

## **Facts: Acer circinatum**

**Family:** Vine Maple



**Characteristics:** Symmetrically-lobed and toothed leaves, soft green sometimes tinged with red in spring, turning to yellow/orange/red in the fall. Dainty red and white flowers adorn bare branches in early spring. Grows as single or multi-stemmed large shrub/small tree; bark greenish to red, with tiered branching reminiscent of Japanese Maples.

**Culture:** Grows naturally as an **understory tree** in forests but is adaptable to a variety of settings. Best in acidic soil rich in organic matter, with regular water and protection from afternoon sun.

**Size:** Whether single or multi-stemmed, *Acer circinatum* rarely get taller than 20', making it an especially useful plant for smaller, urban gardens, even suitable for large containers. Moderate growth – 1-2' a year – means it achieves its mature size relatively quickly and can fill a niche in the woodland garden readily.

## **Facts: Viburnum rhytidophyllum** vy-BURN-um rih-tid-oh-FIL-lum

**Family:** Leatherleaf viburnum



**Characteristics:** This vigorous, coarsely textured evergreen shrub has an upright habit and 8-inch-long, lustrous, deeply veined oval leaves with dark blue-green surfaces and pale green undersides. The leaf stems are fuzzy brown. In spring, fragrant creamy-white flowers bloom in clusters. Blue berries form in June and become plump through September, maturing to glossy black. Plants grow 10-15 feet tall and wide.

**Care:** This plant grows in rich, moist, and very acidic soils, and tolerates wet soils. Shelter from cold, drying winds. It does well in shade but blooms best in almost full sun. Leaves may droop during extended periods of freezing temperatures.

- Plant Height: 10 to 15 feet
- Plant Width: 10 to 15 feet
- Zones: 6, 7, 8, 9
- Characteristics: Fragrant Flowers, Showy Foliage, Showy Fruit
- Light: Full Sun to Partial Shade
- Bloom Time: Late Spring, Spring
- Maintenance: Low
- Moisture: Medium Moisture
- Growth Rate: Moderate
- Plant Type: Shrubs
- Plant Seasonal Interest: Spring Interest
- Flower Color: White

## **Facts: Mahonia nervosa**

**Family:** Cascade Oregon grape



Cascade mahonia, *Mahonia nervosa*, is one of our Northwest native plants. This suckering shrub forms a loose groundcover with lustrous emerald leaves and panicles of canary flowers in May and waxy blue berries in autumn. It is durable and an excellent choice when the plant palette is limited to native plants. It is adaptable to difficult growing situations like parking strips and parking lot planting beds.. Broken roots and stems are sulfur yellow, which is a trait of all plants in the barberry family.

This low growing mahonia is tough. It will grow well in full sun to deep shade. In full sun the foliage will turn an attractive plum color. It prefers a moist to well-drained soil but will tolerate sand and clay. Once established it is drought tolerant, although plants in full sun can yellow if kept excessively dry. Occasional watering during dry weather will help plants in sun to maintain a rich green foliage color. Little pruning is necessary other than the removal of dead or broken limbs.

- Foliage Type: evergreen
- Plant Height (10-year): 2 ft. 0 in.
- Plant Width/Spread (10-year): 4 ft. 0 in.
- Plant Height-Mature: 3 ft. 0 in.
- Plant Width-Mature: 6 ft. 0 in.
- Hardiness: USDA Zones 6 to 9
- **Flower Color:** yellow
- **Flowering Time:** spring
- Sun/Light Exposure: full sun to deep shade
- Water Requirements: drought tolerant once established