Charity Grape Holly

Mahonia x media 'Charity'

Height: 10 feet

Spread: 5 feet

Sunlight: ◐ ●

Hardiness Zone: 7

Other Names: Barberry

Description:

Bold sprays of bright yellow flowers during winter and blue-black berries in summer and fall; a wonderful addition to the landscape; lustrous dark green foliage resembles the spiny leaves of a holly; plant it where it will receive some snow cover



Charity Grape Holly
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Ornamental Features

Charity Grape Holly has attractive dark green evergreen foliage on a plant with an upright spreading habit of growth. The spiny pointy pinnately compound leaves are highly ornamental and turn an outstanding purple in the fall, which persists throughout the winter. It features bold racemes of fragrant yellow flowers rising above the foliage from mid winter to early spring. It produces navy blue berries from late summer to mid fall.



Charity Grape Holly foliage
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Landscape Attributes

Charity Grape Holly is a multi-stemmed evergreen shrub with an upright spreading habit of growth. 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 shrub will require occasional maintenance and upkeep, 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, but is not particularly attractive to deer who tend to leave it alone in favor of tastier treats. Gardeners should be aware of the following characteristic(s) that may warrant special consideration;

- Suckering
- Disease

Charity Grape Holly is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Accent
- Mass Planting
- General Garden Use
- Naturalizing And Woodland Gardens

Planting & Growing

Charity Grape Holly will grow to be about 10 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 5 feet. It tends to fill out right to the ground and therefore doesn't necessarily require facer plants in front, and is suitable for planting under power lines. It grows at a slow rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 20 years.

This shrub does best in partial shade to full shade. Keep it well away from hot, dry locations that receive direct afternoon sun or which get reflected sunlight, such as against the south side of a white wall. It does best in average to evenly moist conditions, but will not tolerate standing water. It may require supplemental watering during periods of drought or extended heat. It is not particular as to soil pH, but grows best in rich soils. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution, and will benefit from being planted in a relatively sheltered location. Consider applying a thick mulch around the root zone in winter to protect it in exposed locations or colder microclimates. This particular variety is an interspecific hybrid.



Charity Grape Holly
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder