



# Red Osier Dogwood, *Cornus Sericea*



**Flowering Period:** June flowers, September-October berries

**Height:** 8-12'

**Plant Habit:** upright, multi-stemmed, fast growth rate, suckering

**Growth preference:** moist soil, full sun and tolerates partial shade, bottomland along streams, wetland edges, lakeshores, open wooded areas

### **Use in Rain Gardens:**

Dogwood species thrive within moist or saturated areas and should be placed at the lowest point that receives the most water, Zone 1. Dogwoods have deep fibrous roots that help to infiltrate water and hold in the soil. As a multi stemmed shrub the structure helps to filter runoff. Many rain gardens are placed to capture and treat runoff from places such as roads and parking lots, both of which can have high levels of salt in the runoff. Dogwood shrub species are considered salt tolerant, which makes them an excellent choice for rain gardens.

### **Other Uses:**

Dogwood shrubs have fast growing fibrous roots that work well for erosion control and stream bank stabilization. Red Osier dogwood offer year-round visual interest and are a focal point in the winter with its bright red stems. Dogwoods produce many berries that provide additional visual texture and are utilized by foraging wildlife.

