

Rhamnus carolinianus

Carolina Buckthorn



This plant tolerates drought & will grow in very dry soil. Suitable soil is well-drained/loamy, sandy or clay. The pH preference is an acidic to alkaline (less than 6.8 to more than 7.7) soil.

Carolina Buckthorn is a nice plant for attracting wildlife. Fruit in the fall rarely gets a chance to turn dark black before birds devour them. Fall color is pretty good in most years and summer foliage is attractive. Plants should be grown in full sun on well-drained soil, acid or alkaline and will tolerate occasional flooding. It might be tried where overhead space is restricted by power lines.

Carolina Buckthorn is well adapted to the shaded landscape. Its shiny green leaves are followed in the fall by bright red berries attractive to birds. Tolerance to alkaline soil makes this suited for planting in most regions within its hardiness zone. Pollen can cause significant allergy.

The black & red fruit is fleshy, round, persistent, attractive, edible by birds and attracts animals.

Height: 10' – 15' Spread: 10' – 15'