

# Carolina Buckthorn

## *Rhamnus caroliniana*

Carolina buckthorn is quite attractive in the landscape and is one of the first fruiting plants to show color. Showy red fruit ripen to black in the fall when their flesh becomes sweet and edible. Birds find the fruits irresistible. Carolina buckthorn develops an open crown of many slender branches and is usually seen at 12 to 15 feet in height although it is capable of reaching 40 feet in a partially shaded location. Use this small tree or large shrub in a shrub border to attract birds and for a late summer accent. It can be planted in mass to form a thicket which should provide food and cover for a variety of wildlife.

**Type:** evergreen shrub

**USDA hardiness zones:** 5B through 9b

**Uses:** hedge; trained as a standard; reclamation; deck or patio; specimen; container or planter

**Origin:** native to Florida

**Height:** 12 to 15 feet      **Spread:** 10 to 15 feet

**Plant spacing:** 15 feet

**Light requirement:** full sun to part shade

**Soil tolerances:** clay; sand; loam; alkaline; acidic; well-drained

**Drought tolerance:** moderate

**Aerosol salt tolerance:** unknown

**Invasive potential:** native, little invasive potential

**Pest resistance:** resistant to pests/diseases

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INFORMATION**

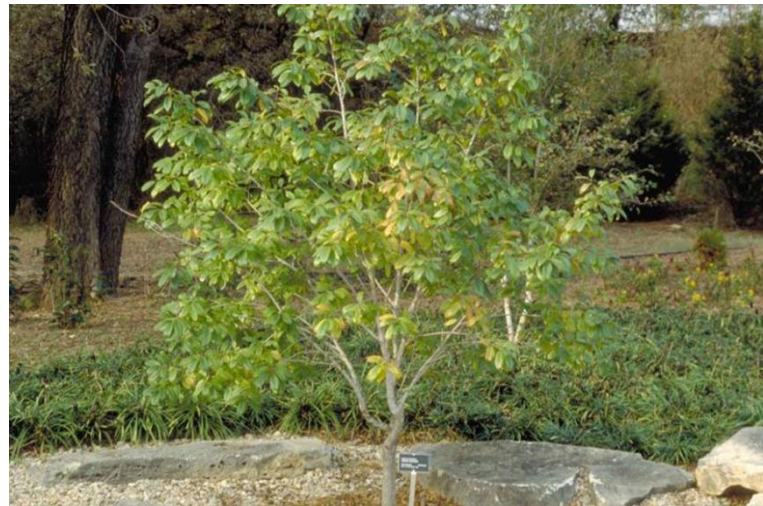


Photo: UF/IFAS