

INTERESTING PLANTS FOUND IN SAANICH

Here are a few of the many interesting/unusual plants that can be found in Saanich parks or on the grounds of municipal buildings.

California Bay Laurel (*Umbellularia californica*) – Playfair Park. Grown from seed on Saltspring Island this tree was donated to the park around 1960. For many years this was thought to be a Camphor tree but it was recently identified to be a California Bay Laurel which is native to California and extends into southern Oregon where it is known as an Oregon Myrtle. It can be found near the bottom of the large display of rhododendrons Playfair Park is best known for.



Loquat tree (*Eriobotrya japonica*) – [Playfair Park](#). Producing fragrant flowers that turn into berries, you will find this tree in the perennial border at Playfair Park. Learn more about the [Loquat!](#)



Gunnera (Gunnera tinctoria) – Saanich Municipal Hall. Sometimes called Giant Rhubarb Gunnera, are in the ponds beside Saanich Municipal Hall.



Viburnum shrub (Viburnum tinus) – Les Passmore Senior Centre. This Viburnum has grown into a small tree and is on the grounds of Les Passmore Seniors Centre.



Tree Fern (*Dicksonia antarctica*) – Playfair Park. Another unusual plant found in Playfair Park is this Tree Fern which is in a shady portion of the perennial border.



For more information on the plants in Saanich, visit our website saanich.ca and look under the Parks section!

Saanich Parks

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