

Fothergilla - a great native shrub for fall color.

Fothergilla, also called Dwarf Witch-Alder, is a member of the Witch Hazel family. It's season starts with clusters of white fragrant flowers, followed by dark green leathery foliage during the spring and summer months. However, fothergilla's great landscape value comes from its outstanding fall colors of red, yellows and oranges.



My favorite variety is F. gardenii, a small variety, usually growing to 2-3 feet tall by 3-4 feet wide. Fothergilla prefers full to partial sun, and well-drained acidic soil. A slow growing, low maintenance native plant, it mixes well with azalea and rhododendron and can be used as a foundation accent plant or planted in a mass.

Fothergilla asks so little, yet gives so much in return.



Ed Good

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