Ponytail Palm

Today on Gardening in a Minute: the ponytail palm.

The ponytail palm is a distinctive-looking evergreen tree that can reach up to 30 feet in height. It’s actually not a palm, but a member of the agave family.

The base of the trunk is very broad -- up to 7 feet across -- and narrowly tapers, eventually branching. The light green leaves are long and thin, cascading in tufts like a pony’s tail.

Plant your ponytail palm in full or part sun in well-drained soil. Its showy, creamy white flowers appear above the foliage for several weeks in spring or summer. Sometimes the tree will flower two or even three times a year.

The ponytail palm makes a great specimen plant and can be placed in a rock garden or grown as a houseplant in cooler parts of the state.

For more information about the ponytail palm many other gardening topics, contact your county extension office or visit Gardening in a Minute dot com.

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