

Native Tree/Shrub Descriptions

American Beautyberry (*Callicarpa americana*) 1-gal+ \$25

American beautyberry is a large deciduous shrub commonly planted as an ornamental because of attractive white flowers and especially because of its beautiful lavender-colored berries that appear in midsummer and persist well into the winter. The plant sap and berries have a pleasant spicy scent and the berries are preferred as a winter food for many birds.

American Hornbeam or **Ironwood** (*Carpinus caroliniana*) 3-gal. \$30

Ironwood is a very common bottomland tree in our area. It is a medium-sized tree, which typically grows on riverbanks, field edges, and mixed hardwood forests. Ironwood is shade tolerant and will grow on sites where other trees are shaded out. It is highly valued by wildlife, producing a large crop of small "nutlets" that spread with the aid of an attractive leafy "bract" attached to each seed. The ironwood is also called musclewood, because the bark stays smooth and the trunk takes on a "muscular" look, even when old.

American Plum (*Prunus americana*) 1-gal+ \$25

American plum is a small tree that is prone to forming small thickets, but can also be managed as a single tree. Early spring white flowering is typical of all cherry/plum species and small edible plums come in late summer. The sweet fruit is relished by humans and wildlife.

American Sycamore (*Platanus occidentalis*) 3-gal. \$30

American sycamore is one of the largest hardwood trees in the southeast. It grows best near a source of water in full sun, but can grow in partial shade and on drier sites. Planted often in stream restoration, sycamore grows very rapidly once established and shades streams with its enormous leaves. The patchy grey and white bark is also very attractive and the leaves turn yellow-gold in the fall.

Arrowwood Viburnum (*Viburnum dentatum*) 3-gal. \$30

Arrowwood viburnum is a medium-to-large leggy shrub that does well in moist to dry sites, preferring full sun, but partial shade is tolerated. White clusters of flowers attract pollinators and the dark blue berry-like fruits are favorites of birds. Foliage is attractive and sometimes has red fall color.

Blackgum (*Nyssa sylvatica*) 3-gal. \$30

Blackgum is a medium to large common tree of coves and ridges. Dark blue fruits mature in summer and are a good wildlife food source. Large trees are almost always hollow giving rise to the expressions "bee gums" or "rabbit gums." Early fall leaf color is a striking dark red.

Buttonbush (*Cephalanthus occidentalis*) 1-gal. \$20; 3-gal. \$30

Buttonbush is a multi-stemmed shrub that thrives in wet areas along streams and in wetlands. Deciduous leaves are oppositely arranged on corky stems. Buttonbush thrives with periodic inundation and can be observed sprouting roots in standing water. Flowers are attractive white, round "button-shaped" and very popular with pollinators, like butterflies. Buttons mature to seed clusters relished by wildlife. This is a great overall ornamental and wildlife shrub for wet areas.

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Clethra, Summersweet (*Clethra alnifolia*) 1-gal+ \$25

Clethra is a low growing, mounding shrub that works well in sun to partial shade and is a great planted bed border. Summersweet boasts large clusters of highly fragrant white flowers that are very attractive to pollinators. The smaller size of this shrub makes it a good choice when space is limited. Great for butterfly gardens working together with native perennials.

Doghobble (Swamp) (*Eubotrys racemosa*) 2-gal. \$25 – **NEW!**

Doghobble is a low evergreen shrub usually naturally found associated with rhododendrons and mountain laurel in forested settings. Fond of more acidic soils, it can thrive in these soils in wet to drier conditions and provides a ground cover aesthetic with its shiny, evergreen foliage. In spring and summer clusters of small bell-shaped and bright white flowers hang down from the underside of the stem, putting on a beautiful show. Thrives in shade, acidic soils, and wetter conditions.

Elderberry (*Sambucus canadensis*) 1-gal. \$20; 3-gal. \$30

Elderberry is a common large shrub with multiple stems and attractive fern-like foliage, often found in wet areas. Large white flower clusters in spring give way to large clusters of small dark red-black berries savored by birds and wildlife. Weak corky structure; can be trimmed back to the ground in winter to retain shape.

False Indigo-Bush (*Amorpha fruticosa*) 1-gal+ \$25

False indigo-bush is a large shrub in the pea family. In spring, attractive purple flowers with yellow stamens are borne in clusters at the tips of branches. These flowers attract pollinators and make this plant comparable to the non-native butterfly bush (*Buddleia*). Fruits are small legumes containing two or three hard black seeds. Like all legumes, the roots are nitrogen fixers in the soil.

Fringetree (*Chioanthus virginicus*) 1-gal+ \$25

Fringetree, also called Grancy Greybeard, is a beautiful open-crowned small flowering tree. Short and wide shape with large clusters of drooping white flowers give this tree a very beautiful unique appearance. Pollinated flowers give rise to dark blue fruits that ripen in summer and are devoured by birds. Full to partial sun give this tree its best opportunity to really put on a show in spring.

"Hearts-a-Bustin" or Strawberry Bush (*Euonymous americanus*) 1-gal. \$20

Strawberry bush is a small, suckering, thin-stemmed deciduous native shrub with very attractive dark green stems, twigs, and foliage. It can tolerate many different conditions and soil types and is prolific in dry and/or shady conditions. Although small yellow spring and summer flowers are inconspicuous, the plant's claim to fame is its warty, bright orange-red fruits that appear in early fall. These fruits look surprisingly like a strawberry before they mature, at which time they split open revealing several very bright red heart shaped, fleshy seeds. This fruit maturation is what gave the plant one of its common names "hearts-a-bustin". Fall foliage color is usually yellow, but can sometimes be a bright red.

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New Jersey Tea (*Ceanothus americanus*) 1-gal+ \$25 – **NEW!**

New Jersey Tea is a small, low growing, suckering shrub that thrives in drier conditions and shade. Designed by nature to grace understories and provide pollinator habitat and wildlife food, it shows out in late spring with clusters of beautiful white flowers. Because of its small size (seldom taller than 24") it is great for borders and road banks in drier conditions.

Oakleaf Hydrangea (*Hydrangea quercifolia*) 2-gal. \$25

Oakleaf hydrangea is a multi-stemmed flowering shrub with white flowers turning to a pinkish red as they mature. Leaves are large and attractive with an oak-like appearance. Beautiful exfoliating bark. Foliage turns a deep red in the fall. Shade tolerant and tolerant of acidic soil.

Pawpaw (*Asimina triloba*) 2-gal. \$25

Pawpaw is one of the few truly native fruiting trees that produce large edible fruit. Pawpaw trees are small understory trees with large attractive leaves that prefer deep rich soil and dappled sunlight. Trees tend to root sprout and form colonies. Fruits are oval to oblong in shape and about the size or weight of an apple. Fruit is smooth-skinned and soft when ripe, containing large smooth black seeds and a sweet custard apple fruit that has been described as a cross between a banana and a mango. To help ensure fruit, it is recommended to plant several individual plants (at least three).

Persimmon (Common) (*Diospyros virginiana*) 1-gal+ \$25

Common persimmon is a widely found small understory tree that rarely becomes a canopy species. Leaves are glossy dark green and typically spotted with black, and turn an attractive red in fall. Female trees produce a small, edible fruit relished by many species of wildlife and edible to humans once ripened completely to a soft state to take away the astringency. Female trees in fruit will, once discovered by wildlife, be visited very often in the fall and become a good place to view them. Multiple plants will ensure better fruit set. Dioecious.

Piedmont Azalea, Native (*Rhododendron canescens*) 1-gal. \$20 – **NEW!**

Piedmont, or Southern Pinkster azalea is a large (6-8 ft) shrub with showy pink to rose blooms appearing in late spring and putting on quite a show while benefitting pollinators and providing a sweet aroma. Great for borders or as a showpiece in landscapes. Deciduous.

Red Maple (*Acer rubrum*) 3-gal. \$30

Red maple is the most common hardwood tree in the southeast. It will grow almost anywhere, from shade to full sun and moist to dry soils. Red maple is very beautiful in all seasons, having tiny red flowers in very early spring, rich green foliage in summer, and beautiful red, yellow, and orange leaves in fall. Red maple is planted most often because of its beauty, but is also a very hardy and easy to establish tree, making it valuable for restoration efforts as well.

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Red Mulberry (*Morus rubra*) 3-gal. \$30

Red mulberry is a medium-sized wide-crowned tree found commonly in lowland areas. Female trees produce an abundance of large sweet edible berries that are relished by people and wildlife. In order to ensure fruit, planting 3-5 trees is recommended, since only female trees produce fruit. It is necessary to have male trees for pollination.

River Birch (*Betula nigra*) 3-gal. \$30

River birch is a medium-sized tree used often in bank stabilization because of its large root system and fast growth rate. It is also used as an ornamental because of its beautiful peeling paper bark. River birch does best near water, but can be planted away from water and will do fine, if it is watered during warm weather until new growth appears. River birch likes full sun to partial shade.

Serviceberry (Apple) (*Amelanchier x grandifolia*) 1-gal. \$20

Apple serviceberry is a small understory deciduous hardwood tree common on drier sites and in bottomlands. Very early in the spring, abundant white flowers are a sign of spring, giving this tree its common name. Dark red to black fruits are very valuable wildlife food. It is a great ornamental tree and an excellent native alternative to cultivars of callery pear (e.g. Bradford Pear). This particular species is a natural hybrid between downy and Allegheny serviceberry.

Shumard Oak (*Quercus shumardii*) 3-gal. \$30

A stately, strong and long-lived tree with beautiful fall color, the Shumard oak is a great selection for yards. Shumard oaks offer significant wildlife support by providing acorns for deer, squirrels, and birds. They are also highly adaptable to challenging conditions, such as compacted soil. Deeply lobed leaves turn a bright red in fall. Member of the red oak family.

Spicebush (*Lindera benzoin*) 3-gal. \$30

Spicebush is a large common shrub occurring in bottomlands and along streams. The leaves and fruit have a pleasant spicy scent when crushed. The leaves are smooth and dark green with a shiny appearance. Bright yellow flowers appear in very early spring, before the leaves. Female plants bear large amounts of bright red edible berries in early fall, containing a single dark seed and consumed by wildlife. Fall leaf color is bright yellow.

Sweetshrub (*Calycanthus floridus*) 3-gal. \$30

Sweetshrub is another smaller flowering shrub that is native to drier woodlands. Very fragrant maroon flowers appear in spring just after bud break. Leaves are dark green, glossy in appearance and attractive. Large fragrant flowers give way to interesting wrinkled dry capsules each containing 10-12 large shiny dark brown seeds. The seeds are enjoyed by wildlife as a food source in late summer when they mature. Great plant for dappled sun to shade in understories.

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Winged Elm (*Ulmus alata*) 3-gal. \$30

Winged Elm is a bottomland elm, similarly to other elms species it has large, sandpapery leaves with toothed margins and distinct veins. This large tree typically forms a dense crown for good shade and produces an abundance of papery samaras (seeds) in spring. Rough furrowed bark and a straight trunk are attractive in winter. Fall color orange to yellow. Twigs possess corky “wing” growths that resemble sweetgum, giving it its common name.

Yellowroot (*Xanthorhiza simplicissima*) Quart \$15

Yellowroot is a common streambank low woody plant with highly medicinal qualities. Bright yellow inner bark can be made into a tea that soothes stomach ailments and relieves pain. Inner bark will stain skin yellow temporarily. Simple inconspicuous flowers and attractive bright green foliage are pleasant to look at along a streambank. Dense root mats formed by a colony of yellowroot will stabilize and keep streambanks from eroding.

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