

# Red Chokeberry



Consider the native Red Chokeberry for its multi-season interest in a Pollinator or Winter Garden. They tolerate wet sites and occasional flooding.



## *Aronia arbutifolia*

- **Use:** The common name, Chokeberry, references its tart and bitter berries. They are edible but are so astringent they may cause choking. Consider the native Red Chokeberry for its multi-season interest in a Pollinator or Winter Garden. A native, multi-stemmed, deciduous shrub that has multi-season interest. It is found in both wet and dry thickets in Eastern Canada and the Central and the Eastern United States. **A GOOD SOLUTION FOR WET LOCATIONS.**
- **Exposure/Soil:** Prefers part sun, but will take shade. Water regularly, when top 3 in. of soil is dry to start. Little water needed once established.
- **Growth:** It typically grows in a vase-shaped form to 6-10' tall and 3-6' wide but tends to sucker and form colonies. Occasional pruning is beneficial.
- **Hardiness:** Zone 4-8; Shrub
- **Foliage:** Deciduous; An attractive ornamental plant, its glossy green foliage turns a stunning red color in fall.
- **Flower:** Spring brings clusters of white to light pink flowers. The leaves are green and glossy throughout the summer and turn orangish-red in the fall. Bright red pear-shaped berries appear in the fall and may persist through the winter. The berries are tart and bitter. Fruits can be used in canning or making jams and jellies. Jellies are heavy, sweet, and solid due to the abundance of pectin. The Red Chokeberry can be eaten raw and is more palatable than the Black Chokeberry.

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