

## ***Viburnum acerifolium* – Mapleleaf Viburnum**

COMMON NAME: Mapleleaf Viburnum

SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Viburnum acerifolium* – comes from a Latin name of doubtful meaning with leaves like a maple

FLOWER: Clusters of tiny creamy white flowers. Each flower is about 1/4 inch in size and the clusters 1 ½ - 3 inches.

BLOOMING PERIOD: Late May to mid June

SIZE: Low growing shrub, seldom taller than 3 or 4 feet

BEHAVIOR: Somewhat difficult to establish on the neutral or slightly alkaline soils frequently encountered in southern Wisconsin. It is subject to iron chlorosis (yellowing of the leaves) unless grown in slight acidic soil. Suckers can form loose, open colonies.

SITE REQUIREMENTS: Does best on rich to moist soils that are slightly acidic and in light shade. Tolerates deeper shade but this will reduce the fall color.

NATURAL RANGE: Southwest Quebec and Ontario south to northern Florida and eastern Texas. Occurs throughout Wisconsin, but is more frequent in moderately dry forests of the north and east parts of the state.

SPECIAL FEATURES: Extremely shade tolerant. One of the few plants showing pink (also can be red or purple) fall color. The berries develop in late summer and are pea-size and bluish-black. The leaves look like maple leaves and have pointed tips.

SUGGESTED CARE: Water carefully to establish new plants and during droughts. Be sure to protect from herbivores, especially in the winter.

COMPANION PLANTS: Sugar maple, wild sarsaparilla, spring beauty, dwarf bush honeysuckle, wild geranium, common witchhazel, Canada mayflower, Solomon's seal, and Solomon's plume