Homestead Gardens Plant Finder

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Wintergreen Boxwood

Buxus microphylla 'Wintergreen'

Height: 3 feet

Spread: 3 feet

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 4a

Other Names: Littleleaf Box, Korean Boxwood

Description:

One of the very hardiest of the broadleaf evergreens, small rounded and compact growth habit, excellent for low hedges or detail use in the garden, takes pruning exceptionally well

Ornamental Features

Wintergreen Boxwood is primarily valued in the garden for its ornamental globe-shaped form. It has rich green evergreen foliage. The small round leaves remain green throughout the winter.

Landscape Attributes

Wintergreen Boxwood is a dense multi-stemmed evergreen shrub with a more or less rounded form. Its relatively fine texture sets it apart from other landscape plants with less refined foliage.

This is a relatively low maintenance shrub, and can be pruned at anytime. It is a good choice for attracting bees 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.

Wintergreen Boxwood is recommended for the following landscape applications;

Wintergreen Boxwood
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

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- Mass Planting
- Hedges/Screening
- General Garden Use
- Topiary
- Container Planting

Wintergreen Boxwood foliage
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Planting & Growing

Wintergreen Boxwood will grow to be about 3 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 3 feet. It tends to fill out right to the ground and therefore doesn't necessarily require facer plants in front. It grows at a slow rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 30 years.

This shrub does best in full sun to partial shade. You may want to keep it away from hot, dry locations that receive direct afternoon sun or which get reflected sunlight, such as against the south side of a white wall. 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, and will benefit from being planted in a relatively sheltered location. This is a selected variety of a species not originally from North America.

Wintergreen Boxwood 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.