



METRO MAPLES

August 2020 Newsletter



NEW ARRIVALS

The first of 3 major fall shipments has arrived. Details below.



'BUTTERFLY'

This variegated dwarf deserves a spot in your shade garden.



TOOLS

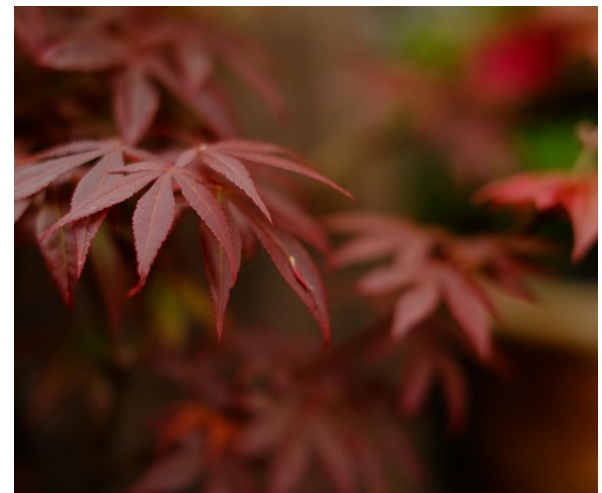
Which ones we use and why we like them.

NEW ARRIVALS!

We've taken our first of three major deliveries of new trees for Autumn 2020.

Our newest arrivals include 'Tamukeyama,' 'Crimson Queen,' 'Butterfly,' 'Bloodgood,' and 'Ryusen,' and 'Sango kaku'. These range from 7-15 gallons, and from 3' tall to over 12' tall.

The second truckload of container-grown trees should arrive in late September. A third shipment consisting of nothing but balled-and-burlapped field-grown trees will arrive in October.



The perfect planting time is just a few weeks away now. New trees will be here just in time!

We are open Monday through Saturday from 8am-2pm, and ask that you schedule an appointment so that we can be available to greet you and provide you a safe and enjoyable time at the nursery. We'll be wearing our masks and keeping a safe distance, and ask that you do the same. If you'd like to make an appointment, please send us an email at metromaples@yahoo.com.



Spring pink on 'Butterfly' doesn't stick around for long, but it's great while it lasts.

Like most dwarf Japanese maples, 'Butterfly' is dense, with lots of small branches covered in lots of those small variegated leaves.



Photo credit: Our friends at www.mrmapple.com

'BUTTERFLY'

Acer palmatum 'Butterfly' is an upright-growing dwarf Japanese maple. It's quite popular because of its variegation and small stature.

The leaves are on the small side, but make up for their size by putting on a colorful show throughout the year. Spring growth is a mix of pink and green. As the leaves mature, that pink color fades to a creamy white. The green and white variegation holds through the summer, before the tree turns a mix of magentas and reds in autumn.



Some leaves will have more green, while some will have more white. The older the tree becomes, the more the white tends to dominate.

The tree is narrow, growing to around 8' tall and only 4-6' wide at maturity. Its dense habit and columnar shape make it a great focal point for a small garden or border.

We currently have 'Butterfly' available in 1 and 2-gallon containers for \$25 and \$35, a handful of really nice larger 7-gallon specimens that are around 6' tall for \$225 and one fully grown specimen in a 65-gallon for \$495. Come get one before they're gone!

TOOLS OF THE TRADE

When you're working a 6-acre tree farm you quickly learn that the right tools can really make your life a lot easier while also giving you better results and healthier trees.

Since prime gardening season is just around the corner, we thought you all might like to know some tools that have made a difference for us at Metro Maples.



DRAMM 1000 Water Breaker

This nozzle breaks the flow of water from your garden hose into an incredibly soft shower that doesn't disturb the soil but still provides plenty of volume. It's especially helpful for watering plants in containers.



Okatsune Pruning Shears

We sell Japanese maples and are interested in bonsai and Japanese gardens, so are we biased towards all things Japanese? Maybe. But it is hard to argue against the satisfying "shick" sound that these razor sharp pruners make when slicing effortlessly through a branch.

Their red and white handles make them easy to find when we've absent-mindedly set them down somewhere. They have a spring in the handle that reduces fatigue and a clip that snaps into place to hold them closed when not in use. They're just a well-made, thoughtfully designed piece of equipment.



Stihl MS 241C Chainsaw

What a great saw! This little guy is lightweight, powerful and has proven to be quite reliable and easy to maintain. We've used quite a few different chainsaws over the years and this is the best one we've found so far.



POKETBOY Folding Saw by Silky



This little hand saw works great for cutting branches that are too big for pruners.

Silky has dozens of hand saws, and they're likely all just as good. This is one of the smallest in their line, and is perfect for working on Japanese maples. It is razor-sharp and creates a very clean cut which will heal faster. If you're clearing brush or pruning Oaks, Elms, etc, you might consider a larger model like the ZUBAT, which we also use quite a bit at the farm.

HAYAUCHI Pole Saw by Silky

We're big fans of Silky saws. They're incredibly sharp and they're thoughtfully engineered. The HAYAUCHI is a perfect example. The 15" blade has hooks on both ends to prevent the saw from sliding out of the cut. The aluminum pole is in 4 sections and telescopes from 8'-21'. The pole is oval-shaped instead of the typical round, making it much easier to control and direct the angle of the blade even when fully extended.

Cutting big limbs 20' above your head can be dangerous, so you might want to pick up a hard hat when you're ordering your saw. Gravity is a heck of a thing.



The Hayauchi hard at work. Also pictured: some guy who is probably going to take all the credit.

This probably goes without saying but we are not paid endorsers of anything. These are just a few things that we've found to be really helpful and reliable. As the temps drop and you get back outside, maybe adding one of these to your own toolbox will help make things a little easier for you and your garden.



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4890 DICK PRICE ROAD, FORT WORTH, TX 76140

817-797-3419