



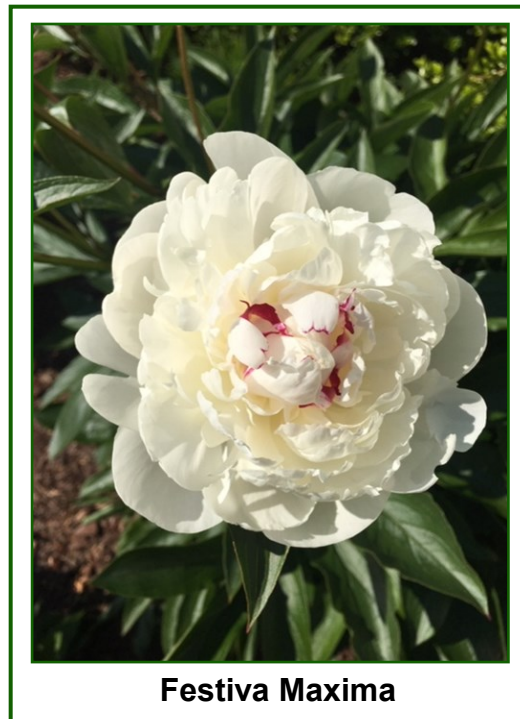
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Historical Peonies

Each year, I wait for it, the plethora of blooms on the historical peonies that I moved from Annapolis. Our home in Annapolis was over 100 years old and the peonies that grew there were almost that old and gorgeous. Construction started on a “fill in” lot next to us and upon the new home’s completion, my precious peonies were now in complete shade. They suffered terribly. When we decided to move to beautiful Talbot County, I dug them up! They love it here.

The historical peony I love is *Paeonia lactiflora* “Festiva Maxima” and it remains one of the most popular peonies today. It was introduced in 1851 (in France) and has an APS score of 9.3/10.0. Festiva Maxima is a fragrant large white double rose type peony with crimson flakes on a few central petals. It is simply stunning. If you have space in your garden, I highly recommend making this peony part of it.



Festiva Maxima