



NEW GARDEN
LANDSCAPING & NURSERY

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Viburnums

"A garden without a Viburnum is akin to life without music and art." (M. Dir, *Manual of Woody Landscape Plants*).

Collectively, Viburnums represent a wide variety of deciduous and evergreen shrubs, known individually for their fragrance, flower, fruit, and foliage. Valued for utility and durability, Viburnums may be used in masses, as a screen or shrub border, or as single specimens. Most Viburnums are easily transplanted and adapt well to a variety of soil conditions; and, while most varieties prefer full sun, many will tolerate a fair amount of shade.

New Garden's selection of Viburnums includes both our favorites and the species and varieties that perform best in our area. While numerous other varieties exist and are sometimes available, the following represent our "standard fare."

We love to carry fragrant Viburnums and hope to have either the 'Burkwood' or 'Korean Spice' varieties in stock throughout the season. Depending on availability and the season, we may also have 'Chesapeake,' 'Spring Bouquet,' or 'Cayuga.'

BURKWOOD: Burkwood Viburnums produce pink buds opening into white flowers in mid-to-late April that produce a spicy aromatic fragrance which can permeate the entire garden. Standard Burkwoods average a height of eight to ten feet and a width of six to eight feet and hold their lustrous green leaves late into fall. If poorly-drained soils are avoided (or amended properly), Burkwoods will tolerate a fair amount of shade.

MOHAWK: Closely related to both the 'Burkwood' and 'Korean Spice' species, Mohawk is a semi-evergreen shrub reaching seven or eight feet in height and width. Dark red flower buds appear in March and last for several weeks before opening into white flowers blotched with red. Its April flowers produce a strong, spicy-clove fragrance, which lasts for nearly two weeks. In autumn, Mohawk's glossy green leaves turn to brilliant orange-red.

KOREAN SPICE: Although usually smaller, Viburnum Carlesii can reach a size of eight feet high and wide with dark green foliage. Its red to pink buds open to pleasantly fragrant flowers in late April to early May. If the weather cooperates, this species produces a wine-red fall color before dropping its leaves.

CAYUGA: Closely related to both Burkwood and Korean Spice, Cayuga is a medium-sized deciduous shrub growing to about five feet high and wide. Its pink flower buds accent white flowers which open in late April to May in a "semi-snowball" fashion about three inches across. In flower, 'Cayuga's' fragrance is said to closely resemble that of *Daphne odora*.

CHESAPEAKE: Tending toward an evergreen habit with leathery dark green leaves, Chesapeake produces fragrant white flowers in mid to late April on an eight foot high and wide shrub.

SPRING BOUQUET: This evergreen variety of Viburnum grows to five or six feet high and wide. In early spring, dark red flower buds open to two to four inch wide white flowers (possibly in January



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or February during mild winters). Although technically an evergreen, Spring Bouquet may be damaged by prolonged exposure to temperatures below ten degrees.

Birds love Viburnums for their bright red berries. Our favorites for berries include two varieties:

EUROPEAN CRANBERRYBUSH: Growing to 8-12 high and wide, *V. opulus* has lacecap flowers in late spring followed by bright red fruit clusters in late summer. The berries are persistent and are a favorite of birds. Good fall color. Tolerant of wet soils, though prefers well-drained. Also seen in dwarf form (*V. opulus 'Compacta'*) and pink flowered form (*V. o. 'Roseum'*)

CHINDO VIBURNUM: *Viburnum awabuki* is an excellent hedge shrub, growing to 12'H X 8' W. In addition to fragrant white flowers in spring and red fruit in fall—much loved by birds—the foliage is the standout on 'Chindo'. Deep green, shiny and dense, it remains green and attractive all year.

EASTERN SNOWBALL: This deciduous shrub grows to about twelve feet high and ten feet wide and produces showy white snowball-like flowers in summer. Bright green leaves give way to purplish-red in fall.

CHINESE SNOWBALL: Tending toward an evergreen habit, *V. macrocephalum* produces showy white snowballs of up to eight inches in diameter in late May to early June. Growing six to ten feet high and wide, this variety prefers a protected location and produces no fruit.

ESKIMO: A smaller, somewhat evergreen variety, 'Eskimo' grows to about five feet high and wide. Its April flowers, while not fragrant, are abundant white snowballs three to four inches across.

Also among our favorite flowering Viburnums are the Doublefiles and related species.

DOUBLEFILE VIBURNUMS: This group of Viburnums produces showy, but more lacecap-like flowers which provide a big show in May, creating a milky-way effect along the branches. Growing ten to twelve feet tall and slightly wider, the doublefiles leaf out early in Spring and consistently provide a purplish-red fall color. 'Mariesii' and 'Shasta' are popular doublefile cultivars that also produce red berries in July. 'Shasta' is a smaller variety, reaching only about six feet in height.

Perhaps our favorite Viburnum, 'Summer Snowflake,' produces pure white lace-cap blooms repeatedly through the summer. Closely related to the Doublefile varieties (*v. plicatum*), Summer Snowflake grows to about six feet high and wide. Although deciduous, this variety produces tiered, compact vegetation which turns burgundy to purple in the fall.

Finally, our eastern European friends have provided us with the 'Pragens' Viburnum. Developed in Prague, Czechoslovakia, 'Pragens' has evergreen foliage that resembles a leather-leaved rhododendron. Reaching ten to twelve feet tall and three to five feet wide, this variety is excellent for use as an evergreen screen or hedge and produces creamy white flowers in April.



New Garden Landscaping & Nursery

"Where your imagination takes root"