



White Lightning Weeping Beech

Fagus grandifolia 'White Lightning'

Height: 5 feet

Spread: 6 feet

Sunlight: 

Hardiness Zone: 4b

Other Names: American Beech

Description:

An attractive dwarf selection of our native beech with fine, spreading white branches; a perfect garden or landscape accent for smaller spaces

Ornamental Features

White Lightning Weeping Beech is primarily valued in the landscape or garden for its highly ornamental weeping form. It has dark green deciduous foliage. The serrated pointy leaves turn an outstanding harvest gold in the fall. The smooth white bark is extremely showy and adds significant winter interest.

Landscape Attributes

White Lightning Weeping Beech is a multi-stemmed deciduous shrub with a rounded form and gracefully weeping branches. Its average texture blends into the landscape, but can be balanced by one or two finer or coarser trees or shrubs for an effective composition.

This is a relatively low maintenance shrub, and is best pruned in late winter once the threat of extreme cold has passed. Deer don't particularly care for this plant and will usually leave it alone in favor of tastier treats. It has no significant negative characteristics.

White Lightning Weeping Beech is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Accent
- General Garden Use

Planting & Growing

White Lightning Weeping Beech will grow to be about 5 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 6 feet. It has a low canopy with a typical clearance of 2 feet from the ground, and is suitable for planting under power lines. It grows at a slow rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for 60 years or more.



White Lightning Weeping Beech
 Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

This shrub should only be grown in full sunlight. It requires an evenly moist well-drained soil for optimal growth, but will die in standing water. It is not particular as to soil pH, but grows best in rich soils. It is quite intolerant of urban pollution, therefore inner city or urban streetside plantings are best avoided, and will benefit from being planted in a relatively sheltered location. This is a selection of a native North American species.