

# Broadleaf Evergreens

Broadleaf evergreens have large, fleshy leaves that remain on the plant year round. Although leaves are shed as they age, the plant is never entirely leafless. It is critical to understand the cultural requirements in order to ensure their success.

## Cultural Care

- Evenly moist well drained soils. Be sure to amend heavy clay soils with compost or other organic matter.
- Reduce stress by applying 2-4" mulch during hot dry weather to protect their shallow root system.
- Plan ahead for winter protection from both sun and wind exposure which causes foliage to dry out. Anti-desiccant sprays or burlap wrapping are easy solutions to exposure issues.
- Soil pH of our area ranges from 6.0-8.0 which is much higher than broadleaf evergreens prefer. They do best with a 5.5 pH level which can be attained by amending soil with sphagnum peat, soil sulfur, or fertilizing with an acidifying fertilizer. OneStep Soil Conditioner is also recommended.
- Pruning of Rhododendrons and Azaleas should be done immediately after flowers fade. This will create a dense canopy with increased flower production.
- Specifically Rhododendrons, Boxwood, and Holly prefer partial shade while the Azaleas and Euonymus perform better in full sun.

## Rhododendrons (Hardy in Illinois)

Most are evergreen with smooth leaves and have a bell shaped flower.

### Large Leaf

COMMON NAME	COLOR
Album	White w/green blotch
Nova Zembla	Red
Haaga	Lavender

### Small Leaf (foliage turns deep maroon from fall through winter)

COMMON NAME	COLOR
PJM	Lavender
PJM Compact	Lavender, dwarf

## Azaleas

COMMON NAME	COLOR
Delaware	White
Karen	Lavender
Rosebud	Pink
Stewartsonian	Red
White Lights	Fragrant, blush pink

## Other Broadleaf Evergreens

Buxus	Boxwood
	Green Gem
	Green Mountain
	Green Velvet
	Winter Gem
Euonymus fortunei	Euonymus
	Emerald Gaiety
	Emerald n' Gold
	Moonshadow
	Sarcoxie
Ilex glabra	Gold Splash
Ilex x meserveae	Hybrid Holly
	Kid's Collection
	Royalty Collection