

White Flowering Dogwood



Arbor Day Foundation[®]

211 N. 12th Street • Lincoln, NE 68508

arborday.org

Dear Member:

Thank you for your contribution to the Arbor Day Foundation and sharing our mission to inspire people to plant, nurture, and celebrate trees.

Your free trees are my way of saying thanks. They have arrived in a bundle. A leaf identification key is on the back of this letter to help you identify each individual tree after you have unbundled them. Complete planting and transplanting instructions are in the enclosed *Tree Planting Guide*. You may contact Member Services if you have any questions about your trees. More complete information about each tree can be found in *The Tree Book* or in the online Tree Guide at **arborday.org**.

We want your tree planting experience to be successful. These trees are guaranteed to grow. If they don't, send your name and address and member number, if available, to the above address, and the entire packet of trees will be replaced free. Please enclose \$3.50 for shipping and handling and tell us which package of trees needs to be replaced. You may reach us by calling the toll-free number for Member Services, 1-888-448-7337, or e-mail us at **info@arborday.org**.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Cynthia A. Allgood".

Cynthia A. Allgood
Director of Procurement

Leaf Identification



White Flowering Dogwood
(*Cornus florida*)

White Flowering Dogwood is a small tree usually not reaching higher than 25' although it can reach 40' with a spread equal to its height. Branching begins low on the tree in a horizontal, tiered arrangement. The rounded crown often spreads wider than the tree is tall giving it a flat-topped appearance. The showy spring blossoms are not in fact flowers, but four white petal-like "bracts" (modified leaves) that occur by age six. These are followed by dark green summer leaves that turn red-purple in fall. The fall leaf color will be less brilliant in the shade. Glossy, bright red 1/3-1/2" berry-like fruits ripen in fall and persist on the tree long into winter. The fruit is a favorite of birds, squirrels, deer, and other mammals. Deer, beaver, and rabbits browse the foliage which also provides good cover for many wildlife species.

Flowering Dogwood grows best in cool, acidic, loam. It can tolerate heavier or lighter sandy soils if well-drained, moist soil, and full sun or partial shade. Proper site selection and attention to regular care will help to keep your dogwood healthy. This native tree grows at medium rate.