Homestead Gardens Plant Finder

Davidsonville, MD | Severna Park, MD | Smyrna, MD
(410) 798-5000 | HomesteadGardens.com

Canadian Wild Ginger

Asarum canadense



Canadian Wild Ginger
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 4 inches

Spread: 12 inches

Sunlight: ●

Hardiness Zone: 2a

Other Names: American Wild Ginger

Description:

A shade loving selection ideal for groundcover and garden beds; heavily textured, heart shaped leaves remain dark, forest green throughout the season; an easy to grow variety that requires little to no maintenance

Ornamental Features

Canadian Wild Ginger's textured heart-shaped leaves remain forest green in color throughout the season on a plant with a spreading habit of growth.

Landscape Attributes

Canadian Wild Ginger is an herbaceous perennial with a ground-hugging habit of growth. Its relatively coarse texture can be used to stand it apart from other garden plants with finer foliage.

This is a relatively low maintenance plant, and should not require much pruning, except when necessary, such as to remove dieback. Deer don't particularly care for this plant and will usually leave it alone in favor of tastier treats. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Canadian Wild Ginger is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- General Garden Use
- Groundcover
- Naturalizing And Woodland Gardens



Canadian Wild Ginger
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Planting & Growing

Canadian Wild Ginger will grow to be only 4 inches tall at maturity, with a spread of 12 inches. Its foliage tends to remain low and dense right to the ground. It grows at a slow rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 10 years. As an herbaceous perennial, this plant will usually die back to the crown each winter, and will regrow from the base each spring. Be careful not to disturb the crown in late winter when it may not be readily seen!

This plant should only be grown in a shady location. It requires an evenly moist well-drained soil for optimal growth. It is not particular as to soil pH, but grows best in rich soils. It is quite intolerant of urban pollution, therefore inner city or urban streetside plantings are best avoided, and will benefit from being planted in a relatively sheltered location. Consider applying a thick mulch around the root zone in both summer and winter to conserve soil moisture and protect it in exposed locations or colder microclimates. This species is native to parts of North America. It can be propagated by division.