



## Sweetspire, Little Henry

*Itea virginica 'Sprich'*

Height: 3 feet

Spread: 3 feet

Sunlight: ○ ● ●

Hardiness Zone: 6a

### Description:

A compact spreading version of this native shrub which features extremely long and narrow panicles of white flowers in early summer, consistently reddish-purple fall color; good for the garden accent, spreads to form small colonies

### Ornamental Features

Sweetspire, Little Henry has racemes of fragrant white flowers at the ends of the branches in early summer. It has green deciduous foliage. The narrow leaves turn an outstanding burgundy in the fall. The purple stems can be quite attractive.

### Landscape Attributes

Sweetspire, Little Henry is a dense spreading deciduous shrub with a ground-hugging 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. Gardeners should be aware of the following characteristic(s) that may warrant special consideration;

- Suckering

Sweetspire, Little Henry is recommended for the following landscape applications;



*Sweetspire, Little Henry in bloom*  
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



*Sweetspire, Little Henry flowers*  
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



- Accent
- General Garden Use

### **Planting & Growing**

Sweetspire, Little Henry will grow to be about 3 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 3 feet. It tends to fill out right to the ground and therefore doesn't necessarily require facer plants in front. It grows at a medium rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for 40 years or more.

This shrub performs well in both full sun and full shade. It is quite adaptable, preferring to grow in average to wet conditions, and will even tolerate some standing water. This plant should be periodically fertilized throughout the active growing season with a specially-formulated acidic fertilizer. It is not particular as to soil type or pH. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. This is a selection of a native North American species.



*Sweetspire, Little Henry in fall  
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder*