

Common Name: Red Osier Dogwood

Scientific Name: *Cornus sericea*

Sun Exposure: Full sun to part shade

Average Size: 10- 20 feet tall and equally large spread

Moisture: Prefers wet to moist conditions

Elevation: Sea level to timberline

Soils: Prefers moist, loamy soils

Shape: Finely spreading shrub with many stems, branches opposite, lower branches often lying on the ground and rooting freely.

Foliage: Opposite, deciduous, oval 5-10 cm long, mostly sharp pointed, turning reddish in autumn.

Flower: White to greenish, small (2-4 mm long); 4 petals and numerous in dense, flat-topped terminal clusters

Fruit: White occasionally blue tinged, small (7-9 mm long) berry like drupes, each with a somewhat flattened stone, inedible

Notes:

- Also known as “Red Twig Dogwood” for its bright red branches, especially after a frost
- Provides forage for elk, and deer in winter
- Birds use the plant for nesting
- Usually found along streams

