Buttermilk Sky Variegated Dogwood

Cornus mas 'Butskyzam'

Height: 15 feet

Spread: 15 feet

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 4

Other Names: Cornelian Cherry Dogwood



Buttermilk Sky Variegated Dogwood foliage
Photo courtesy of Lake County Nursery

Description:

An excellent large shrub or small tree for use as a specimen or color accent; features butter yellow variegated foliage, bright yellow flowers in very early spring before the leaves and red berries in summer, compact habit of growth, but some suckering



Buttermilk Sky Variegated Dogwood flowers
Photo courtesy of Lake County Nursery

Ornamental Features

Buttermilk Sky Variegated Dogwood has clusters of yellow flowers along the branches from late winter to early spring before the leaves. It has attractive buttery yellow-variegated green foliage with hints of gold. The pointy leaves are highly ornamental but do not develop any appreciable fall color. It produces red berries from early to mid summer. The peeling brown bark adds an interesting dimension to the landscape.

Landscape Attributes

Buttermilk Sky Variegated Dogwood is a multi-stemmed deciduous tree with a more or less rounded 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 after flowering to avoid removing any of the current season's flowers. It is a good choice for attracting birds to your yard. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Buttermilk Sky Variegated Dogwood is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Accent
- Mass Planting
- Hedges/Screening
- General Garden Use

Planting & Growing

Buttermilk Sky Variegated Dogwood will grow to be about 15 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 15 feet. It has a low canopy with a typical clearance of 1 foot from the ground, and is suitable for planting under power lines. It grows at a medium rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for 40 years or more.

This tree does best in full sun to partial shade. It is very adaptable to both dry and moist locations, and should do just fine under average home landscape conditions. It may require supplemental watering during periods of drought or extended heat. It is not particular as to soil type or pH. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. Consider applying a thick mulch around the root zone in winter to protect it in exposed locations or colder microclimates. This is a selected variety of a species not originally from North America.