Honeylocust, Street Keeper

Gleditsia triacanthos 'Draves'



Honeylocust, Street Keeper
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 40 feet

Spread: 20 feet

Sunlight: ○

Hardiness Zone: 4a

Description:

A sturdy accent or street tree with ascending branches and a narrowly pyramidal growth habit; lush, deep green foliage with excellent yellow fall color; makes a real statement in the landscape; gets some long flat pods.

Ornamental Features

Honeylocust, Street Keeper has attractive dark green deciduous foliage which emerges light green in spring on a tree with a pyramidal habit of growth. The bipinnately compound leaves are highly ornamental and turn an outstanding yellow in the fall. However, the fruit can be messy in the landscape and may require occasional clean-up.



Honeylocust, Street Keeper foliage
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Landscape Attributes

Honeylocust, Street Keeper is an open deciduous tree with a distinctive and refined pyramidal form. It lends an extremely fine and delicate texture to the landscape composition which can make it a great accent feature on this basis alone.

This is a relatively low maintenance tree, and is best pruned in late winter once the threat of extreme cold has passed. Deer don't particularly care for this plant and will usually leave it alone in favor of tastier treats. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Honeylocust, Street Keeper is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Accent
- Shade

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Planting & Growing

Honeylocust, Street Keeper will grow to be about 40 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 20 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 fast rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for 70 years or more.

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 or pH, and is able to handle environmental salt. 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.



Honeylocust, Street Keeper in fall
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

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

Clean Up Rating (5): Street Keeper Honeylocust is thorn-less and produces a flat 10 to 12 inches long pods. Clean up is blow or rake leaves and pods onto the lawn and mow or bag.