



photo: Dan Jaffe

COMMON BUTTONBUSH

Cephalanthus occidentalis

A low-maintenance shrub with glossy leaves and long-lasting white fragrant flowers that resemble pincushions. Attracts a wide variety of pollinators and adapts easily to various soil types.

Benefits for Wildlife

- Attracts a wide variety of pollinators and beneficial insects
- Water birds eat buttonbush seeds
- Wood ducks use bush structure to build nests
- Provides shade for fish

Host to 18 caterpillar species, including:
Definite Tussock Moth; Promethea Silkmoth; Cecropia Silkmoth; Whitemarked Tussock Moth; Buttonbush Leafminer; Connubial Underwing; Lost Owlet; Gold-Lined Melanomma

Benefits for People

- Unique and interesting flowers
- A good choice for pond edges and stream banks for erosion control

Growing Information

<i>Sunlight</i>	Full sun to part shade
<i>Soil Type</i>	Moist to standing water
<i>Height</i>	5-12'
<i>Width</i>	5-8'
<i>Flowering calendar</i>	June

Natural Habitat

- Thickets and swamps

