

Buttonbush



Photo from NC Extension



Naturalize in woodland areas, native plant gardens, pond margins, low spots or shrub borders.

May also be grown in shallow water at the edge of ponds or large

water gardens. A nectar source, attracting butterflies such as the tiger swallowtail and hummingbirds.

Attracts over 24 species of birds, including robin, kingbird, and towhee. The nutlets that persist through winter are appealing to the birds.

Cephalanthus occidentalis

- **Use:** Buttonbush is great shrub for naturalizing in wet areas. The glossy green leaves and fragrant, round flower clusters during mid-summer attract butterflies. Native to the eastern United States, buttonbush attracts more than 24 species of birds, as well as numerous species of butterflies.
- **Exposure/Soil:** Sun or shade. Excellent for naturalizing or wet areas; avoid dry sites.
- **Growth:** Grows 6 to 12 feet high and 12 to 18 feet wide; upright arching to irregular form.
- **Hardiness:** Zone 4-8, Shrub
- **Foliage:** Deciduous; Whorled to opposite leaf arrangement. Leaves are glossy green, up to 4 inches long and 2 inches wide. Medium green in summer turning to yellow in fall.
- **Flower:** Small, 1-inch round ball-like clusters of white flowers held on long stems (petioles). A hard, 1-inch, ball-like fruit persist throughout winter. Reddish fall color maturing to brown.