

Shrubs I

LATIN NAME

Buddleja longifolia

Buxus sempervirens

Callicarpa americana

Cornus sericea 'Cardinal'

Hamamelis virginiana

Hibiscus syriacus

Ilex opaca

Itea virginica

Physocarpus opulifolius

Rhododendron prinophyllum

COMMON NAME

butterfly bush

common boxwood

American beautyberry

red twig dogwood

witch hazel

rose of Sharon

American Holly

sweetspire

ninebark

roseshell azalea



**smooth above
and
wooly coating
below**

Buddleja* / *Buddleia



bud'-IE-a

Buddleja longifolia

Common name: butterfly bush

Height: 4 to 5 feet

Spread: 4 to 5 feet

Bark: gray furrowed bark

Flowers: spike-like, terminal clusters of lilac blue flowers

Fruit: dehiscent capsule (to 1/3" long) that matures to brown

Leaves: gray-green leaves are long & pointed, smooth above and wooly coating below

Disease: no serious insect or disease problems

Insects: no serious insect or disease problems

1. Blooms on new wood
2. Gray-green leaves are long & pointed, smooth above and wooly coating below
3. Spike-like, terminal clusters of lilac blue flowers

Genus name honors the Reverend Adam Buddle (1660-1715), English botanist and vicar of Farmbridge in Essex.

The genus name is frequently listed today as *Buddleia*. However, Linnaeus named the genus *Buddleja* (pronounced with a silent "j") which is still considered to be the proper spelling (first name survives) according to the International Code of Botanical Nomenclature.

Specific epithet means long-leaved.



**simple, opposite, elliptic to oval to oblong,
smooth-margined**



evergreen

Buxus



buk'-sus

Plant of Merit: *Buxus sempervirens*

Common name: common boxwood

Height: 5 to 15 feet

Spread: 5 to 15 feet

Bark: new stems are greenish and slightly 4-angled. Older stems are brown, but hidden by foliage

Flowers: inconspicuous, apetalous flowers in axillary clusters

Fruit: dehiscent capsule (to 1/3" long) that matures to brown

Leaves: simple, opposite, elliptic to oval to oblong, smooth-margined and evergreen - dark glossy green above and yellowish-green below

Disease: susceptibility to blights & leaf spot & root rot can also be a problem in poorly-drained soil

Insects: three main insect pests of boxwoods—boxwood leaf miner, boxwood mite & boxwood psyllid

1. Simple, opposite, elliptic to oval to oblong
2. Evergreen - dark glossy green above and yellowish-green below
3. White line on underside of leaf

Buxus comes from an old Latin name. *Sempervirens* means always (*semper*) green (*virens*) in obvious reference to the evergreen foliage.



simple, opposite



**bright violet to magenta
berry-like drupes**

Callicarpa

cal-E-car'-pa

MO Native: *Callicarpa americana*

Common name: **American beautyberry**

Height: 3 to 6 feet

Spread: 3 to 6 feet

Bark: gray to reddish brown

Flowers: small white to pink flowers in summer

Fruit: prolific bright violet to magenta berry-like drupes which encircle the stem

Leaves: simple, opposite, petioles and undersides of leaves have dense, star-shaped hairs

Disease: no serious problems

Insects: no serious problems

1. Leaves are simple, opposite
2. Underside of leaves have dense, star-shaped hairs
3. Prolific bright violet to magenta berry-like drupes

Callicarpa is from the Green word *kallos* ("beauty") and *karpos* ("fruit"); *Americana* refers to the country in which it was discovered.



**ovate to
lanceolate**



Cornus

kor'-nus

Plant of Merit: *Cornus sericea* 'Cardinal'

Common name: red twig dogwood

Height: 6 to 9 feet

Spread: 8 to 12 feet

Bark: reddish

Flowers: tiny, fragrant, white flowers appear in flat-topped clusters

Fruit: clusters of whitish (sometimes with a bluish tinge) drupes

Leaves: ovate to lanceolate, medium to dark green leaves (pointed like horns)

Disease: susceptible to leaf and twig blights

Insects: occasional insect pests—scale, leaf miners and bagworms

1. Leaves are simple, opposite
2. Reddish stems turn bright red in winter
3. Remove 20-25% of oldest stems in early spring to stimulate growth of new stems

Cornus is the Latin word for horn. The Romans called the dogwood "cornel", in reference to the mature wood, which is hard as the horn of a goat and useful for making a great many things. The species name *sericea* means silky, in reference to the fine hairs covering the leaves.



alternate, simple, obovate



stem-hugging, four crinkly, ribbon-shaped petals



Hamamelis



ham-a-mE'-lis

MO Native: *Hamamelis virginiana*

Common name: witch hazel

Height: 15 to 20 feet

Spread: 15 to 20 feet

Bark: brown, thin, smooth when immature, and scaly when mature

Flowers: monoecious, stem-hugging clusters of fragrant bright yellow flowers, each with four crinkly, ribbon-shaped petals

Fruit: greenish seed capsules that become woody with age and mature to light brown

Leaves: alternate, simple, obovate, medium to dark green leaves (to 6" long) with dentate to wavy margins; somewhat hairy beneath

Disease: no serious problems

Insects: insect galls (small wasps) occasionally appear on the foliage

1. Alternate, simple, obovate, medium to dark green leaves
2. Stem-hugging clusters of flowers each with four crinkly, ribbon-shaped petals
3. Buds and twigs densely pubescent

Hamamelis is from the Greek words *hama* ("the same time") and *melon* ("apple"), possibly of the presence of both fruit and flower simultaneously; *virginiana* refers to the state of Virginia, where the plant was first described.



**ovate, pointed, brown,
dry capsule**

hollyhock-like, 5-petaled flowers



alternate, simple, triangular to broadest in the middle

Hibiscus



hI-bis'-kus

Hibiscus syriacus

Common name: rose of Sharon

Height: 8 to 12 feet

Spread: 6 to 10 feet

Bark: brown, thin, smooth when immature, and scaly when mature

Flowers: showy, hollyhock-like, 5-petaled flowers (to 3" diameter)

Fruit: ovate, pointed, brown, dry capsule, 3/4 inch long and wide, ripening in late summer and fall

Leaves: alternate, simple, triangular to broadest in the middle, usually more or less 3-lobed & margin has rounded or pointed teeth

Disease: some susceptibility to leaf spots, blights, rusts and canker

Insects: Japanese beetles, whiteflies and aphids are occasional visitors

1. Leaves are alternate, simple, triangular to broadest in the middle
2. Hollyhock-like, 5-petaled flowers
3. Distinctive vase-shaped habit

Hibiscus is the ancient name of the European Marsh-mallow; *syriacus* is for Syria, there it was once supposed to be native; however, more recent investigations prove it to be originally from China and India.



spiny-toothed, elliptical



evergreen

Ilex  

I'-leks

MO Native: *Ilex opaca*

Common name: **American Holly**

Height: 15 to 30 feet

Spread: 10 to 20 feet

Bark: smooth until quite old gray-brown

Flowers: dioecious, small white flowers in late spring (male flowers in 3-12 flowered clusters & female flowers solitary or in 2s or 3s)

Fruit: red fruit maturing in fall and lasting into winter

Leaves: spiny-toothed, elliptical, dull green leaves (2-4" long) which are evergreen

Disease: potential problems include leaf spot, leaf rot, tar spot and powdery mildew

Insects: potential problems include holly leaf miner, mites, whitefly and scale

1. Leaves are evergreen, spiny-toothed, elliptical
2. Red fruit maturing in fall and lasting into winter
3. Must have both sexes for berry production

Latin name for *Quercus ilex* (holly oak) not glossy, shady, opaque.



simple alternate



drooping racemes of white flowers

Itea  

I-tE'-a

Itea virginica

Common name: **sweetspire**

Height: 3 to 5 feet

Spread: 3 to 5 feet

Bark: brown to gray, smooth or broken into small, thin scales on older stems

Flowers: racemes of 0.3-0.5 in. white flowers in early summer; opens from base to tip; lightly fragrant; borne on previous season's growth

Fruit: longer than broad, about ¼ inch long, tip pointed; seeds small

Leaves: simple, alternate, 1 to 3 inches long, blade widens in the middle tapering at the ends, tip pointed, base wedge-shaped, margin sharply toothed; rather thin

Disease: no serious problems

Insects: leaf spot, leaf rot, tar spot and powdery mildew

1. Leaves are simple, alternate, 1 to 3 inch long blades that widens in the middle tapering at the ends
2. Drooping racemes of white flowers borne on previous season's growth
3. Suckering, colonial growth

Itea is the Greek name for willow; *virginica* refers to the state of Virginia, where it was first described.

Maple-like, alternate, simple



exfoliating brown bark

Physocarpus

fĪ-so-car'-pus

MO Native: *Physocarpus opulifolius*

Common name: ninebark

Height: 4 to 8 feet

Spread: 4 to 8 feet

Bark: exfoliating brown bark

Flowers: trusses of 5-9 flowers each and have a pleasant, clove-like fragrance

Fruit: red seed capsules

Leaves: alternate, simple, usually 3-5 lobed leaves (to 4" long) are dull green in summer changing to an undistinguished yellow in fall.

Disease: no serious problems

Insects: no serious problems

1. Leaves are Maple-like, alternate, simple, usually 3-5 lobed
2. Trusses of 5-9 flowers each with clove-like fragrance
3. Excessive peeling bark

Genus name comes from the Greek *physa* meaning a bladder and *karpos* meaning fruit, referring to the inflated dry fruits of the plant.



light pink or purplish flowers with protruding stamens



alternate, simple, ovate to rounded



Rhododendron



rO-dO-den'-dron

MO Native: *Rhododendron prinophyllum*

Common name: *roseshell azalea*

Height: 4 to 8 feet

Spread: 4 to 8 feet

Bark: bark smooth to vertically furrowed, shredding

Flowers: funnel-shaped, light pink or purplish flowers with protruding stamens occur in large clusters

Fruit: red seed capsules

Leaves: alternate, simple, ovate to rounded

Disease/Insects: susceptible to but not limited to powdery mildew, blights, root rots, leaf spots, galls, aphids, borers, lacebugs, scale, leafhoppers, mealy bugs, thrips, whiteflies and mites.

1. Leaves are alternate, simple, ovate to rounded
2. Light pink or purplish flowers with protruding stamens
3. Pruning is usually not necessary

Rose tree - Greek "rhodo" (red) and "dendron" (tree)