

Appendix B

Identification of Canopy Openings

Identifying canopy openings will be an easy task, initially. Openings in the crown can be found simply by walking the trails and forest of the Park and looking for gaps in the overhead canopy that have the following characteristics:

1. The opening is wider than the width of the closest overstory trees canopy.
Measure this by estimating one edge of closest tree's canopy, then walk to the opposite edge of the canopy of the closest tree.
Measure from inside edge of canopy to opposite edge of canopy inside the opening at the widest portion along an east-west line.
2. The distance from the center of the gap to any canopy tree trunk is at a minimum 40 feet.
Measure from the center of the gap to the trunk of the closest tree.
Measure the distance from the trunk of the tree to the edge of the canopy of the tree.
3. The opening is not facing north on a north slope. The closer the gap faces the south the better.

Once you have identified a gap, use a compass to determine which way is south. Stand in the center of the opening, look directly south, and answer the following questions:

When you look at the top of tallest tree on the south edge of the opening, is your head or eye:

1. Level with the ground?
2. Looking down?
3. Hurting the back of your neck?

What type of vegetation is in the opening?

1. Invasive
2. Low ground cover
3. Saplings of tree species.

What are the species of surrounding trees?

Alder, Maple, Douglas Fir, Cedar, Maple, Maple, Maple

To the best of your ability, estimate the location of the opening on an aerial photo or site map.

See diagram below for guidance.

