Scanlon Red Maple

Acer rubrum 'Scanlon'



Scanlon Red Maple
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 45 feet

Spread: 30 feet

Sunlight:

Hardiness Zone: 4

Other Names: Swamp Maple, Scarlet Maple

Description:

A fine shade tree with a narrowly conical habit, upright form makes it ideal for smaller home landscapes; showy red flowers cover the bare branches in spring, rich red-orange fall color; intolerant of alkaline soils

Ornamental Features

Scanlon Red Maple is primarily valued in the landscape for its distinctively pyramidal habit of growth. It features showy clusters of red flowers along the branches in early spring before the leaves. It has green deciduous foliage which emerges red in spring. The lobed leaves turn an outstanding orange in the fall. The furrowed silver bark and brick red branches add an interesting dimension to the landscape.

Landscape Attributes

Scanlon Red Maple is a dense deciduous tree with a strong central leader and a distinctive and refined pyramidal form. 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 tree, and should only be pruned in summer after the leaves have fully developed, as it may 'bleed' sap if pruned in late winter or early spring. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Scanlon Red Maple is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Accent
- Shade
- Vertical Accent

Planting & Growing

Scanlon Red Maple will grow to be about 45 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 30 feet. It has a high canopy with a typical clearance of 7 feet from the ground, and should not be planted underneath power lines. As it matures, the lower branches of this tree can be strategically removed to create a high enough canopy to support unobstructed human traffic underneath. It grows at a medium rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for 70 years or more.

This tree should only be grown in full sunlight. It is quite adaptable, prefering to grow in average to wet conditions, and will even tolerate some standing water. It may require supplemental watering during periods of drought or extended heat. It is not particular as to soil type, but has a definite preference for acidic soils, and is subject to chlorosis (yellowing) of the foliage in alkaline soils. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. This is a selection of a native North American species.