Red Switchgrass
*Panicum virgatum* ‘Shenandoah’

The profuse, fine-textured panicles of Red Switchgrass create visual interest, especially in the fall garden. ‘Shenandoah’ has upright foliage that is red-tinted during the growing season but puts on its best dazzling red-leaved show in the fall. After the flowers go to seed leave them on the plant to provide a winter food source for birds and small mammals. Plant in full sun in moist clay or sandy soils. Partial shade is acceptable but it will not grow as tightly and may flop over. This grass can flop if over-fertilized or overwatered.

**Type:** perennial ornamental grass

**USDA hardiness zones:** 4 through 10

**Uses:** border; mass planting; specimen; accent

**Origin:** native to the southern United States

**Height:** 3 to 4 feet  

**Spread:** 3 feet

**Plant spacing:** 2 to 4 feet

**Light requirement:** full sun to part shade

**Soil tolerances:** acidic; slightly alkaline; clay; sand; loam

**Drought tolerance:** moderate

**Soil salt tolerances:** unknown

**Invasive potential:** low

**Pest resistance:** no pests or diseases are of major concern

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