

Sambucus canadensis

Elderberry

Height: 5' to 12' (Can be pruned to be shorter)

Spread: 5' to 12'

Sun: Full sun to part shade

Soil Moisture: Wet to mesic

Soil Types: All

Bloom Time: June and July

Bloom Description: White showy fragrant flat-topped flowers

Fruit: Showy and edible blue-black fruit (drupes). Use in preserves, jellies, pies and wine. Very high in vitamin C and antioxidants.

Uses: Rain Garden or in naturalized areas where it can spread. Shrub borders, roadside plantings, wet or low areas.

Wildlife: No fewer than 50 species of birds eat the fruit. Some bees make nests in the pith of broken stems. Some records of turtles eating fruits.

Nectar: The flowers provide only pollen as a floral reward to insect visitors.

Pollinators: Bees, flies, insects.

Deer Resistant: Yes

Comments: Spreads by root suckers to form colonies. Prune out dead and weak stems in early spring. Can be severely pruned back every several years.

Toxic: leaves, twigs (stems), roots, unripe fruits

