Outdoor Tree & Shrub Care Guides



ARBORVITAE



Why We Love Arborvitaes:

Although it is a Latin name meaning "Tree of Life," Arborvitae is actually the common name for members of the Thuja genus. These fast-growing evergreen trees or dwarf trees have a wide variety of uses in landscaping. Many trees are bred to stop at ideal heights for privacy walls, such as 'Emerald Green' or 'American Pillar.'

FACTS

Grow Zone: 2 - 8

Family: Cupressaceae

Genus: Thuja

Native To: North America (2 species), East Asia (3

species)

Mature Height: 5' - 80'

Mature Width: 5' - 20'

Type: Evergreen conifer

Growth Habit: Upright, conical or globular, medium to fast rate

Foliage: Green or golden, flat, lacy fan-shaped needles with scales

Flowers: Inconspicuous

Propagation: Cuttings

LIGHT

Full sun to partial shade. 6 - 8 hours of sun per day is ideal.

Great for creating shade and privacy.

Likes afternoon shade in warmer grow zones.

WATER

Prefers even moisture with good drainage, approx 1"/week. Established trees are tolerant of wet or drought, young or newly planted trees are not.

Do not overwater.

SOIL

Well-draining, neutral, loamy, fertile soil. Fertilize once per year, if needed, with slow-release granular fertilizer.

Amend soil to ensure adequate drainage deep below the roots.

FYI: Browning needles are normal at center near trunk or at tips during winter. Excessive browning is a sign of stress. Plant 5' - 10' apart for a privacy wall with conical varieties.

Call & visit for more tips:

(301) 218-4769

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INTERESTING VARIETIES:

- Thuja occidentalis 'Degroot's Spire' •
- Thuja occidentalis 'Forevery Goldy'
- Thuja occidentalis 'Smaragd' (Emerald Green Arborvitae)
- Thuja occidentalis 'Globosa'
- Thuja occidentalis 'American Pillar'
- Thuja standishii × plicata 'Green Giant'
- Thuja occidentalis (Eastern White Cedar)
- Thuja plicata (Western Red Cedar)
- Thuja standishii
- Thuja koraiensis