



photo: Dan Jaffe

BLACK CHERRY

Prunus serotina

One of the largest of the cherry trees! Has a beautiful spring bloom and attractive fall foliage. Fruit is very attractive to wildlife.

Benefits for Wildlife

- Produces nectar on leaf stems to attract predatory ants
- Provides pollen and nectar for bees and flies
- Food source for birds and mammals

Host to 421 caterpillar species, including: (common names) Coral Hairstreak; Clymene Moth; White Fircula; Hummingbird Clearwing; Elm Sphinx; Large Lace-Border; Small-eyed Sphinx; Interrupted Dagger Moth

Benefits for People

- Can be harvested for wood and fruit that is edible (once processed)
- Berries make an excellent drink mixer, syrup, jelly, and wine
- All other parts of the tree are toxic but some parts have been used medicinally by Wabanaki peoples

Growing Information

<i>Sunlight</i>	Full sun to part shade
<i>Soil Type</i>	Well-drained
<i>Height</i>	50-80'
<i>Width</i>	30-50'
<i>Flowering calendar</i>	April to May

Natural Habitat

- Woodlands, floodplains, open woods, open fields

