- USDA Hardiness Zones 5 8
- Height 40 60 Feet
- Spread 12 18 Feet
- · Partial Sun to Full Sun

The Green Giant Arborvitae, Thuja plicata 'Green Giant', is the fastest growing evergreen shrub that we know of. Commonly used for privacy hedges, these will typically grow 3 to 5 feet per year once established. These also do great as windbreaks, especially during harsh winters. This bush can grow in very cold conditions, up to growing zone 5. It also resists ice and snow damage. The columnar and upright habit does not require pruning. So you get a very tall plant without taking up a lot of space.

The Green Giant Arborvitae is drought tolerant, insect and disease resistant. The green color of the foliage lasts all year. So you can have beautiful shrubs (some people call these trees) year round with minimal work! These are sometimes called the Western Red Cedar as well.

Green Giant Arborvitae Care

These can grow in a wide range of soils, even in heavy clay. The plant does better in well drained soil, but it is not required. We recommend applying a layer of mulch around the base of the plant to help retain moisture, and protect the roots in harsh weather conditions. Fertilizing is not necessary. But if you would like to, do so with a common evergreen fertilizer in early spring.

Pruning Green Giant Arborvitae is not necessary. If you plant as a hedge, you can trim the plants once a year. It is best to do this after the final frost. These plants grow very large, so if your space cannot handle it, it is best to plant a different variety of arborvitae instead of the Green Giant and having to prune them all the time.

Green Giant Arborvitae Spacing

If growing these into a privacy hedge or wind block, plant these 5-6 feet apart, center on center. If you wish to have the shrubs grow into a pyramidal/conical form, plant the trees 14 feet apart in a row.

These plants grow very large, so do not plan on growing anything underneath of these. And be sure to not plant under power lines or too close to a home.

Green Giant Arborvitae Plant Facts

USDA Hardiness Zones: 5-8
Flower Color(s): n/a
Bloom Period: Grown for Foliage
Foliage Color(s): Green
Light Exposure: Full Sun
Height: 40-60 Feet
Spread: 12-18 Feet
Habit: Pyramidal
Watering: Medium
Features: Interest Year-Round
Scientific Name: Thuja (standish x plicata) 'Green Giant'
Common Name: Green Giant Arborvitae