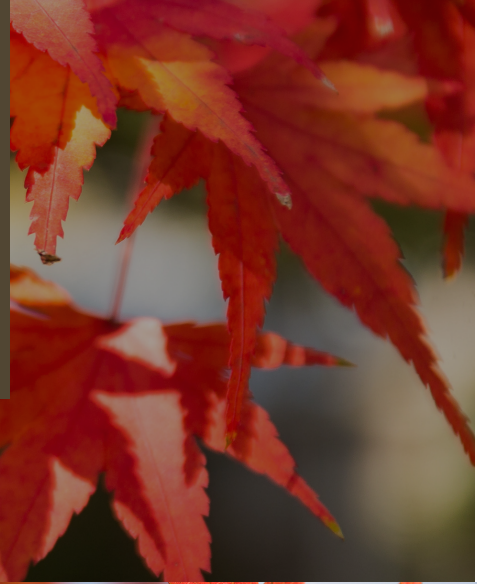




METRO MAPLES

September 2018 Newsletter



AUTUMN IS COMING!

After a long and hot Texas summer, autumn is nearly here!

CORAL BARK MAPLES

We take a closer look at several varieties of coral bark Japanese maple.

RED MAPLES FOR SUN

Red Maples have arrived! See more info below.

AUTUMN IS COMING!

Summer of 2018 arrived early, got super hot in July, and has now officially overstayed its welcome. But, seasons change (eventually) and autumn is at hand, which is great news for lovers of maple trees.

Autumn is the ideal time to plant new trees to maximize health and vigor, and with shorter days and cooler temperatures, the bright and colorful display of fall colors will begin just a few weeks from now.

We've moved dozens of gorgeous trees from our growing area up to the sales area for purchase. These trees are well-established and will be ready to light up your landscape this fall.





CORAL BARK MAPLES

One of the most frequent questions we're asked is, "What do you recommend for a sunnier location?" While we don't really recommend any of our Japanese maples for full sun from dawn to dusk, there are some trees that definitely are better-suited to hot, sunny locations for half a day or more. Some of the best varieties are the coral barks.

We currently offer a number of coral bark maples that mature at a variety of heights. All coral barks have a similar habit (narrow, vase-shaped) and colors throughout the year (bright

green spring and summer with deep apricot gold fall colors and their bright red bark in winter), so the main differences between these varieties is their final height and the density of their habit. Here they are listed in order of decreasing height:

'Sango kaku' - Our most popular coral bark variety, 'Sango kaku' matures at 15' tall and wide and is the fastest growing of the group.

'Beni kawa' - For those who don't quite have the room for a 15' tree, 'Beni kawa' maxes out at 10-12' tall and wide. While not as fast growing as 'Sango kaku,' it's still quite strong, and can show an occasional red leaf scattered among the typical golden-yellow fall color.

'Japanese Sunrise' - Need something shorter still? 'Japanese Sunrise' is just as vigorous and colorful as 'Sango kaku' and 'Beni kawa' but will only reach 8-10' tall, keeping it beneath the eaves of most homes without need for any pruning.

'Aka kawa hime' - A newer addition to Metro Maples, this variety is a strong grower to about 8' tall and wide. This cultivar is a bit denser than its taller cousins but every bit as hardy and has really impressed us with its health and vigor.

'Winterflame' - This variety is the shortest and densest of the coral barks in our catalog. Maturing at 6' tall and not quite as wide, this tree would be a great addition to a small garden in need of some bright year-round interest. The denser habit means even more impact from the red branches in winter.

All of these varieties have proven to be well-suited to our climate and would make a great addition to your landscape.

RED MAPLES

While our specialty remains Japanese and Shantung maples, we currently have in stock Red maple cultivars: Autumn Blaze®, October Glory®, and Brandywine®. These trees are quite large, easily exceeding 35-45' tall at maturity, with excellent early fall color and smooth silver bark. Plus, they grow happily in full Texas sun. They'd all prefer slightly acidic, well-drained soil, but will do just fine in our native clay soils. We have Brandywine in 7-gallons (6 feet tall) and Autumn Blaze and October Glory in 15-gallons (8-10 feet tall).



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