome. Professional photography (photography being carried out by professionals for business purposes) requires a permit. Please contact Klehm staff to learn more.