**Color:** add some color to your landscape or gardens.

**Cornus florida (Flowering Dogwood)**

The flowering dogwood is a small tree. The typical size is about 15 ft tall. It has a short trunk and a full, rounded crown with horizontal branches that are often in layered tiers. The bark on the mature trees is broken up into small square blocks.

Flowering dogwoods have opposite, deciduous mid-green leaves which turn red and purple in autumn. Flowering dogwoods bloom in the spring. The flowers consist of four showy petal-like bracts, usually snow white or pink, surrounding a cluster of tiny inconspicuous yellowish flowers. Clusters of bright red football shaped fruits, about a half inch long, follow the flowers and often persist into winter.

'Cherokee Chief' has dark pink bracts. 'Cloud Nine' has large bracts which overlap each other. 'First Lady' has yellow variegated leaves. 'Plena' has 7 or 8 bracts instead of four. 'Nana' is a dwarf (6 ft tall). 'Pendula' has weeping branches.

The dogwood blossom is a most familiar and cherished emblem of springtime in the South.

The flowering dogwood occurs naturally in the eastern United States from Massachusetts to Ontario and Michigan. It grows in a variety of habitats throughout its range, but generally occurs on fertile, well drained but moist sites. Flowering dogwood is usually an understory component in mixed hardwood forests or at the edges of pine forests.
Established specimens are tolerant of normal dry periods, but will need supplemental watering during extreme droughts. Stress of any kind makes dogwoods susceptible to diseases.

Flowering dogwood is one of the most popular ornamental specimen trees in eastern North America. Use dogwood as a framing tree or as a background tree. They are excellent beneath large oaks or pines. Dogwoods are among the earliest springtime bloomers, brightening the landscape along with azaleas, spireas (*Spiraea cantoniensis, S. thunbergii*), forsythia *Forsythia suspensa* and redbud *Cercis canadensis*. With its dense crown, flowering dogwood provides good shade, and due to its small stature, it is useful in the smallest yards.

Squirrels and birds devour the pretty red fruits.

The graceful yet compact shape and brilliant springtime blooms make this a favorite landscape tree throughout its range. The flowering dogwood is just about the finest flowering tree you can find. It is beautiful in all seasons and even though it is nearly ubiquitous in home landscapes, it never seems to be overplanted.

The dogwoods beautiful blossoms are followed by equally attractive red fruits in autumn - an important food for many wildlife species.

Dogwood fruit ripens in the September sun about a month before the leaves begin to change to fall colors.
Golden bamboo is native to China and has been cultivated in Japan for centuries.

This bamboo is fast growing and will quickly spread via underground rhizomes. Despite containment efforts, the rhizomes of Golden bamboo will often find their way out of confinement to infest nearby areas. Golden bamboo will grow in sparsely wooded secondary forests, and does best in full sun. It will continue to grow and spread in less than desirable environments.

The first step in preventative control of golden bamboo is to limit planting and removal of existing plants within the landscape. Care must be exercised to prevent seed spread and dispersal during the removal process.

There are no known biological control programs for golden bamboo.

Once this is planted it is almost impossible to get rid of. Bottom line, do NOT plant. If you already have it, it may take years to get rid of it.