Shiloh Splash River Birch

Betula nigra 'Shiloh Splash'



Shiloh Splash River Birch foliage
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 30 feet

Spread: 15 feet

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 3a

Other Names: Red Birch

Description:

A visually stunning pyramidal to oval variety; smaller green leaves have wide irregular white margins; peeling bark exposes the brown under layer, for great winter interest; requires acidic soil, susceptible to chlorosis in alkaline soils

Ornamental Features

Shiloh Splash River Birch features subtle chartreuse catkins in early spring. It has green foliage edged in creamy white. The small serrated pointy leaves turn an outstanding yellow in the fall. The peeling white bark is extremely showy and adds significant winter interest.



Shiloh Splash River Birch foliage
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Landscape Attributes

Shiloh Splash River Birch is a 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 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. 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.

Shiloh Splash River Birch is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Accent
- Shade

Planting & Growing

Shiloh Splash River Birch will grow to be about 30 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 15 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 medium 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. It is not particular as to soil type, but has a definite preference for acidic soils, and is subject to chlorosis (yellowing) of the foliage in alkaline soils. It is highly tolerant of urban pollution and will even thrive in inner city environments. 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.