Friends of the Arboretum Native Plant Sale



Viburnum lentago - Nannyberry

COMMON NAME: Nannyberry

SCIENTIFIC NAME: Virburnum lentago (Viburnum from the Latin for wayfaring tree

and *lentago* referring to the bean or lentil-shaped fruit)

FLOWER: small white flowers in clusters

BLOOMING PERIOD: late spring

SIZE: Large shrub or small tree. Can reach 25 feet.

BEHAVIOR: Plants sprout from the base and form slow-growing, but eventually large, clones. There are two types of roots: scattered deep roots that anchor the plant and a branched shallow root system that binds the soil. It is a good plant for stream bank restorations.

SITE REQUIREMENTS: Grows in fine to medium textured mineral soils, from wet to dry, and in full sun to partial shade.

NATURAL RANGE: Eastern North America, south to Virginia, west to Colorado

SPECIAL FEATURES: Common landscape shrub for its showy flowers, bright fall color and fruit that attract songbirds. It is unpalatable to deer. The fruit is ellipsoid and flattened, pale green at first, turning blue-black with a whitish bloom when ripe. The edible pulp is sweet and covers a single hard, flat pit.

SUGGESTED CARE: This plant likes moist soil conditions.

COMPANION PLANTS: Gray dogwood, Jack-in-the-pulpit