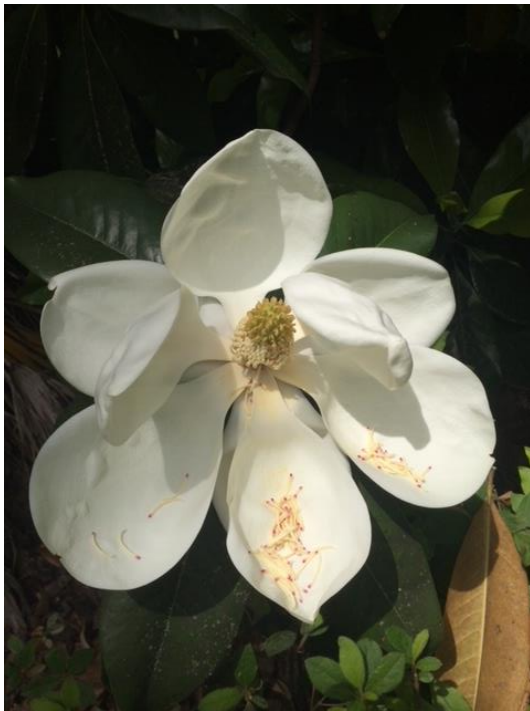




Southern Magnolia

Care and Maintenance Fact Sheet



What to Expect

Southern Magnolia is a broadleaf evergreen with a large canopy that can dominate a landscape if not sited correctly. It is the quintessential native Southern tree, with each variety growing at a different pace but all resulting in a large tree good for shade and privacy screening at maturity. This ornamental tree has interesting features in all four seasons in our area, with large, dark green leaves with rusty brown undersides,

fruit that attracts wildlife, and large creamy white flowers from May to October that are extremely fragrant. They are relatively disease-free and are deer resistant. They love moist, but well-drained soil, and otherwise are low maintenance with no pruning necessary. Southern Magnolias experience leaf drop year-round, so they are best planted away from the house. Their extensive root systems are shallow enough that they are non-invasive to existing sidewalks and other structures. To determine the estimated final height at maturity, ask your landscape professional if your Magnolia variety is Little Gem (up to 20 feet tall – not a dwarf variety!), Bracken's Brown Beauty (30 to 40 feet tall), or DD Blanchard (35 to 50 feet tall). These varieties begin blooming within the first two to three years of the tree's life. Southern Magnolia thrives best in full sun but can tolerate partial shade. With too much shade, the leaves will thin out and there will be fewer blooms. If they need to be moved, summer is the best time to do that.

How to Water Large Transplants

Drip irrigation is the best solution for maintaining the perfect level of moisture for your Southern Magnolia, assuming the irrigation system works well and is regularly inspected for signs of damage by gnawing wildlife.



If your transplanted tree is 10 feet or taller, water it 3 gallons of water every 2 days during the main growing season of March 15 to October 31 for the first two years after it has been transplanted. For year three and beyond, watering 3 times per week should be sufficient during dry spells.



Bracken's Brown Beauty

How to Water Small Transplants

Smaller transplants need to be watered by drip irrigation or hand watered one gallon every 2 days during the main growing season of March 15 to October 31 for the first two years after they have been transplanted. For year three and

beyond, watering 3 times per week should be sufficient during dry spells.



DD Blanchard

How to Fertilize

As native trees, Southern Magnolia does not need a lot of care but benefits from an application of Hollytone, an organic fertilizer available at any landscape retailer, in February. Follow the manufacturer's directions on the packaging.