

Gunsmoke Switch Grass



Switch grass gets its name from the peaceful swishing sound it makes when blowing in the wind. All parts of this grass are very sturdy, and will remain standing thru winter unless snows are heavy. This provides important cover for birds during the coldest days of winter. This grass is very versatile from a design standpoint; it is effective as a specimen, in masses, for screening, alongside ponds or streams, or even in large containers.



Panicum virgatum 'Gunsmoke'

- **Use:** A nativar perfect for the late summer landscape! The seedheads on this moderately sized grass billow over the top of the habit. Wide, steel colored leaves densely pack the robust habit. A haven for wintering songbirds.
- **Exposure/Soil:** Full sun– part sun. Drought tolerant once established. Needs at least 4 hours afternoon sun.
- **Growth:** Moderate growing; reaches 4 to 5 ft. tall and 3-5 ft. wide.
- **Hardiness:** Zone 4-8b, Perennial
- **Foliage:** Deciduous. Blue-grey leaves and a compact upright habit.
- **Flower:** Starting in late August, the clumps are topped with airy plumes of smoky purple.