Birch, Heritage River Multi-Stem

Betula nigra 'Heritage (clump)'

Height: 40 feet

Spread: 40 feet

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 3b

Other Names: Red Birch

Description:

A multi-trunk form of the native river birch selected for its amazing peeling bark in colors of white, brown and tan, more creamy white than the species, also has reliable fall color, and more resistant to birch borer

Ornamental Features

Birch, Heritage River Multi-Stem features subtle chartreuse catkins in early spring. It has dark green deciduous foliage. The pointy leaves turn an outstanding yellow in the fall. The peeling creamy white bark is extremely showy and adds significant winter interest.

Landscape Attributes

Birch, Heritage River Multi-Stem is a multi-stemmed deciduous tree with a more or less rounded form. Its relatively fine texture sets it apart from other landscape plants with less refined foliage.

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.

Birch, Heritage River Multi-Stem is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Accent
- Shade



Birch, Heritage River Multi-Stem
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



Birch, Heritage River Multi-Stem bark
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Planting & Growing

Birch, Heritage River Multi-Stem will grow to be about 40 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 40 feet. It has a low canopy with a typical clearance of 3 feet from the ground, and should not be planted underneath power lines. It grows at a fast rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for 70 years or more.

This tree does best in full sun to partial shade. It is quite adaptable, prefering 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, but has a definite preference for acidic soils. It is highly tolerant of urban pollution and will even thrive in inner city environments. This is a selection of a native North American species.

Clean up Rating (1-5) 1=least effort 5=most effort

Clean Up Rating (3) Early Spring 1 1/2 to 2 inch catkins appear and releases tiny seeds during summer and fall. Don't plant near pools or water features due to tiny seeds in the filter. After strong winds small branches drop and will need to be cleaned up by gathering and bagging. The small leaves can be blown or raked onto the lawn and mowed or bagged.