

Serviceberry

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Description: Serviceberry trees display white blooms just before their foliage emerges in early spring, offering some of the earliest sources of nectar for pollinators. The five-petaled flowers closely resemble apple blossoms but with skinnier petals. After the show of blooms, clusters of edible berries form. In early summer, berry colors ripen to a deep red then purple color. The berries are a good substitute for blueberries and can be eaten fresh or made into jams and jellies.

Height: 15 -30 feet.

Trunk Diameter:

Spread: 15 - 25 feet.

Growth Rate: Medium

Leaves: Leaves are alternate, simple and 1 1/4 to 3 inches long with serrate margins. Leaves emerge purplish then become dark green in summer.

Fall Color: Fall color is a brilliant orange, red or yellow.

Flowers: Large white flowers in spring.

Fruit: Blue green to purple fruit which is edible and is often used for jams and jellies.

Root:

Sun: Does well in all exposures including shade.

Value: Flowers, leaf color and edible berries. Attracts birds. Serviceberry foliage has an open and loose habit. This allows dappled light to shine through, which creates a space for part-shade plants to sit below the base of serviceberry trees

Issues: Few pests bother serviceberry bushes and the ones that do usually only cause cosmetic damage.

