



Flowering Dogwood

(*Cornus florida*)



GENERAL INFO

Sometimes considered the most spectacular of the native, flowering trees, flowering dogwood is a 20-40 ft., single- or multi-trunked tree with a spreading crown and long-lasting, showy, white, and pink spring blooms. A lovely, small, flowering tree with short trunk and crown of spreading, or nearly horizontal, branches. Graceful, horizontal-tiered branching; red fruits; and scarlet-red fall foliage are other landscape attributes. Flowering dogwood is deciduous.

Flowering Dogwood is one of the most beautiful eastern North American trees with showy early spring flowers, red fruit, and scarlet autumn foliage. The hard wood is extremely shock-resistant and useful for making weaving-shuttles. It is also made into spools, small pulleys, mallet heads, and jeweler's blocks. Native Americans used the aromatic bark and roots as a remedy for malaria and extracted a red dye from the roots.

The dogwood flower, which is actually the petal-like bracts, is the state flower of North Carolina, and the tree is found throughout the state, usually growing under larger forest trees and at woodland edges. With multi-season interest, it has many uses in the landscape such as a butterfly, pollinator, or children's garden, a native or winter garden, accenting a patio or play area, a specimen, or shade tree. Needs ample water. Probably the most attractive flowering dogwood.



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