



Crape Myrtles are a favorite in Tuolumne County and at this time of year it is easy to see why. They have very showy blooms in summer and are available in a variety of colors: red, white, shades of pink, and shades of purple. Like many other shrubs – Olives, Redbuds, Oleander, Pineapple Guava, Photinia, and many others – Crape Myrtles can be a bush or a tree. The tree form of these plants is the result of training the bush into a standard tree throughout its life. Unfortunately, Crape Myrtles are not deer-resistant so if you live in an area with high deer traffic then the tree form is more ideal. You can protect the tree until the lowest branches are at least 4 feet high, out of reach of deer. These shrubs/trees also come in a range of sizes. There are dwarf varieties that only get 4-6 feet tall, some that only get 10 feet tall, most that get 15-20 feet tall, and a few that reach 25-30 feet at maturity. After the impressive summer flowers, Crape Myrtles get lovely fall color that is often a mix of yellows and oranges. The leaves fall off for winter and then it's the peeling, two-toned bark that adds an attractive feature. Crape Myrtles are often one of the last things to leaf out in the spring. While this can be alarming to have a bare tree even once spring has come, it's actually a good thing because the Crape Myrtle is protecting itself from late freezes. Trees that leaf out early and then experience a late frost will often look unhappy for the remainder of the year. By waiting to leaf out, Crape Myrtles avoid frost damage and gear up to be a beautiful addition to any property for the remainder of the year. We carry Crape Myrtles in 5-gallon, 15-gallon, and larger!

#### **Pinks**

Tuscarora  
Sioux  
Tuskegee  
Potomac  
Pink Velour

#### **Reds**

Dynamite  
Arapaho  
Centennial Spirit  
Cherokee Red  
Red Rocket

#### **Whites**

Natchez  
Acoma

#### **Purples**

Catawba  
Twilight  
Zuni  
Muskogee