



Wilson's Nursery



Ole Kris Kringle and his gang can keep resting. We've all still got work to do!

We all really love it out here this time of year. Vibrant Fall color, crisp morning air, some of those perfect seasonal days you look forward to during the sweltering hot Summer... It's really quite magical.

With the magic comes the reality that the season is slowly working it's way to a close. We are now in the process of preparing things for the impending off-season for many of us. This means that we say goodbye and 'see ya later' to many of our coworkers and colleagues for the Winter. We certainly take notice of how important those relationships are. We definitely miss so many of you that frequent our location throughout the season and/or call in your orders. *I even sometimes miss the phone ringing, maybe, kinda...alright, silence can be nice sometimes... absence makes the heart

grow fonder and all of that...*

But the season is not over! We've got tons of incredible and available above-ground inventory, ready to be planted at your late-season job sites! We've got a customer service team itching to help you and a couple of drivers who would love to help get your material landed!

Send your plant needs over to orders@wilsonsnurseryinc.com or call us at 952-353-2762 and we will get them pulled and ready to go! We've got great turnaround time on both pickup orders and delivery!

Thank you all for your continued business this season. It's been a fun one!



End of Season Sale!

All Elm & River Birch B&B: 40% OFF!

...But WAIT A MINUTE, THERE'S MORE!!

CLICK HERE FOR THE LIST!

Well, Call is at it again, talking about sales on B&B trees and evergreens... still hanging out by the River Birch, and

surprisingly wearing the same outfit as the other day, but anyway...

So again I asked him, "*Are you certain we should do this?*"

His response, "*We've got so many beautiful trees that just have to make it out to jobsites and get planted! What better way to entice them than to slash prices!*"

I made sure to stop him there so he didn't go any lower, took note of his list, and posted it here. These deals are too good to pass up! Why not even just grab a few to plant at your own home?

Call the office (not Call, please) and get your orders in today!

OFFER GOOD FOR THE REST OF OCTOBER



Connie's Corner

Birch You Shouldn't Besmirch

by Connie Kratzke

Birch trees are very familiar to Minnesotans, who often wish to incorporate them into suburban yards where their presence can provide that "up north" feel. Paper Birches are in high demand due to their bright, white bark. Us "Southerners" like to put them with other plants that remind us of the North Shore, like Eastern White Pines and Red Osier Dogwoods. Perhaps we love them because they remind us of the carefree times when we're on vacation and fully able to appreciate our surroundings. They trigger memories of that fantastic, woody smell that renews our spirits when inhaled. The challenge lies in making Birches feel at home outside of their Boreal Woodland comfort

zones.

Paper Birches like to be where they exist naturally. Cool, loamy, woodland soils provide the best accommodations and that is just not what you frequently find in this neck of the woods. These trees require even moisture, but prefer good drainage. Parched clay soils can bring out the worst in them. Breeding work has been done to select specimens that are more tolerant of hot, dry, windy weather. While progress is being made, stress-related side effects are often to blame for their failure in the landscape. 'Prairie Dream®' (Betula papyrifera 'Varen' RFM-32) is a very good cultivar with improved adaptability and stress tolerance. That said, I don't like to see it planted in hot, dry areas where its vulnerability to insects and pathogens is magnified.

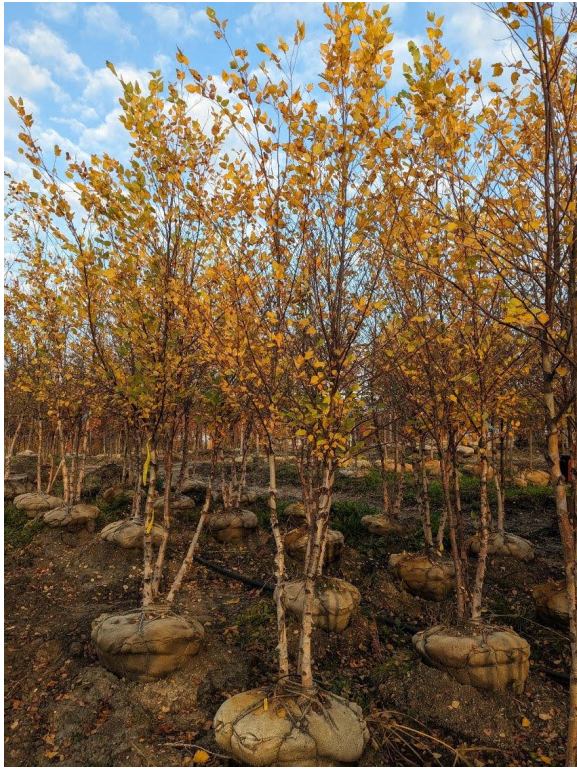
Bronze Birch Borers have a more negative impact on stressed out trees. Healthy trees heal very quickly, enabling them to encapsulate larval menaces before they complete their life cycles. Watering regularly and mulching properly can make an enormous difference. However, site selection is really key. Trees that are protected from baking sun and desiccating wind will always be more sustainably happy. Adult Bronze Birch Borers emerge in May and females carry out their insidious, egg-laying plans through early July. Pruning during that time frame puts out the welcome mat for them, so postpone that task until fall.

While 'Whitespire' Birches aren't quite as fresh, snow white as 'Prairie Dream®'; they are worthy of consideration for sites where Paper Birches struggle. I have personally observed less borer damage to 'Whitespires' in both nursery and landscape settings. These Gray Birches prefer cool, loamy soils; but adapt to drier locations with higher pH levels. While 'Whitespires' can be a bit short-lived, happy trees still reach their forties. Providing an inch of water weekly will promote longer life spans. Mulching Birches is always beneficial because doing so moderates soil moisture and temperature. Consider 'Whitespire' for use in your urban retreats.

While River Birches may not possess the same emotional appeal as their white-clad cousins, there are plenty of great reasons to plant them. Their cream to cinnamon, exfoliating bark has significant year-round appeal. One of Betula nigra's best selling points is superb borer resistance. These tough trees can grow right next to infested Paper Birches without attracting any negative attention. While native to flood plains and swamps River Birches are accepting of more typical, development conditions. They thrive during periods of heat and humidity that tax their north-dwelling cousins. While clay soils are generally acceptable, those with high pH levels may catalyze iron chlorosis. That's about the only common issue I can think of for the species.

Birches are lovely trees that feel like long-time companions to all of us who travel trails throughout the state. The key to keeping them happy is duplicating the environments in which they thrive. Certain species are more willing to compromise than others. Those become useful tools for meeting homeowners half way between desires and expectations. Sometimes that's a safer strategy than giving the ladies and gentlemen what they think they want. Afterall, what people want are healthy trees that look great. Poorly cited trees never deliver on those expectations. When you promise folks a rose garden, you had better

make sure they know the Minnesota Tip Method. When you promise them the “up north” feel, make sure that isn’t disappointment.



Go ahead and follow us on Social Media:

Have a gander at our Social Media pages. You will find some beautiful and carefully curated images with a bit of light reading attached. We take a lot of pride in our workplace and would love to

show you around sometime, but until then, here is a way to see what we are up to!



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Summer Hours of Operation
Monday-Friday 7:30am-4:00pm

Open House (save the date!)
September 28th

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