

American Beautyberry

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(*Callicarpa americana*)



Season: Spring, summer blooms; fruit in fall

Perennial

Sun Exposure: Full, partial

Size: 3–6 ft tall, 3–6 ft wide

Blooms: Pink, purple, white

Maintenance Category: Low. Cold tolerant to –10 F; heat tolerant as long as water needs are met

Water weekly during periods without rainfall; prune as needed to maintain shape.

Highlights: Historically used by Native Americans for various medicinal purposes. Important food source for birds and wildlife. Leaves contain plant compounds that deter mosquitoes, fire ants, ticks, and deer flies.

How to Use: Berries are edible, but not very tasty when consumed raw; can be made into a jelly that tastes similar to grape or elderberry jelly. Good as an ornamental.

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