

Japanese snowball viburnum (*Viburnum plicatum*)

Family name: Honeysuckle (Caprifoliaceae)

Native range: China and Japan

NJ Status: Emerging Stage 0 - Absent or very rare. It is *highly threatening* to natural plant communities. All detected occurrences should be eradicated.

General description:

- Shade tolerant, deciduous shrub or small tree to 15'
- Can be multistemmed
- Bark smooth, gray-brown with orange lenticels
- Buds fuzzy, naked (no scales enclosing bud)
- Young stems hairy
- Several cultivars are available, including *Viburnum plicatum* var. *tomentosum*; varying slightly in form and flowering period



Fruit:

- Maturing from red to blue-black in August-September
- Borne in flat clusters



Habitat:

- Forests and landscaping
- Sun to shade

Commercial availability: Yes

Leaves:

- Opposite, toothed
- Oval to oblong-ovate
- Pointed tip and rounded leaf base
- 2" to 4" long, up to 2" wide
- Soft hairs beneath
- Dark green, turning reddish-purple



Viburnum plicatum autumn foliage



Flowers:

- White
- Small, fertile flowers surrounded by showy infertile flowers
- Cultivars can be variable (see right)
- Scentless
- Blooms in May to June

Look-alikes:

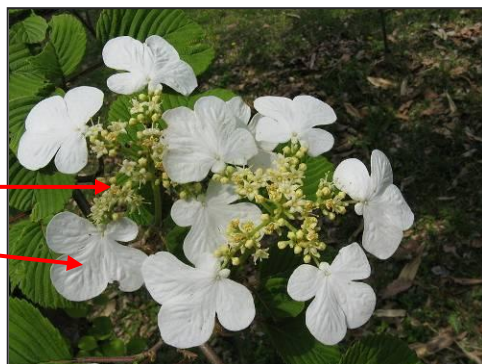
The *Viburnum* species are best differentiated by leaf shape, fruit color, buds, and flower and fruit structure.

Doublefile viburnum (*Viburnum plicatum* var. *tomentosum*)

- Invasive shrub identical to *Viburnum plicatum* but flowers slightly later

For additional lookalikes, see Fact Sheets for: **Linden Viburnum** (*V. dilatatum*), **Wayfaring Tree** (*V. lantana*), **Japanese Snowball Viburnum** (*V. plicatum*), **Tea Viburnum** (*V. setigerum*), and **Siebold's Viburnum** (*V. sieboldii*)

Fertile flowers
Infertile flower



Viburnum plicatum cultivar with globe-like flower clusters.

