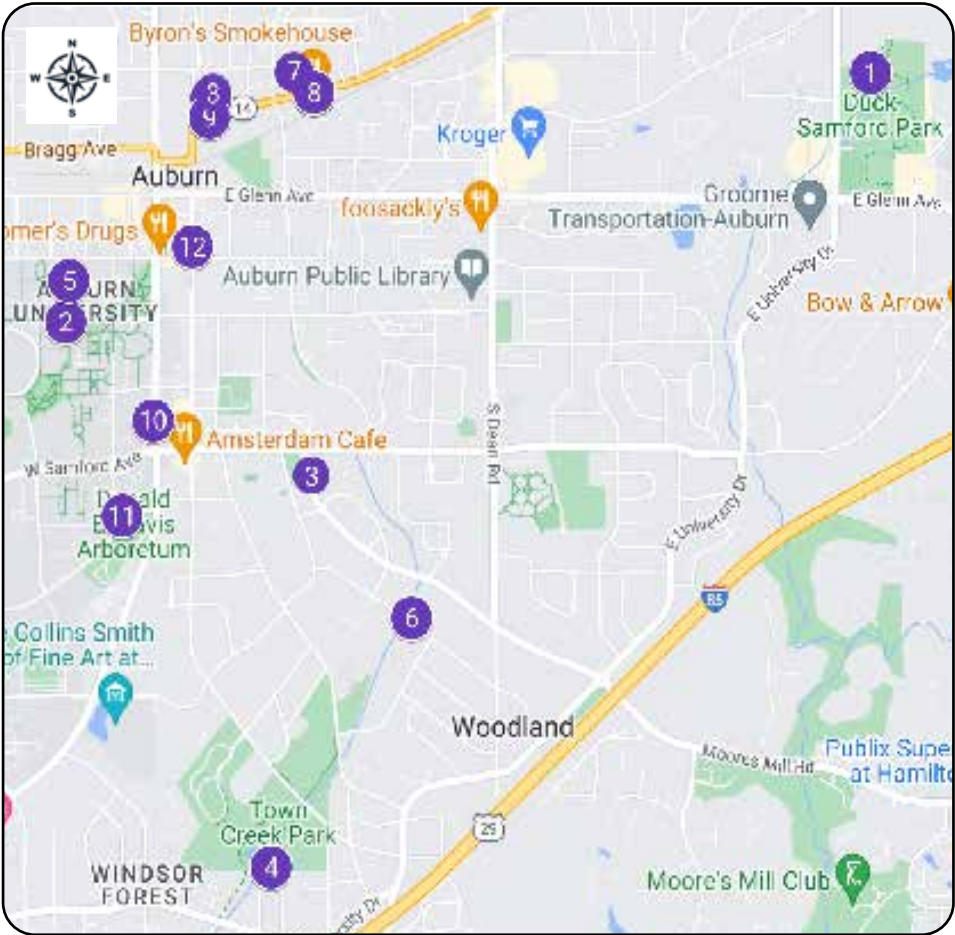


A detailed botanical illustration featuring several types of leaves and plant structures. In the upper right, a large, bright green leaf is partially visible. Below it, a large, dark green leaf with prominent veins is shown. To the left, there are smaller, lighter green leaves and a cluster of small, round fruits or seed pods. The background is filled with various other plant elements, including stems, leaves, and small flowers, all rendered in a detailed, scientific style. A semi-transparent green banner is overlaid across the middle of the image, containing the text "PHOTO-SYNTHESIS".

PHOTO- **SYNTHESIS**

Map of Auburn, AL

Photo-Synthesis Plants



Scan for Full
Google Map



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Who We Are

SYLVAN BAKER is a PhD student in English literature. She likes studying environmental work and playing tabletop games.

JOLISA BREWSTER is a transplanted Trini living in Auburn, Alabama, pursuing her MA in Technical Communication. She loves a really good book and discovering local eateries.

ADALYN DUGAS is an MA student in Technical Communication who enjoys the outdoors and board sports.

TRUMAN TEMPLETON is an English literature graduate student originally from the Pacific Northwest. He enjoys reading, music, animals, and minding his own business.

Acknowledgments

Our publication would like to extend our acknowledgment toward the Muscogee Confederation and honor their peoples, for the land which we use is sacred to these indigenous tribes.

We would like to express our gratitude for the City of Auburn, its contribution toward the safety of our residents, and the sustainability of our city's development.

We deeply thank all of those who contributed their time, energy, and passion to provide submissions for this publication.

To the plants that provide for us, we thank you for the oxygen we breathe, the food we eat, and the peace we take in from living among you. We notice your resilience in trying times and hope to encourage humanity to acknowledge your presence and to offer you all the support you need to keep growing with us.

To ENGL 7000 and Dr. Derek G. Ross, we thank you for providing your expertise toward our learning goals. Thank you for the opportunity to share ideas and collaborate in impactful and meaningful projects like this one.



Introduction to Photo-Synthesis

Our publication aims to showcase a selection of photographs highlighting favorite plant life around Auburn, Alabama, and brief commentaries from contributors' choice of flora. Our team is dedicated to expressing conscientious and responsible connection with the environment, and we are actively engaged in bringing together those who treasure the biodiversity of Auburn. Our aim is to create an inclusive publication that celebrates our community's many diverse voices, experiences, and perspectives. We are committed to amplifying stories, regardless of identity, ability, or background. We wish to encourage the expression of ideas and interests through engagement with nature. For our part, we will strive to ensure quality while giving readers the opportunity to exercise their creativity through this publication.

How to Use this Booklet

COPYRIGHTS: This booklet is the final product of graduate student work in English 7000 at Auburn University during the Fall 2024 semester. This product has been created for learning purposes and may not be reproduced, remixed, or shared for commercial use.

CONTENT DISCLAIMER: The content of this publication is for entertainment purposes only and should not be taken as medical advice. When seeking information on the health risks or benefits of a given plant, always consult a licensed physician or other qualified health expert.

Open and flip through the booklet to read some awesome work. Scan the QR codes to find where a plant is located in Auburn. Go find the plant (or not! We're not bossy). Use the "reader field notes" area to write your own thoughts, findings, and connections. An "additional notes" section is provided in the back for anything else you may find along the way.



Toxic to Humans



Medicinal



Toxic to Pets



Good for Propagation

1. Aster



Size 1 to 6 feet

Bloom Time late summer to fall

Flower pink, white, red, purple



Hi, my name is Aster. I am known as a symbol of love and marriage, but were you aware that I also symbolize birth and death? I fit into all stages of life! That makes sense because I am associated with Venus, also known as the goddess of love. My name comes from the Latin word *astrum*, which means star! We have a lot of uses! Were you aware that the indigenous peoples of North America also used us to treat boils and fevers? We are happy to be around and be helpful! Thank you for getting to know me.

-Isaac Kines

Duck Samford Park

Coordinates
32.6140, -85.4460



Reader Field Notes:

2. Azalea



Size 5 to 8 feet

Bloom Time April

Flower white, red, pink



In the sunlit corner of her garden, the azaleas burst into bright shades of pink, their petals soft and full under the morning light against the cool autumn air. They were her mother's favorite. She knelt down, fingers brushing the soft blossoms, recalling mornings spent beside her mother, learning each plant's needs, each season's demands. As the wind stirred, petals drifted to the ground, fragile and brief. She smiled, knowing that, like the azaleas, the love her mother left behind would bloom again each year, steadfast and beautiful, no matter the season.

-Jolisa Brewster

Coordinates
32.6039, -85.4862



Reader Field Notes:

3. Bamboo



Size 15 to 39 feet

Bloom Time April to June

Flower green and yellow



From the coffee shop window, I look out to see a few leaves and shoots of bamboo creeping across the gravel lot. People step over the maturing sprouts, ignorant of its progress up through the wooden rails and walls. Leaves unfurl in the midday sun and slip through cracks in window panes. I sip my coffee as people begin to disappear behind thickening bamboo clumps. I am surrounded, roots all tangled between pages of books now overturned and pushed from crumbling shelves and walls. I slide my water glass to the nearest leafy cane and nestle back into my seat.

-Sylvan Baker

Well Red Coffee Shop

Coordinates
32.6130, -85.4789



Reader Field Notes:

4. Blue Mistflower



Size 1 to 3 feet

Bloom Time late summer to fall

Flower blue and purple



My dog enjoys running at the dog park at Town Creek Park, and we usually take a stroll on their walking trails after. I noticed this blue mistflower on one of the trails, and while plants don't usually stick out to me, this one reminded me of the lavender plants that my mom used to grow because of how similar the purples are. Unlike lavender, though, the long, stringy petals almost look like tousled heads of hair, which I thought was unique.

-Foster McNeece

Town Creek Park

Coordinates
32.5820, -85.4760



Reader Field Notes:

5. Chrysanthemum



Size 2 to 4 feet

Bloom Time August to January

Flower various



The chrysanthemums bloomed late that year, their petals unfolding like secrets kept too long. Enid’s garden had been quiet since her husband passed, each day heavy with unspoken memories. But now, as the chrysanthemums opened, she felt him again—in their soft, pale yellows and blush pinks. She sat beside them, fingers brushing over soft petals, remembering his laughter, the way he’d bring her these flowers every autumn. The garden was alive with colour, whispering stories of him to her. Each bloom became a promise, a reminder that love lingers, rooting itself deeper, blooming back into the world.

-Jolisa Brewster

Coordinates

32.6056,-85.4861



Reader Field Notes:

6. Eastern Red Cedar



Size	40 to 50 feet
Bloom Time	February to March
Flower	yellow and green



Ah... the Eastern Red Cedar. Or at least that's what I think this tree is. The reality is, I never really knew what this tree was. So, why would I make it a submission? Well, I grew up watching this tree mature. As a tree set outside of the woods, it stuck out. For 20+ years, I'd look every time I went by to see how it had faired since last I saw it.

So, now other people can notice it.

-Jacob Floyd

Auburn Kiwanis Scout Hut

Coordinates
32.5920, -85.4689



Reader Field Notes:

7. Holly



Size 25 to 60 feet

Bloom Time spring to early summer

Flower red



The cold, brisk Autumn wind brushes across her face and she sinks further into the collar of her jacket. The brute weather, an unfamiliar one to her. As she passes a holly bush, its leaves glossy catches her eye. Far from home, a pang of loneliness with the holidays nearing grips her, yet the bush's quiet resilience holds her gaze. Despite the chill, the holly bush seemed steadfast, with buds that hinted at bright berries to come. In its quiet endurance, she found a small warmth, a promise.

-Jolisa Brewster

Coordinates
32.6052, -85.4848



Reader Field Notes:

8. Impatiens



Size 10 to 16 inches

Bloom Time late spring to early fall

Flower various



I was walking near my apartment and these flowers caught my eye with the way their color glowed in the sunlight. They're planted in front of what looks like a business, but I never really see anyone there, so I can't help wondering who put these flowers here and if they have anything to do with the cleaning service these flowers sit in front of.

-Truman Templeton

Byron's Smokehouse

Coordinates
32.6132, -85.4739



Reader Field Notes:

9. Lavender



Size 1.5 to 3 feet

Bloom Time July and August

Flower purple



This lavender is planted in front of Well Red on Opelika Road. Lavender is very popular in my home state of Oregon, as are cafes and bookstores, so it brought back a lot of memories. But when you think about it, is there anywhere in the world that coffee and books can't be found? There's something nice about the fact that no matter where you go, some things never change.

-Truman Templeton

Well Red Coffee Shop

Coordinates

32.6122, -85.4791



Reader Field Notes:

10. Magnolia



Size 50 to 90 feet

Bloom Time May to June

Flower white



The magnolia tree has long been a symbol of longevity in the Southern United States. Its evergreen leaves and large spring blooms are representative of stability and a continuity of tradition that spans generations. As a child, I visited Auburn frequently with my parents, both alumni of Auburn. My dad likes to point out what's changed, and importantly, what hasn't since his time as a student. An enduring touchpoint for him is the magnolia trees on Comer Lawn. Once, the lawn was home to grazing cattle. Now, it serves as a gathering place for students, alumni, and friends of the college.

-Jasey Herrington

Coordinates
32.6000, -85.4820



Reader Field Notes:

11. Red Hibiscus



Size 4 to 5 feet

Bloom Time mid-summer to early fall

Flower red



What a surprise, what a hope to remember
Just before the months draw closer to December
A reminder of feet touching the sand, and sun rays burning all my cares
away

The red hibiscus makes its last appearance in a garden drifting to sleep
It ails a homesick dream for the coastline
It reignites all frustration with roads that never lead to an escape
Too many miles away from open water, the tropical wonder shares my
desire for a sun

A gold expanse that could never be matched in this atmosphere

Donald E. Davis Arboretum

Coordinates

32.5961, -85.4834



Reader Field Notes:

12. Sweetgum



Size 60 to 75 feet

Bloom Time April to May

Flower green, red, orange



Sweetgum in Auburn blazes bright,
A crown of fire, a stunning sight.

Once-green leaves now ember-glow,
In crimson and gold, they softly flow.

Branches flame as nights turn cool,
Under skies so blue, so full.

Crunching reds and golds underfoot,
As autumn's crispness starts to root.

A southern fall, sun's warmth remains,
In seventy-five-degree days.

With cheers and tailgates, students sing,
And Auburn's football spirit rings.

Sweetgum stands, both proud and tall,
A fiery gem in Auburn's Fall.

-Lizzie McGlynn

Bitty & Beau's Coffee Shop

Coordinates
32.6070, -85.4800



Reader Field Notes:

[illegible]

[illegible]



This publication offers interactive content on plants around Auburn, Alabama, that you can search for and connect with. Discover what others have to say about their surroundings. Write your own thoughts while you adventure through the city and the environment around you.

