





This Ginkgo, or Maidenhair Tree (*Ginkgo biloba*, #11, located just inside the park entrance), is one of the oldest in Bellingham, and the only one known to flower. Ginkgoes, oddly more closely related to the conifers than broadleaf trees, are dioecious, meaning that each tree is either male or female. This particular tree is male, and since it produces flowers, it can be presumed to be at least 35-40 years old. This beautiful species is the only remaining plant in its Class, with fossils similar to the modern species dating back as far as 270 million years ago.

## A Brief History of Fairhaven Park

- 1906 A five acre plot of undeveloped land south of Julia Ave. between 14th and 16th streets is gifted to the City by Pacific Realty Company, owned by Charles X. Larrabee and Cyrus Gates. Later, and additional 5 acres is donated by the Erastus Bartlett estate.
- 1909 Deeds are accepted by Park Board
- Original development of the park was funded mostly by C. X.
  Larrabee and designed by John C. Olmsted
- 1918 The Caretaker's house at the rose garden was built with original floorplans based on Cyrus Gates' Woodstock Farm home.
- 1908-1922 Fairhaven Park contained a small petting zoo.
- 1914 The original pavilion was built. It caught fire in 1937 and was rebuilt in 1975, and again in 1982 after another fire.
- 1916 Wading pool was installed outside the pavilion. It was replaced in 2003 by spray park.
- 1923-1928 As was popular at the time, Fairhaven park was converted into an automobile tourist camp with a camp shelter and tourist camp house. The camp was located where the current main parking lot is.
- 1990-2007 Caretaker's house is leased for use as the Fairhaven Youth Hostel for young travelers passing through Bellingham.
- 2008-present Rose garden and Caretaker's house leased by the Center for Local Self-Reliance.

Reference: A History of Bellingham Parks by Aaron Joy

Park Hours: 6am-10pm daily

## **Amenities include:**

- Barbecue Grills
- Community Building
- Multipurpose Fields
- Outdoor Basketball Court
- Tennis Courts
- Picnic Shelter
- Playground
- Restrooms
- Spray Park Open June 18, 2013, through Labor Day,
  1 p.m. to 7 p.m. daily.

## **Fairhaven Park**

107 Chuckanut Drive N





Bellingham Parks & Recreation 3424 Meridian Street Bellingham, WA 98225 360.778.7000