Emory's Sedge

Carex emoryi

Plant Height: 18 inches

Flower Height: 24 inches

Spread: 18 inches

Sunlight: ◐ ●

Hardiness Zone: 4

Other Names: Emory Sedge, syn. Carex stricta var. elongata

Description:

A vigorous sedge that is valued for wetland restoration and soil retention; perfect for riverbanks, pond edges, or wet meadows; suitable for gardens or as a groundcover but must have sufficient water

Ornamental Features

Emory's Sedge is primarily valued in the garden for its interestingly mounded form. It has masses of beautiful spikes of white flowers rising above the foliage from mid to late spring, which are most effective when planted in groupings. Its attractive grassy leaves remain green in color throughout the season.

Landscape Attributes

Emory's Sedge is a dense herbaceous perennial grass with a mounded form. It brings an extremely fine and delicate texture to the garden composition and should be used to full effect.

This plant will require occasional maintenance and upkeep, and is best cleaned up in early spring before it resumes active growth for the season. It is a good choice for attracting bees and butterflies 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;



Emory's Sedge
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



Emory's Sedge
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

- Spreading

Emory's Sedge is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Mass Planting
- Border Edging
- General Garden Use
- Groundcover

Planting & Growing

Emory's Sedge will grow to be about 18 inches tall at maturity extending to 24 inches tall with the flowers, with a spread of 18 inches. Its foliage tends to remain dense right to the ground, not requiring facer plants in front. It grows at a medium rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 10 years. As an herbaceous perennial, this plant will usually die back to the crown each winter, and will regrow from the base each spring. Be careful not to disturb the crown in late winter when it may not be readily seen!

This plant 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 prefers to grow in moist to wet soil, and will even tolerate some standing water. It may require supplemental watering during periods of drought or extended heat. This plant does not require much in the way of fertilizing once established. 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 both summer and winter to conserve soil moisture and protect it in exposed locations or colder microclimates. This species is native to parts of North America. It can be propagated by division.