Viburnum nudum
Possum-haw

Tried and True
Native Plant Selections
for the Mid-Atlantic

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Sometimes referred to as Wild Raisin because of its dark ripe fruit, this species is the most showy of the native Viburnums with lustrous leaves, multi-colored drupes, and stunning fall foliage. The shrub is indigenous to low woods, swamps, and bogs in the Mid-Atlantic region.*

Shrub	**Spring/Fall Shrub, Flowers, Leaves, Fruit**
Height: 5–12 feet	
Spread: 5–12 feet	
Bloom Color: White	
Characteristics	
Multi-stemmed, upright, deciduous shrub with rounded, spreading crown	
Opposite, elliptic to ovate or obovate, glossy leaves	
Fragrant, creamy white flowers arranged in 5-inch wide, flat-topped cymes from May to June	
Pale green drupes ripen to pink to purple to dark blue, appearing concurrently in clusters July to Oct	
Maroon, burgundy, and red-purple fall foliage	
Attributes	
Tolerates wide range of soils, including wet; no serious pests or diseases; deer may browse twigs and leaves	
Ripe drupes acidic but edible, can use in jams	
Attracts bees, flies, butterflies, and beetles to flowers; songbirds, gamebirds, and small mammals to fruit; larval host to ~102 lepidopterans	

Growing and Maintenance Tips	**Excellent Replacement for**
Soil Requirements: Well-drained, acidic	*Elaeagnus umbellata* - Autumn Olive
Light Requirements: Sun, Partial Shade	*Euonymus alatus* - Burning Bush
Water Requirements: Moist, Wet	*Ligustrum japonicum & L. sinense* - Privets
Prune lightly, only as needed, in fall	*Mahonia bealei* - Leatherleaf Mahonia
Plant in groups from multiple suppliers for best cross-pollination and fall fruit production	*Viburnum* spp. - Asian Viburnums
Use in borders, woodland edges, in low spots, and by rain gardens, streams or ponds	*It is native to DC and common in DE. In MD, it is scattered in the Coastal Plain. In PA, *V. nudum* var. *cassinoides* (Northern Wild-raisin) is present throughout the state. In VA, it is frequent in the Coastal Plain and Piedmont, and rare in the mountains. In NoVA, it has not been reported in Loudoun County.
Hardiness: USDA Zones 5a–9b	

developed by **Master Gardeners of Northern Virginia,** *serving Arlington and Alexandria*

Images by Elaine Mills, Arlington, VA, Meadowlark Botanical Gardens, and Longwood Gardens

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