

Japanese Tree Lilac

Syringa reticulata

Syringa reticulata more commonly known as Lilac Japanese Tree. Part of the Olive Family native of Japan. A small to medium-sized tree known for its beautiful flowers. It has a broad canopy, somewhat shrubby in appearance but can be easily be pruned in a tree form.

Leaves: Opposite; simple broad ovate to ovate; 2" to 5 – 1 1/2 " long; deciduous; entire margin dark green- gray beneath and glabrous to slightly hairy; petiole 1/2 " to 1" long; yellow to brown fall color. The bark on younger and older branches reddish brown to brown with horizontal ridges or lenticels, cherry like gray and scaly on older trunks.

Twigs/buds: Twigs stout glossy glabrous brown often with no terminal bud. The lateral buds round with 4 sets of scales brown.

Flowers / Fruits: Flowers perfect white held in 6" to 12" long heads that bloom in June. Fruit a capsule curved 3/4" long warty brown dry smooth capsule, splitting in two release the two winged seeds.

Syringa reticulata is a fairly tough and relatively insect and disease free and tolerates high pH soils.

You can find this tree outside of the Sexton's Office at the Salt Lake City Cemetery.

