

The Maple-Leafed Viburnum

Looking for a plan to add some color to a garden or ground cover? Then consider the Maple Leafed Viburnum! Easily distinguishable by its maple-shaped leaves when it matures it can grow to be four feet (one meter) across and six feet (two meters) tall. The plant produces white blossoms with stamens in the spring and grows berries by late summer. When autumn arrives its leaves turn red, pink, purple and add a splash of vibrant colors to the landscape or any garden. Requiring little maintenance once established and being pest-resistant make it one of the most hardy plants around.

The Maple-Leafed Viburnum is native to North America where it is typically found in the undergrowth of forests and along streams and lakes. It can grow in acidic wet and tolerate dry soils once established. The shrub is primarily used for hedges, ground cover, pots, and as a barrier between different gardens and lawns. The shrub blooms white flowers in the spring that produce small blue berries when fall arrives. As autumn takes hold its leaves turn vibrant red, dark purple, and yellow adding a dash of color to any landscape or garden. The plant benefits the wildlife around it, attracting chipmunks, squirrels, bees, butterflies and other pollinators that come to feed on its nectar and berries. Herbivores usually avoid it making it the perfect plant for areas with high deer populations.

After receiving the shrub from the nursery, the Maple-Leafed Viburnum needs to be planted about three feet away from other vegetation. The shrub doesn't need much irrigation but requires it constantly when it is young. The plant spreads through rhizomes and suckers but is tolerant to cutting and pruning, best done in the winter or early spring. Overall, it's a beautiful and hardy plant that benefits the landscape and the organisms that live around it.