



photo: Dan Jaffe

SERVICEBERRY; SHADBUSH

Amelanchier canadensis

Small tree, or multi-trunked shrub, with delicate white flowers in the spring, small red fruit, and orange-red foliage and blue fruit in the fall.

Growing Information

Sunlight	Sun, part shade, shade
Soil Type	Moist, but well-drained
Height	6–20'
Flowering calendar	April-May

Benefits for Wildlife

Leaves	Yes, important browse plant
Flowers	Yes, attracts large numbers of native bees
Fruit	Yes
Seeds	Yes

Host to 117 caterpillar species, including: (common names) Eastern Tiger Swallowtail; Luna Moth; Red-Humped Caterpillar; Polyphemus Moth; Whitemarked Tussock Moth; Cecropia silkmoth; Small-eyed Sphinx; Interrupted Dagger Moth; Banded Purple; “Choke-cherry”

Benefits for People

- Beautiful native substitute for small ornamental trees; edible fruit; good option for street tree underneath power lines (due to size)
- The May blooms of this tree were a cue to Wabanaki that fish (such as alewives or “shad”) would be returning to coastal rivers

Natural Habitat

- Wood borders, moist upland woods

