

Itea virginica
Virginia Sweetspire



Summer Foliage and Flowers

Characteristics: Broad leaved – deciduous shrub

Appearance:

Height - 6 to 12 ft.

Aerial Spread - 6 to 12 ft.

Flower Color - White (in tassel-like spikes)

Flowering Period – late June through late July

Fruit Color and Description - brown

Fruiting Period – late August, persisting through late March

Habitat (Community): Forested wetlands, shrub swamps and stream banks

Hydrology:

Indicator status - Obligate wetland

Salinity – resistant; tolerates infrequent flooding by water containing some salt

Non-Tidal Regime - Seasonally seasonally, regularly, or permanently inundated up to 0.5 ft. or saturated (approximately 13 to 100% of the growing season)

Wildlife Benefits: (Food, Cover) waterbirds, songbirds, gamebirds, small mammals

Distribution: southern New Jersey, south to Florida and Louisiana (along Coastal Plain), Mississippi Valley, north to Illinois