Lilac Cascade Butterfly Bush

Buddleia 'Lilac Cascade'



Lilac Cascade Butterfly Bush in bloom
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 5 feet

Spread: 6 feet

Sunlight: ○

Hardiness Zone: 4b

Other Names: Summer Lilac

Group/Class: Cascade Collection

Description:

A compact garden plant with elegant, arching, pale lilac purple flower spikes in summer, over minty green leaves; attracts butterflies; may treat as a perennial and cut it back to the ground each spring as it regrows vigorously and blooms on new wood

Ornamental Features

Lilac Cascade Butterfly Bush features showy panicles of fragrant lilac purple flowers at the ends of the branches from mid summer to early fall, which emerge from distinctive purple flower buds. The flowers are excellent for cutting. It has light green deciduous foliage. The narrow leaves do not develop any appreciable fall color.

Landscape Attributes

Lilac Cascade Butterfly Bush is an open multi-stemmed deciduous shrub with a shapely form and gracefully arching branches. Its average texture blends into the landscape, but can be balanced by one or two finer or coarser trees or shrubs for an effective composition.



Lilac Cascade Butterfly Bush flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

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This is a relatively low maintenance shrub, and is best pruned in late winter once the threat of extreme cold has passed. It is a good choice for attracting bees, butterflies and hummingbirds to your yard, but is not particularly attractive to deer who tend to leave it alone in favor of tastier treats. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Lilac Cascade Butterfly Bush is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Mass Planting
- General Garden Use
- Naturalizing And Woodland Gardens
- Container Planting



Lilac Cascade Butterfly Bush in bloom
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Planting & Growing

Lilac Cascade Butterfly Bush will grow to be about 5 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 6 feet. It tends to be a little leggy, with a typical clearance of 1 foot from the ground, and is suitable for planting under power lines. It grows at a fast rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 20 years.

This shrub should only be grown in full sunlight. It is very adaptable to both dry and moist locations, and should do just fine under average home landscape conditions. It is not particular as to soil type or pH, and is able to handle environmental salt. It is highly tolerant of urban pollution and will even thrive in inner city environments. This particular variety is an interspecific hybrid.

Lilac Cascade Butterfly Bush makes a fine choice for the outdoor landscape, but it is also well-suited for use in outdoor pots and containers. Because of its height, it is often used as a 'thriller' in the 'spiller-thriller-filler' container combination; plant it near the center of the pot, surrounded by smaller plants and those that spill over the edges. It is even sizeable enough that it can be grown alone in a suitable container. Note that when grown in a container, it may not perform exactly as indicated on the tag - this is to be expected. Also note that when growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden.