Winter Gold Snakebark Maple

Acer rufinerve 'Winter Gold'



Winter Gold Snakebark Maple stems
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 25 feet

Spread: 25 feet

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 5

Other Names: Stripebark Maple

Description:

Golden-yellow bark really makes this medium sized maple stand out in the winter landscape; yellow-green foliage in summer turns brilliant shades of yellow, orange, and red in fall; will establish itself as a nice small shade tree

Ornamental Features

Winter Gold Snakebark Maple is primarily valued in the landscape for its ornamental upright and spreading habit of growth. It has attractive green deciduous foliage. The lobed leaves are highly ornamental and turn outstanding shades of yellow, orange and red in the fall. It produces tan samaras from early to mid fall. The smooth chartreuse bark and gold branches are extremely showy and add significant winter interest.

Landscape Attributes

Winter Gold Snakebark Maple is a multi-stemmed deciduous tree 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 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.

Winter Gold Snakebark Maple is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Accent
- Shade
- Hedges/Screening

Planting & Growing

Winter Gold Snakebark Maple will grow to be about 25 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 25 feet. It has a low canopy with a typical clearance of 3 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 80 years or more.

This tree does best in full sun to partial shade. It prefers to grow in average to moist conditions, and shouldn't be allowed to dry out. 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 is a selected variety of a species not originally from North America.