UPRIGHT FLOWERING CHERRY

LIGHT

Choose full sun for strong flowering. Allow the tagged mature width and height so branches develop naturally. An open, sheltered site with good air movement is preferable to a cramped planting pocket.

WATER

Water deeply during establishment and extended dry spells. Check moisture in the nursery root ball as well as surrounding ground. Avoid frequent shallow sprinkling or saturated soil around the trunk.

SOIL & PLANTING

Plant with the root flare visible in well-drained soil. Keep mulch a few inches away from the trunk. Protect bark from mowers and string trimmers, and avoid digging or compacting soil over the roots.

FEEDING

Use a soil test and tree vigor to decide whether fertilizer is needed. Many established trees need little extra feeding. Avoid heavy nitrogen applications and keep lawn herbicide-fertilizer blends away.

SEASONAL CARE

Prune lightly, preserving the natural framework. Make necessary live-branch cuts after flowering in dry early-summer weather; avoid routine winter pruning and topping. Remove dead or broken wood as needed, and consult an arborist for major work.

HELPFUL TIPS

This ornamental guide covers upright Sargent, Kwanzan and Accolade cherries. Watch for cankers, gum, dieback and damaged bark; get persistent symptoms diagnosed. Do not apply orchard fruit-production pruning. Weeping cherries and other Prunus species have separate guides.