

CONGRATULATIONS!



You have chosen the **solitary flower** of *Paeonia suffruticosa* (tree peony). Each terminal flower has 5 carpels, up to 160 **stamens**, many (more than 20) concave petals with finely scalloped margins, and 5 sepals.

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Coreopsis verticillata 'Zagreb' and *Zinnia elegans* (zinnia), pictured below left and right respectively, are both members of the Asteraceae (aster family) with composite flowers. What appear to be solitary flowers are actually **inflorescences** of flattened discs bearing numerous tubular flowers or florets crowded in a single receptacle surrounded by an outer ring of ray flowers.

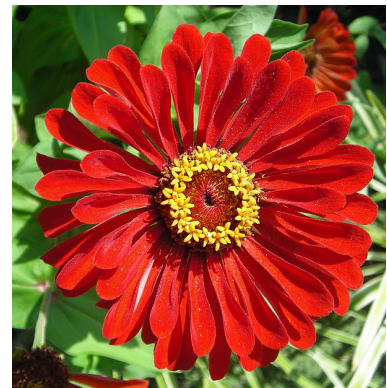
Cornus florida (flowering dogwood), pictured below center, has been designated as the official floral and arboreal emblems of Virginia. What appears to be a solitary flower is actually a **sessile** cluster of 20 to 30 tiny, yellow-green flowers surrounded by 4 white, petaloid **bracts**.



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