Firefly Climbing Hydrangea

Hydrangea anomala ssp. petiolaris 'Firefly'

Height: 40 feet

Spread: 3 feet

Sunlight: ○ ◐ ●

Hardiness Zone: 4a

Description:

A vine-type hydrangea featuring attractive dark green leaves with yellow variegation, and delicate, fragrant lace-cap flowers; red-brown bark exfoliates and gives winter interest; self-clinging to vertical structures and trees, makes a great color accent

Ornamental Features

Firefly Climbing Hydrangea features dainty lightly-scented white lacecap flowers along the branches from mid spring to early summer. It has attractive yellow-variegated dark green foliage with hints of chartreuse. The serrated heart-shaped leaves are highly ornamental but do not develop any appreciable fall color. The peeling brown bark adds an interesting dimension to the landscape.

Landscape Attributes

Firefly Climbing Hydrangea is a multi-stemmed deciduous woody vine with a twining and trailing habit of growth. Its relatively coarse texture can be used to stand it apart from other landscape plants with finer foliage.

This woody vine will require occasional maintenance and upkeep, and is best pruned in late winter once the threat of extreme cold has passed. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Firefly Climbing Hydrangea is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Hedges/Screening
- General Garden Use



Firefly Climbing Hydrangea flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



Firefly Climbing Hydrangea flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

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Planting & Growing

Firefly Climbing Hydrangea will grow to be about 40 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 3 feet. As a climbing vine, it tends to be leggy near the base and should be underplanted with low-growing facer plants. It should be planted near a fence, trellis or other landscape structure where it can be trained to grow upwards on it, or allowed to trail off a retaining wall or slope. It grows at a slow rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for 70 years or more.

This woody vine performs well in both full sun and full shade. It prefers to grow in average to moist conditions, and shouldn't be allowed to dry out. 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. This is a selected variety of a species not originally from North America.