

# Evergreen Screens and Windbreaks

Two outstanding features of evergreens are their variety of color, form and texture and their year-round beauty in the landscape. Evergreens can also be used to help conserve energy, by blocking prevailing winter winds. If space is limited a single row will help, but trees planted in staggered rows will best reduce home heating costs.

In addition to reducing your heating expenses, evergreens can be used for visual and sound barriers. Noise pollution for example from a busy street or highway can be reduced with dense plantings by as much as 20%. Evergreens are useful in hiding unsightly objects or views, or simply to create a privacy enclosure.

A few items to consider in the selection of evergreens for your screen or windbreak:

- Maintenance** – Do you want to trim or shear plants? If so, at what height and width can they be maintained?
- Mature Height** – If no trimming is involved, how big will they be in 20 years?
- Rate Of Growth** – How fast will it take for your screen to fill in?
- Disease and Insect Susceptibility**

The following chart will help in the selection of plants for your evergreen windbreak or screen.

Medium Evergreens	Maintained Height	Suggested Spacing	Approx. Ultimate Height	Rate of Growth	Insects/ Disease
Arborvitae, Emerald Green	8'-10'	3 1/2' - 4'	15'-20'	Med	Few
Arborvitae, Pyramidal	8'-10'	3 1/2' - 4'	15'-20'	Fast	Few
Cherry Laurel, Schipkaensis	6'-8'	5'-6'	8'-10'	Fast	Few
Cypress, Boulevard	6'-8'	5'-6'	10'-12'	Med	Few
Cypress, Fernspray	6'-8'	5'-6'	12'-15'	Med	None
Euonymus, Manhattan	6'-8'	4'-5'	6'-8'	Fast	Few
Holly, Castle Spire/Wall	6'-8'	4'-5'	10'-12'	Med	None
Holly, Dragon Lady	10'-12'	5'-6'	15'-20'	Slow	None
Holly, Steeds	4'-5'	4'	6'-8'	Slow	None
Japanese Cedar, Black Dragon	6'-8'	4'-5'	8'-10'	Slow	None
Juniper, Hetzi Columnar	10'-12'	5'-6'	20'-25'	Fast	None
Juniper, Hollywood	10'-12'	6'-8'	15'-18'	Med	None
Juniper, Wichita	8'-10'	5'-6'	15'-20'	Slow	None
Rhododendron Varieties	5'-6'	5'-6'	5'-10'	Med	Few
Spruce, Alberta	5'-6'	4'-5'	6'-8'	Slow	Few
Viburnum, Leatherleaf	8'-10'	5'-6'	10'-12'	Fast	None
Yew, Hatfield	4'-5'	3'	5'-6'	Med	None
Yew, Hicksi	4'-5'	3'	5'-6'	Med	None

<b>Large Evergreens</b>	<b>Maintained Height</b>	<b>Suggested Spacing</b>	<b>Approx. Ultimate Height</b>	<b>Rate of Growth</b>	<b>Insects/Disease</b>
Arborvitae, Elegantissima	10'-12'	4'-6'	20'-25'	Fast	Few
Arborvitae, Green Giant	20'	10'-12'	30'-40'	Fast	Few
Cedar, Blue Atlas	15'-20'	10'-12'	40'-60'	Fast	Few
Cedar, Deodora	10'-12'	8'	25'-30'	Med	Few
Cypress, Blue Ice	10'-12'	8'	20'-25'	Med	None
Cypress, Leyland	12'-15'	6'-8'	25'-30'	Fast	Few
Fir, Concolor	15'-20'	10'-12'	30'-50'	Med	Few
Fir, Douglas	15'-20'	10'-15'	40'-60'	Fast	Few
Hemlock	12'-15'	8'-10'	30'-40'	Med	Some
Holly, Nellie Stevens	12'-15'	8'-10'	20'-25'	Med/Fast	None
Japanese Cedar, Yoshino	12'-15'	8'	30'-40'	Med	Few
Pine, White	25'-30'	10'-15'	50'-80'	Fast	Few
Spruce, Blue	20'-25'	10'-12'	30'-50'	Slow/Med	Few
Spruce, Norway	25'-30'	10'-15'	50'-80'	Med/Fast	Few
Spruce, Serbian	20'-25'	10'-12'	30'-50'	Med	Few