

Wayfaring-tree

Viburnum lantana

Description

Commonly grown as an ornamental for its flowers and berries. Fruit is mildly toxic if consumed in large quantities.

Habit

Deciduous multi-stemmed shrub in the honeysuckle family reaching 10 to 15 feet in height and having a somewhat round shape.

Leaves

Leathery, 2 to 5 inches long, opposite, simple, ovate with cordate or rounded bases and uniform serrations. Dark green to gray green in color that turn a purplish-red color in the fall.

Stems

Medium texture, scruffy gray-brown with pubescence; vegetative buds are naked, stalked and scruffy gray-brown. Bark is initially smooth and gray-brown and lenticelled, becoming somewhat scaly.





Flowers

Showy, displayed in 3 to 5 inchese flat-top dense clusters of tiny creamy white flowers, each with 5 petals and bloom in mid-May. Tend to have an unpleasant fishy odor.

Fruits and Seeds

Elliptical berries form in drupes/clusters. Each are 1/3 inch long, somewhat flattened, green to red and finally black in color.

Habitat

Native to Europe and western Asia. Grows in full sun to partial shade with fertile, well-drained, loamy soils. It can tolerate calcareous and dry soils.

Reproduction

Vegetatively or by seeds. Roots are fibrous.

Similar

Linden arrowwood (*Viburnum dilatatum*), Leatherleaf arrowwood (*Viburnum rhytidophyllum*), Hobblebush (*Viburnum lantanoides*), Koreanspice viburnum (*Viburnum carlesii*).

Monitoring and Rapid Response

Girdling by removing bark and phloem layer from 10 cm band around trunk; cut stems with shears, chain saw and apply herbicides. Can be effectively controlled using any of several readily available general use herbicides such as glyphosate or triclopyr. Monitor and retreat regrowth or suckers.

Credits

The information provided in this factsheet was gathered from the Virginia Tech Department of Forest Resources and Environmental Conservation vTree and the U.S Forest Service Weed of the Week 08-07-06. Individual species images that appear with a number in a black box are courtesy of the



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