

Frangula caroliniana

Carolina buckthorn



Sources:

Natural Resources Conservation Service.
PLANTS Database. United States Department
of Agriculture.

NC State Extension. *Find a Plant*. North
Carolina Extension Gardener Plant Toolbox.

The Buckthorn Family
(Rhamnaceae)

This small deciduous tree/shrub, reaches 12-20 feet tall; is somewhat shade tolerant and heat and drought tolerant.

Habitat: It prefers moist, well-drained, alkaline soils and is often found in bottomlands and stream banks throughout eastern and central U.S.

Interesting Facts: Though enjoyed by wildlife, the fruit of this tree is poisonous to humans.

Fruit: Its fruit is red to black fleshy drupe found August-October.

Flower: Small, reddish-black flowers are found in clusters at the bases of the leaves; blooms April to May.

Wildlife value: This plant's flowers attract pollinators and the fruit is eaten by many wildlife species.