

# Celestial Shadow® Variegated Dogwood



Developed by the well known dogwood breeder Don Shadow. One of the finest variegated dogwoods introduced to date!

## *Cornus x rutgersensis* 'Celestial Shadow' (Michael Steinhardt)

- **Use:** A dynamic new ornamental tree that will delight you with a year-long procession of colorful flowers, fruit, and foliage. In late spring, the white blossoms will smother the branches in a floral avalanche. In late summer, the funny nubby red fruits will steal the show. Glossy, yellow and green variegated foliage with a pinkish-red tone in the summer. And when the days turn crisp and cool, this dazzling tree will grace your garden with orange, yellow, and purple fall foliage. Plant it near your porch, patio, or wherever you entertain, and it will be a topic of conversation at your next get-together, no matter what time of year! This vigorous, fast growing tree has outstanding disease resistance and is tolerant of mild drought when established.
- **Exposure/Soil:** Part sun-shade. Best when planted under other trees, but not too deep a shade or poor flowering. Moist, well-drained soil, but not soggy. Use slow release fertilizer two times a year. Water regularly, when top 3 in. of soil is dry. This tree does better in open areas like lawns than the native trees do but is prefers some light shade especially in the afternoon. It prefers well-drained acidic soil and while it tolerates some dry soil it will not survive in water-logged environments.
- **Growth:** It has a generally uniform width from top to bottom, typically maturing to 14-18' tall and to 12-15' wide.
- **Hardiness:** Zone 5-9; Tree
- **Foliage:** Deciduous. Spring variegated leaves with canary yellow margins. Psychedelic fall foliage in shades of purple and pink. noted for having good resistance to anthracnose and borers.
- **Flower:** In spring true dogwood flowers are actually tiny, yellowish green and insignificant, being compacted into button-like cluster. However, each flower cluster is surrounded by four showy, petal-like, white bracts which open flat, giving the appearance of a single, large, 3-5" diameter, 4-petaled, white flower. Bracts emerge white with a green tinge, but may mature to pink. Fruits and nesting sites attractive to songbirds. Squirrels eat fruits as well.

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