



For the joy of gardening!

Estabrook's

COMMON WITCH HAZEL CARE

LIGHT

Common witch hazel (*Hamamelis virginiana*), including Harvest Moon and Little Prospect, grows in sun to partial shade. More sun generally improves flowering. Give this woodland shrub room for its broad mature branching rather than squeezing it into a narrow clipped hedge.

WATER

Provide dependable moisture. Water thoroughly during establishment and check regularly in dry weather, especially under larger trees where roots compete for water. This species does not tolerate prolonged drought well. Soak the root zone slowly without keeping the soil constantly waterlogged.

SOIL & PLANTING

Choose moist, humus-rich, acidic, well-drained soil. Set the plant at its original nursery depth and keep any graft union above ground. Mulch lightly around the roots, leaving stems clear. Use a soil test before applying lime or other pH-changing amendments.

FEEDING

Avoid heavy feeding of healthy plants. Check light, moisture, and drainage before treating weak growth with fertilizer. Use a soil test to guide any needed nutrients, apply shrub fertilizer in spring at the label rate, and water afterward. Keep concentrated fertilizer away from stems.

SEASONAL CARE

Little pruning is needed. Remove damaged branches and, if shaping is necessary, make selective cuts in early spring. Avoid routine summer shearing of flowering wood. Remove unwanted basal shoots; on grafted plants, shoots below the union may belong to the rootstock and should not replace the cultivar.

HELPFUL TIPS

Its ribbon-like flowers belong to the fall and early-winter season, and may overlap autumn foliage. Yellow fall leaves and winter leaf drop are normal. This species has different flowering timing from vernal and hybrid witch hazels, which have their own care guides.