

Japanese Lilac Tree (*Syringa reticulata*)



The Japanese Lilac Tree has proven to be a successful street tree in New Albany. This particular species requires very little maintenance and is adaptable to various soil types. Although a Lilac, this member of the species is quite different in appearance than those which may be more familiar. Its upright habit varies from symmetrical to irregular. This is a very large shrub or small tree, reaching a height of about 20 to 30 feet with a 15-foot-spread. The huge clusters of creamy white flowers, borne in early summer for about two weeks, are the main ornamental feature but lack the fragrance of the spring-blooming Lilacs. It is becoming more popular as a street tree in some parts of the country, particularly in areas with overhead power lines. The Japanese Lilac Tree is also popular as a garden specimen or as an accent in a shrub border. It provides shade and a colorful spring show for a deck or patio area. You will find a number of these trees around New Albany's urban forest.