

Black Cherry



The native Black Cherry is often overlooked in favor of exotics. While the attractive bark and white flowers are the most obvious benefit to any yard, the small black cherries that follow the flowers are a goldmine to wildlife. A very popular songbird nesting tree. Black Cherry is also a leading native timber tree; fast-growing and valuable for lumber.

Prunus serotina

- **Use:** Plant black cherry in a woodland or as a shade tree. It is also well-suited for butterfly, edible, native or pollinator gardens. If you're looking for a native tree that will provide food for birds, good shade, and fragrant flowers, Black Cherry is a strong contender. The fruit is bitter but can be used for jam, or let the birds feast on them!
- **Exposure/Soil:** Requires full sun, soil high in organic matter and good drainage. It can be pruned and kept at shrub size by cutting it to the ground every two to three years.
- **Growth:** It has a conical habit and is a rapid grower capable of reaching 60 to 80 feet tall and 30 to 60 feet wide. Can spread so good for naturalizing areas.
- **Hardiness:** Zone 7-10 shrub; small tree
- **Foliage:** Evergreen. Leaves alternate, simple, smooth or toothed on the margin. This plant has medium severity poison characteristics.
- **Flower:** In the spring, small, white flowers mature and provide nectar for pollinators. It is a larval host plant for several species of butterflies. It produces a round, dark purple fruit that matures in late summer and attracts songbirds.

Did you know that we recycle empty pots and trays? Please bring them back! Save the Earth!