



Winterberry, *Ilex verticillata*



Flowering Period: May-June flowers, October-December berries

Height: 6-10'

Plant Habit: Rounded or vase form, deciduous, multi stemmed, suckering, upright, twiggy, gray to dark brown stems

Growth preference: moist bottomland along streams, shrubby swamps, often forms thickets, full sun to partial shade, neutral to acidic soils

Use in Rain Gardens:

Winterberry grow best in wet areas and should be placed within the central lowest point of the rain garden basin, Zone 1. Due to the somewhat dense canopy on the mature winterberry shrub, in landscaped environments additional mulch will need to be added to compensate the lack of accumulating organic matter.

Other Uses:

Winterberry are commonly used in wetland restoration plantings or for expanding bird habitat. You will often see winterberry, or a native ornamental cultivar, used as a landscaping plant in urban environments. Winterberry provides full seasonal interest with bright red berries that persist throughout the winter. The berries are both visually interesting and a good food source for wildlife.