Emerald Prairie Elm
Ulmus parvifolia 'Emerald Prairie'

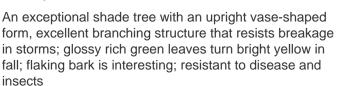Height: 40 feet

Spread: 35 feet

Sunlight: ○

Hardiness Zone: 5a

Other Names: Chinese Elm, Lacebark Elm

Description:

An exceptional shade tree with an upright vase-shaped form, excellent branching structure that resists breakage in storms; glossy rich green leaves turn bright yellow in fall; flaking bark is interesting; resistant to disease and insects

Ornamental Features

Emerald Prairie Elm has forest green deciduous foliage on a tree with a round habit of growth. The small glossy pointy leaves turn an outstanding yellow in the fall. The mottled dark gray bark adds an interesting dimension to the landscape.

Landscape Attributes

Emerald Prairie Elm is a deciduous tree 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 tree, and is best pruned in late winter once the threat of extreme cold has passed. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Emerald Prairie Elm is recommended for the following landscape applications;

 - Shade

Emerald Prairie Elm
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Emerald Prairie Elm bark
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Planting & Growing

Emerald Prairie Elm will grow to be about 40 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 35 feet. It has a high canopy with a typical clearance of 6 feet from the ground, and should not be planted underneath power lines. As it matures, the lower branches of this tree can be strategically removed to create a high enough canopy to support unobstructed human traffic underneath. It grows at a fast rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for 70 years or more.

This tree should only be grown in full sunlight. It is very adaptable to both dry and moist locations, and should do just fine under average home landscape conditions. It is not particular as to soil type or pH, and is able to handle environmental salt. It is highly tolerant of urban pollution and will even thrive in inner city environments. This is a selected variety of a species not originally from North America.

Emerald Prairie Elm foliage
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder