

Desert Willow (Common Name)

Chilopsis linearis (Scientific Name)



PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS

Canopy potential: 10' – 20' wide

Annual Growth Rate: 24" – 36"

Powerline Friendly: 15' – 30' from base

Root Damage Potential: Low

Leaves: Pale green leaves five to eight inches long, less than a half inch wide, linearly shaped, and exhibit alternate phyllotaxy.

Flowers: From late Spring into Fall produces large, fragrant, trumpet-shaped flowers. The margins of the flowers are white with pink to violet-colored throats.



ENVIRONMENTAL CHARACTERISTICS

Water Use: Low

Edible Fruit Producing: No

Allergenic: Low

BVOC Emissions: Moderate

Sonoran Desert Native: Yes

Invasive Species: No

Tree Care: High drought tolerance, can survive on minimal watering, encourage frequent pruning in the first couple of years to train the tree into a single trunk growth habit.

Ecosystem Services: The bark is used to make fabric and nets. In Mexico, a tea used to sooth coughs is made from the dried flowers and seed pods. Hummingbirds and native bees value it for the sucrose rich nectar found in the flowers. Local wildlife eat desert willow seeds, and use the tree for cover.



