

Raspberry

A soft fruit which can be in season for most of the summer. Raspberry is an important commercial fruit which is commonly processed into frozen fruit, puree, juice or dried fruit. Mature bushes can yield several hundred berries a year and have a tendency to spread unless regularly pruned.

Thrives best in deep moist soil with plenty of sunshine **Train** canes to one side of the wires, leaving the other side free for training the new canes that will grow next season and fruit the following year.

AUTUMN PRUNING:

Autumn raspberries fruit on current-season canes, so can be cut back completely after harvest. Regular removal of fruited canes throughout the season can extend fruiting into winter.

SUMMER PRUNING:

Summer raspberries fruit on two-year-old canes. Cut back fruited canes to ground level after harvesting.

Do not leave old stubs, and select the strongest young canes, removing the others. Aim for 8-10cm (3-4in) spaces between approximately eight chosen canes per plant.

Suckers between rows should be removed; cut out those near plant bases and dig or hoe out those further away.

Blackcurrant

A soft fruit which ripens from August. A rich source of vitamin C, good levels of iron and vitamin B. Used as juice, and in jellies, syrups and cordials. Flowers are 4-6mm diameter with five reddish-green to brown petals.

Produces dark purple black berries.

Grows 1m – 2m tall.

Will grow in most soil but resents dry conditions.

INITIAL PRUNING - grow as stooled bushes (a number of shoots growing from ground level). Plant 2.5cm deeper then cut back all shoots to 2.5cm from soil level.

PRUNE IMMEDIATELY AFTER FRUITING by removing to its base old fruiting wood, this will encourage new young wood.

Prune lightly for the first three years, removing weak and low lying growth and cutting at least half the shoots to ground level.

CROPPING MATURE BUSHES: prune in winter, cutting out one third of the growths annually - old unproductive wood, weak and low growing stems (to stimulate strong growth).

Fruit grows on wood made in the previous summer and responds to generous feeding.

Gooseberry

A popular fruit for pies and crumbles. A single plant will produce a large quantity of fruit after two years.

Can be grown in the ground or container.

Plant 30cm apart, allowing room for picking.

Fruits form on old wood and at the base of the plant.

Prune back last year's growth to 2 buds and remove a third of growth from the main stems. Carry out major pruning over winter.

Cut back new shoots over summer to allow light to ripen fruits.

Lavender

(*Lavandula*)

A very popular summer flowering shrub with masses of scented purple/blue flowers. Use as a decorative hedge or small shrub.

Cut back shoots later in summer after flowering. Avoid heavy pruning

MAX HEIGHT:

60 - 90 cm

MAX SPREAD:

50 cm

SOIL TYPE:

Will grow in most garden soil types

LIFE EXPECTANCY:

10+ years if maintained

Your guide to growing and caring for your plants



Trees for Years 2019




Trees for Years is a joint initiative by Colchester Borough Council and their grounds maintenance contractor, *idverde*. The initiative is kindly funded through sponsorship from *idverde*.

2019 is the 13th year of Trees for Years, which allows residents, community and volunteer groups, schools, and Town/Parish Councils to collect free trees and fruit bushes on a first come, first served basis, which can be planted on their own land.

Every year over 2,000 young trees, shrubs, and fruit bushes are planted in the Colchester Borough to help promote and create a green and healthy environment in which to live and work.

Trees for Years 2019 highlights a selection of the most popular trees, shrubs and fruit bushes to promote healthy eating and the environment.

Plant Allocation

-  Three Plants per household.
-  15 plants per community/volunteer group, school, or Town/Parish Council.
-  Your postcode and house number/name will be recorded so that distribution can be monitored.



Thank you for supporting Trees for Years 2019

Bird Cherry

(*Prunus padus*)

A small deciduous tree with black egg-shaped fruit. Found in woods, particularly by the sides of streams on limestone hills. Natural distribution in N. England, Wales, Ireland and Scotland.

The bittersweet edible berries are a great favourite with birds.

Masses of 13cm long spikes of almond scented white flowers between May and June

MAX HEIGHT:

7.6 metres in 20 years

MAX SPREAD:

4.6 metres in 20 years

MIN. DISTANCE TO BUILDING:

6 metres

SOIL TYPE:

Well drained soil; will thrive in quite poor soil

LIFE EXPECTANCY:

25+ years

Field Maple

(*Acer campestre*)

Native to England but not found in Scotland or Ireland. This small to medium tree of rounded form was widely used in the Middle Ages for making musical instruments. The tree is suitable for coppicing and for planting as hedging. It does well in most soils and will tolerate drought and air pollution.

Excellent autumn colours with leaves turning yellow, red, and golden brown.

MAX HEIGHT:

10 – 15 metres

MAX SPREAD:

5 - 7 metres

MIN. DISTANCE TO BUILDING:

10 metres

SOIL TYPE:

Will do well in virtually any soil type

LIFE EXPECTANCY:

50 - 100 years

Cornus stolonifera

'Flaviramea'

Yellow barked Dogwood with leaves which turn red/orange in autumn. Small white flowers in June followed by small white unedible berries. Green stems during summer turning a striking yellow over winter.

Used as a hedge or individual shrub. Winter colour.

Remove a third of the stems to ground level each spring.

MAX HEIGHT:

1.8 metres

MAX SPREAD:

2.5 metres

MIN. DISTANCE TO BUILDING:

2 metres

SOIL TYPE:

Will grow in most garden soil types. Good in wet soil.

LIFE EXPECTANCY:

20+ years if maintained

Silver Birch

(*Betula pendula*)

The Silver Birch is also known as the 'Lady of the Woods', so-called because of its slender and graceful appearance.

A medium tree with a conical but semi-weeping habit, the bark is white with horizontal lines and large diamond shaped cracks as the tree matures.

Yellow drooping catkins in spring, attractive bark in winter.

MAX HEIGHT:

8 metres.

MAX SPREAD:

3 - 5 metres

MIN. DISTANCE TO BUILDING:

8 metres

SOIL TYPE:

Requires well-drained soil

LIFE EXPECTANCY:

60 - 80 years

Cornus alba

Siberica

Red barked dogwood provides a most effective winter colour if planted as a single specimen in a bed or planted as a group in a border.

The beautiful variegated foliage makes a great backdrop to set off other plants. The leaves fall to reveal the stunning bright red stems which add colour to any garden over the winter.

Creamy white flowers are produced May-June followed by white fruits. Grown for its autumn and winter coloured stems.

Remove a third of the stems to ground level each spring to maintain the colour.

MAX HEIGHT:

2.4 metres

MAX SPREAD:

2.4 metres

MIN. DISTANCE TO BUILDING:

3 metres

SOIL TYPE:

Does best in heavy clay, but will grow in most ground conditions

LIFE EXPECTANCY:

20+ years

Forsythia x

Intermedia
Spectabilis

Forsythias are reliable, colourful and easy to grow spring-flowering shrubs.

MAX HEIGHT:

3 metres

MAX SPREAD:

1 metre

POSITION:

Plant in sun or partial shade, ideally in moist but well-drained soil. For the best blooms, cut branches back to a pair of strong buds just after flowering.

ATTRACTS: Bees, beneficial insects, birds, butterflies/moths.

idverde Colchester

Unit C, Whitehall
Industrial Estate,
Commerce Way,
Colchester, Essex,
CO2 8HH

Tel: 01206 862 687

colchester@idverde.co.uk

www.idverde.co.uk

idverde works in partnership with Colchester Borough Council to maintain the Borough's green spaces, and is delighted to sponsor Trees for Years 2019.

As a green services provider, we are pleased to support this initiative which gives Colchester's residents, community groups, and schools the opportunity to help green up their gardens and community spaces for free.

