

THE PURDUE LANDSCAPE REPORT

Native Shrubs For Fall Color

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If you're looking to add native shrubs to your home landscape, fall is an excellent time to look for those with good fall color. While many factors affect the display of fall color, there are a number of native shrub species that perform reliably in our area.

Here's a short list to consider including their mature height as well as flowers and fall color. Most can adapt to either full sun or partial shade, especially morning sun with afternoon shade with the exception of *Dirca* which prefers shade.

You can look up more details for each of these species at the Purdue Arboretum Explorer website, including location of these shrubs on the West Lafayette campus.



Oak-leaved hydrangea fall color

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<https://mlp.arboretum.purdue.edu/ecmweb/findPlant.php>



Bottlebrush buckeye fall color



Dwarf fothergilla fall color

Selected Native Shrubs for Fall Color

Scientific Name	Common Name	Size	Flowers	Fall Color
<i>Aesculus parviflora</i>	bottlebrush buckeye	6-12'	white, summer	yellow
<i>Aronia melanocarpa</i>	black chokeberry	3-6'	white, spring	yellow orange
<i>Calycanthus floridus</i>	sweetshrub	6-10'	maroon, spring	yellow
<i>Cephalanthus occidentalis</i>	buttonbush	5-12'	white, spring	
<i>Clethra alnifolia</i>	summersweet	3-8'	white, summer	yellow
<i>Cornus alternifolia</i>	pagoda dogwood	15-25'	off white, spring	red purple yellow
<i>Corylus americana</i>	American hazlenut	10-16'	brown, spring	variable
<i>Dirca palustris</i>	leatherwood	4-6'	yellow, spring	yellow
<i>Fothergilla gardenii</i>	dwarf fothergilla	2-3'	white, spring	yellow orange red
<i>Fothergilla major</i>	witch-alder	6-10'	white, spring	yellow orange red
<i>Hamamelis vernalis</i>	vernal witchhazel	6-10'	yellow, spring	yellow
<i>Hamamelis virginiana</i>	common witchhazel	15-20'	yellow, fall	yellow
<i>Hydrangea quercifolia</i>	oakleaf hydrangea	3-8'	white, pink, spring summer	red purple
<i>Itea virginica</i>	Virginia sweetspire	3-5'	white, summer	red orange
<i>Lindera benzoin</i>	spice bush	6-12'	yellow green, spring	yellow
<i>Physocarpus opulifolius</i>	ninebark	5-9'	white, pink, spring	dull yellow
<i>Rhus aromatica</i>	fragrant sumac	2-6'	yellow, spring	orange red purple
<i>Rhus glabra</i>	smooth sumac	9-15'	yellow green, spring	orange red
<i>Rhus typhina</i>	staghorn sumac	15-25'	yellow green, summer	orange red
<i>Sambucus canadensis</i>	American elderberry	5-12'	white, summer	yellowish
<i>Viburnum dentatum</i>	arrowwood viburnum	6-10'	white, pink, spring	variable
<i>Viburnum lentago</i>	nannyberry viburnum	14-16'	white, spring	variable
<i>Viburnum prunifolium</i>	blackhaw viburnum	12-15'	white, spring	variable
<i>Viburnum trilobum</i>	American cranberrybush	8-12'	white, spring	purplish red

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