



Oak, Willow
Quercus phellos

Height: 70 feet

Spread: 50 feet

Sunlight: ○

Hardiness Zone: 6a

Description:

An interesting oak with unusual thin, long leaves, more like a willow (hence the name); this becomes a massive, wide-spreading shade tree, only for larger landscapes, also makes a great street tree; tough and adaptable to various conditions

Ornamental Features

Oak, Willow has dark green deciduous foliage on a tree with a pyramidal habit of growth. The narrow leaves turn coppery-bronze in fall. However, the fruit can be messy in the landscape and may require occasional clean-up.

Landscape Attributes

Oak, Willow is a dense deciduous tree with a distinctive and refined pyramidal form. Its relatively fine texture sets it apart from other landscape plants with less refined foliage.

This tree will require occasional maintenance and upkeep, and is best pruned in late winter once the threat of extreme cold has passed. It is a good choice for attracting birds and squirrels to your yard. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Oak, Willow is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Shade



Oak, Willow
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



Oak, Willow foliage
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



Planting & Growing

Oak, Willow will grow to be about 70 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 50 feet. It has a high canopy of foliage that sits well above the ground, and should not be planted underneath power lines. As it matures, the lower branches of this tree can be strategically removed to create a high enough canopy to support unobstructed human traffic underneath. It grows at a medium rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live to a ripe old age of 150 years or more; think of this as a heritage tree for future generations!

This tree should only be grown in full sunlight. It prefers to grow in average to moist conditions, and shouldn't be allowed to dry out. 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, but has a definite preference for acidic soils. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. This species is native to parts of North America.

Special Attributes

Willow Oak starts producing acorns about 20 years of age. The acorns are 1/2 inch or smaller and can take a season to mature. The leaves can stay on the tree well into winter and can even stay on tree until new leaves push the old ones off.