Curl-Leaf Mountain Mahogany

Cercocarpus ledifolius

Rose Family (Rosaceae)

Zones: 4-9

Full Sun

Low Water

Location: Childrens’ Garden, Floral Walk, Herb Garden, Visitor Center

Curl-leaf Mountain Mahogany is a great Utah native plant. From its silver bark, to its evergreen foliage, plus its attractive seed heads that shimmer in the sunlight, this plant is simply one of the best.

Curl-leaf Mountain Mahogany is found on the foothills and mountains typically between 5000' and 10,000'. It has dark green foliage all year, loves full sun, well-drained soil and is very drought tolerant after established. It typically grows 15 to 20' tall and is considered a large shrub or small, multi-stemmed tree. Deer, however, love to browse it which can affect its height and shape; keeping it more dense and compact or tree shaped by minimizing lower branches.

Cercocarpus montanus, a close relative, is also native and very drought tolerant. It is typically shorter in height, around 6 to 8' and has attractive blue/green foliage (although not evergreen) and the same attractive seedheads.