## **Heartwood Nursery News**

## Settling into fall



Clethra alnifolia
Summersweet

Viburnum prunifolium
Blackhaw Viburnum

Cornus florida
Eastern Dogwood

Healthier for the Natural World in Your Backyard.

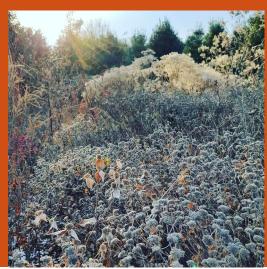
#### Don't be a deadheader!

Resist the urge to 'tidy up' and cut back stems and spent flowers.

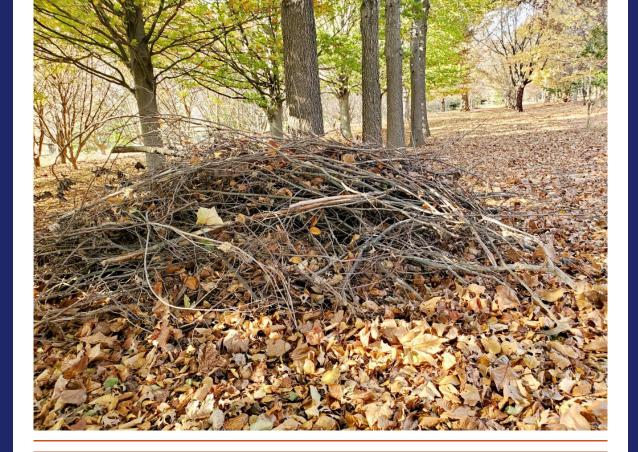
Dormant perennials provide seed and natural structure for winter birds.

Dry, hollow stems provide protection for small insects. Leaving leaf litter also provides habitat throughout the coming months for beneficial pollinators. Disposing of leaves and brush now results in lower populations of next year's nocturnal moths and other insects whose fragile cocoons overwinter and blend in with dead leaves on the ground. Create small piles of twigs and sticks to provide year-round habitat. We have seen an increase in large moths, butterflies and fireflies by keeping our gardens scruffy!

Even a small section of your yard can make a difference.







# Ilex opaca 'Indian Steps' Indian Steps Museum Holly Talk led by Sue Hunter

On Sunday October 27th, at the Indian Steps Museum, Heartwood Nursery owner and Holly Society of American President, Sue Hunter, led a presentation on American Holly, specifically the infamous *llex opaca* 'Indian Steps' that grows on site at the museum.

#### A reflection from Sue Hunter:

"We had a great turnout yesterday at Indian Steps Museum in Airville for my presentation on Hollies and the Indian Steps Holly. I wish everyone would revere trees the same way the Indian Steps Holly is revered. She is a living, historical legend that is beloved by the community. It was wonderful to gather with like-minded people who hold the natural world in such high esteem. And yes, she is doing well despite the environmental conditions she has experienced over the decades."

Indian Steps photos courtesy of Deb Klenotic.





## Arrowwood Viburnum Viburnum dentatum

Arrowwood Viburnum is without a doubt the most popular of the native Viburnums. With year-round interest and multiple ecological benefits, it's hard to find another species that is so versatile in the landscape. Arrowwood can be used as a single specimen or incorporated into a wildlife hedge. It is drought tolerant, hardy to USDA zone 4, native to the mid-Atlantic area and beyond. The new growth is smooth, perpendicular, and was used in the making of arrows by indigenous tribes in the region. Birds attracted to the bright indigo blue fruit in late summer/fall include Robins, Bluebirds, Catbirds, Flickers, Mockingbirds and Cardinals. Plant a Viburnum dentatum and you will be planting a natural birdfeeder! In the blooming timeline of native Viburnums, Arrowwood blooms during the mid to late Spring season, with full, creamy white clusters of tiny flowers. The plant itself is attractive to native ladybugs and early season butterflies. Have Walnut trees? Plant an Arrowwood or two. They are completely resistant to juglone toxicity (the breaking down of walnut hulls into the soil). Be sure to consider this species in your garden plan.



Did you know....

Signs of Spring are already here if you look closely?

Many native species set flower buds months before they bloom. Here are a few of our favorites!



**Upcoming Event at Heartwood Nursery** 



We will be closed Thanksgiving day

Thursday, November 28, 2024





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### Visit Us!

8957 Hickory Road, Felton, Pennsylvania 17322 (717) 993-5230

> Open Year Round Monday-Saturday 9 am - 4 pm Closed Sunday

Closed Thanksgiving (11/28/2024)





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