

JETSTREAM™ HYDRANGEA

HYDRANGEA QUERCIFOLIA 'PIIHQ-I' PP25,319

Jetstream™ is a quantum leap in oakleaf hydrangea introductions with a dense, compact, non-flopping habit. The lustrous dark green foliage is resistant to leaf spot and turns a fantastic orange-red in autumn. Flowers, held high on strong stems, are a beautiful white aging to pink. Jetstream is a classic native flowering shrub for the garden, grouping and massing. Exfoliating tawny-brown bark adds winter interest, as do the dried flower heads.

Once you have prepared your soil, lay out the plants in your intended design. Be sure to keep in mind mature size of the plants, ensuring that they will barely touch at full size. This will make your garden look full and allow for air to circulate between the plants. Dig your planting hole slightly larger than the pot size, and place any fertilizer, organic material or nutrients needed to improve your soil mix in the hole before putting your plants in place. If the roots are tightly packed, loosen them gently with your fingers before planting to encourage root growth and spread once in the ground.

Landscape plantings will do best with a spring application of a simple, well balanced, slow-release fertilizer. We recommend a granular or spike-form fertilizer rather than water-soluble types, which are best used in small doses and mainly for container gardens. When applying fertilizer, follow the directions on the label, as over-fertilizing can damage the plants' root systems. As a rule of thumb, it is best to stop fertilizing shrubs in late summer.

Watering is important for long-term growth and health and is especially important with newly planted shrubs and trees. Young root systems can easily dry out while they are getting established, so paying close attention is important. To determine if a plant needs watering, stick your finger in the soil to see how dry it is. Just because a plant is wilting does not mean that it needs water – it can sometimes be a sign of overly wet soil as well! When you water plants, it is best to give them a deep, thorough watering less often rather than watering lightly every day. A soaker hose is a great way to achieve this.

As plants grow and mature, you will not need to water as often. As a guide, if your garden does not get 1" of natural rainfall per week, you should check the soil and consider supplemental water with a deep soaking. A natural way to keep soil cool and prevent evaporation is to use a wood chip, bark or cocoa bean mulch.