

Heartwood Nursery News

Summer's in full swing at Heartwood!

Blooming Now...

Aesculus parviflora
Bottlebrush Buckeye

Asclepias syriaca
Common Milkweed

Oxydendrum arboreum
Sourwood

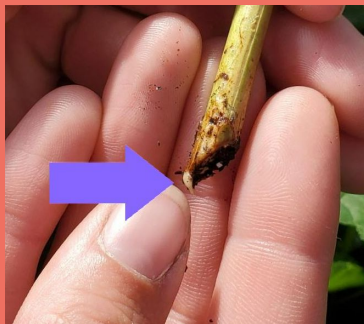
Healthier for the Natural World in Your Backyard.

From Cuttings to Customer: Propagating Healthy Native Softwoods

We begin propagating softwood cuttings each year at this time. Heartwood is different from other nurseries in that we harvest our cutting wood from our own stock grown here on the property. In addition, our plants are completely organic and never sprayed. Here's a look at our cutting propagation process, featuring Ninebark, *Physocarpus opulifolius*.



We harvest cutting wood off a mature Ninebark at the nursery.



Fifteen days after harvest, a Ninebark cutting that was properly prepared and stuck is beginning to grow roots.



A Ninebark cutting that successfully rooted last summer and now grown in a one gallon container.



Ninebark in one gallons available for purchase. When you bring home a strong, healthy Ninebark, you bring a beautiful pollinator and bird magnet to your yard.



A one gallon Ninebark takes about 6 years to grow to this size.

Growing *Rhododendron maximum* from seed sowed the previous winter and transplanting young seedlings



Rhododendron maximum

New growth, seeds, seedlings, & mature specimen at the nursery that was grown from seed

Photoperiod: Some plant species are already responding

"Photoperiod" refers to the natural shortening of day length (reduced amount of daylight) that begins after the Summer Solstice in June. Some plant species are photoperiod sensitive, meaning they are responding to the shortening daylight, such as the Serviceberry tree, *Amelanchier canadensis*. The shortening day length coincides with the ripening of

Serviceberry fruit. As the berries reach maximum ripeness at the end of June, the tree begins to go dormant in response to the changing day length. This is evident by the changing leaf color and some defoliation, no matter how much rain has been received. In the early fall, the tree may experience a resurgence of new growth.

This is one of our many Serviceberry trees at the beginning of July. The berries reached maximum ripeness the third week in June, coinciding with the Summer Solstice, at which time some of the leaves also began to change color.



Planting for Success: Drought Tolerant Natives

A number of native trees, shrubs, and perennials are reliably drought tolerant options for our area. All of the plants below, and more, are available at our nursery.

It's important to keep in mind that "drought tolerant" means once the plant is established. Any new planting requires initial maintenance, including watering, to help it adapt to its new environment. Preparing the soil by tilling and adding organic matter is also key to setting up the plant for future success. Plants are like people. If you were left out in a barren area without any initial resources, you too would struggle to survive!



Viburnum dentatum (top)
Arrowwood Viburnum
Viburnum opulus var.
americanum (bottom)
American Cranberry Viburnum



Sambucus canadensis
Elderberry



Juglans nigra
Black Walnut



Cephalanthus occidentalis
Buttonbush



Solidago sp.
Goldenrod



Robinia pseudoacacia
Black Locust
Rosa Carolina
Carolina Rose



Ruellia humilis
Native Petunia

Upcoming Event at Heartwood

JOIN FARM & NATURAL LANDS TRUST FOR A

AUTUMN WALK ON THE TREE TRAILS AT HEARTWOOD NURSERY

Saturday, October 26 | 2:00 – 3:30pm

Heartwood Nursery, Felton

REGISTER at farmtrust.org/events

Join us for an enriching autumn walk on the Tree Trails at Heartwood Nursery, led by Heartwood's owner and FNLТ landowner, Sue Hunter.

Learn About:

- **Fall Native Plant ID**
- **Best Native Trees for Erosion Control and Stormwater Management**
- **Why Leaves Change Colors:** Understand the science behind the beautiful fall foliage.
- **How Trees Predict Spring:** Find out how trees signal the coming of spring during the fall.

Participants will have the chance to bring unknown plant specimens from their properties for Sue to identify and provide recommendations. Please bring your samples in a sealed Ziploc bag. After the walk, visit Heartwood's retail store, which will be open with a variety of items available for purchase.



HEARTWOOD NURSERY

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Closed Sunday

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