



## Major Varieties

Variety	Description
Syringa x chinensis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• small leaves and abundant purple flowers in May</li> <li>• suitable for large hedge or screen 3m by 3m</li> </ul>
Syringa x vulgaris	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• common lilac--large spreading shrub with dark green foliage</li> <li>• fragrant mauve flowers in May--very hardy and vigorous suckers</li> </ul>
Syringa x vulgaris French Hybrids	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• numerous varieties selected for colour and bloom</li> <li>• large, fragrant blooms--very hardy</li> <li>• excellent specimens</li> </ul>
Syringa x hyacinthiflora Canadian Hybrids	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• larger and hardy--flower heavily with very fragrant flowers</li> <li>• flower before French varieties</li> </ul>
Syringa x meyeri Dwarf Korean	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• compact, low growing, uniform shrub with small leaves</li> <li>• tiny lavender flowers in June (&amp; often again in Aug/Sept)</li> <li>• excellent specimen for small garden and low hedge</li> </ul>
Syringa x patula Dwarf Korean	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• compact shrub, dark green glossy foliage which turns burgundy-red in autumn</li> <li>• large clusters of icy blue flowers in late May/early June</li> </ul>
Syringa x prestoniae Canadian	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• developed in Canada &amp; hardier than Common or French</li> <li>• blooms in June -many varieties by colour</li> <li>• large specimens or hedges</li> </ul>
Syringa x reticulata Japanese Tree Lilac	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• very attractive medium-sized tree or large shrub with deep green foliage</li> <li>• blooms in June/July with large creamy-white flowers</li> <li>• excellent for small yard or street planting</li> <li>• pollution-tolerant</li> </ul>

## Growing Lilacs

- full sun with space to grow
- tolerate open, windy locations.
- good circulation helps to prevent mildew.
- fertile, humus rich and well-drained soil

## Why Won't My Lilac Bloom? Some possible answers....

- lack of light (need full sun to bloom well)
- pruning too late (cutting off next year's buds) or pruning incorrectly (cutting off next year's buds)
- drought in previous summer (lilacs start building buds for next year shortly after flowering and need plenty of water as well as sun)
- transplant "sulk" (moving too late in season or too often--plant doesn't have time or energy to set buds)
- old and tired (have become rangy and weakened; poor soil nutrients)
- too crowded & have mildew (lilacs need good air circulation to be healthy)



Prepared by Halton Region Master Gardeners  
[www.haltonmastergardeners.mgoi.ca](http://www.haltonmastergardeners.mgoi.ca)