Redbud, Vanilla Twist Weeping

Cercis canadensis 'Vanilla Twist'

Height: 12 feet

Spread: 8 feet

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 4b

Other Names: Eastern Redbud, Judas Tree, Love Tree

Description:

A captivating small tree, with very showy white flowers held tightly on bare branches in early spring; chartreuse foliage emerges, maturing to light green; a great weeping ornamental tree for specimen use in the landscape. Grows best with wind protection.

Ornamental Features

Redbud, Vanilla Twist Weeping is clothed in stunning white pea-like flowers along the branches from early to mid spring, which emerge from distinctive buttery yellow flower buds before the leaves. It has attractive light green deciduous foliage which emerges chartreuse in spring. The heart-shaped leaves are highly ornamental and turn yellow in fall.

Landscape Attributes

Redbud, Vanilla Twist Weeping is a multi-stemmed deciduous shrub with a rounded form and gracefully weeping branches. Its relatively coarse texture can be used to stand it apart from other landscape plants with finer foliage.

This is a relatively low maintenance shrub, and should only be pruned after flowering to avoid removing any of the current season's flowers. 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.

Redbud, Vanilla Twist Weeping is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Accent
- Mass Planting
- General Garden Use



Redbud, Vanilla Twist Weeping in bloom
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



Redbud, Vanilla Twist Weeping flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Planting & Growing

Redbud, Vanilla Twist Weeping will grow to be about 12 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 8 feet. It has a low canopy with a typical clearance of 1 foot from the ground, and is suitable for planting under power lines. It grows at a medium rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for 60 years or more.

This shrub does best in full sun to partial shade. 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. It is highly tolerant of urban pollution and will even thrive in inner city environments, and will benefit from being planted in a relatively sheltered location. Consider applying a thick mulch around the root zone in winter to protect it in exposed locations or colder microclimates. This is a selection of a native North American species.

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

Clean Up Rate (3): Redbuds produce a few to many flat bean pods, 2 to 3 inches long. The pods generally don't germinate so clean up for all debris can be blown or raked onto the lawn and mowed or bagged. Redbuds need wind protection.