**Viburnum prunifolium**  
**Black Haw**

Common throughout the Mid-Atlantic (except the northern half of Pennsylvania), this elegant shrub grows mainly in thickets and woods. The upright oval common in young plants often becomes, with age, irregular with drooping lower branches. Creamy white flowers give way to pink berry-like fruits (drupes), edible when ripened to deep blue-black.

### Shrub
- **Height:** 12–15 feet
- **Spread:** 6–12 feet
- **Bloom Color:** White

### Characteristics
- Large, upright, multi-stemmed deciduous shrub or small, single-trunk tree
- Deep green oval leaves
- Flat clusters of creamy, sweetly fragrant flowers in April and May
- Edible blue-black drupes from July to November
- Flaming red to burgundy fall foliage

### Attributes
- Tolerates clay soil, drought, air pollution, and black walnut
- No serious pests or diseases; deer seldom severely damage but may browse twigs & foliage
- Fruit may be eaten when ripe or used in preserves
- Flowers attract myriad (mainly small) bees, flies and Lepidoptera; larval host to various moths including Hummingbird Clearwing; fruits attract birds and small animals

### Growing and Maintenance Tips
- **Soil Requirements:** Average, well-drained
- **Light Requirements:** Sun, Partial Shade
- **Water Requirements:** Dry, Moist
- Prune immediately after flowering because buds for next year’s flowers form in summer
- Use as specimen plant, in shrub borders, in native plant gardens, or as hedge or screen
- **Hardiness:** USDA Zones 3–9

**Excelllent Replacement for**

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<th>Excellent Replacement for</th>
<th>Shrub and Close-up of Flowers</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><em>Eleagnus umbellata</em> - Autumn Olive</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Shrub and Close-up of Flowers" /></td>
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<td><em>Euonymus alatus</em> - Burning Bush</td>
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<td><em>Ligustrum species</em> - Privets</td>
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**developed by Master Gardeners of Northern Virginia, serving Arlington and Alexandria**

Images by Elaine Mills, National Garden, U.S. Botanic Garden