

Enduring White Dwarf Crape Myrtle



Lagerstroemia indica 'Enduring Summer White'

- **Use:** Clusters of bright true white blooms appear summer through fall against the glossy green foliage. Leaves emerge tinged with red and turn to dark green. This mid-sized Crape Myrtle reaches 4 to 5 feet tall and wide.
- **Exposure/Soil:** Full/part sun; well-draining soil and appreciates slow release fertilizer. Water regularly. They tolerate clay and alkaline soil well. Prefers not to have water on the leaves so use drip instead of sprinkler irrigation.
- **Growth:** Grows 4 to 5 feet high and 4 to 5 feet wide in 4 to 5 years.
- **Hardiness:** Zones 6-9
- **Foliage:** Deciduous. Glossy green foliage. Leaves emerge tinged with red and turn to dark green.
- **Flowers:** White flowers appear in late spring and rebloom well into the fall.

Crape Myrtles are low-maintenance trees that require little care once established. Water deeply but infrequently to encourage deep root growth. Fertilize once in the spring with a slow-release fertilizer. Mulch around the base of the tree to retain moisture and protect the roots from extreme temperatures. Prune in the late winter or early spring before new growth appears to shape the tree and remove dead or diseased branches. Avoid excessive pruning as it can reduce the number of blooms. Watch for common pests such as aphids and spider mites and treat accordingly.

To prune a crape myrtle, start by cutting off any dead or damaged branches. Next, remove any branches that are crossing or rubbing against each other. Trim back any branches that are growing toward the center of the tree to promote healthy growth and air circulation. Finally, cut back the top of the tree to the desired height, making sure to leave at least two or three buds on each branch. Avoid "topping" or severe pruning, as this can harm the tree's long-term health and appearance.