

Heartwood Native News



Introducing Our Enhanced Plant List

Happy news! We've significantly improved our **plant list** web page, enhancing it with photos, growing conditions, and typical plant characteristics to help you learn about and choose native plants.

I've been photographing the plants at the nursery ever since I started Heartwood in 1987. This is threaded into my daily work and regular walks around the property. For decades, across the seasons, I've photographed our growing inventory of trees, shrubs, perennials, ferns, grasses, sedges, and vines.

As you may know, going through masses of photo files on old laptops, phones, and thumb drives takes time. I even have old camera film cartridges! But around our full schedules, Grace, Deb (our Communications help), and I worked on this project for many months.

The work is so worth it. We think this gallery of photos offers a striking experience of the incredible beauty of our native plant world.

We hope you agree.

www.heartwoodnursery.net/plantlist

Sue Hunter



Is My Holly Male or Female?

We hear this question often. The best way to determine whether a Holly is male or female is to look at the flowers, which are blooming now.

Hollies (genus *Ilex*) are dioecious, meaning the flowers are male or female on separate plants and only the females bear the drupes (fruit), after pollination by the male plant.

The first image below shows a female American Holly (*Ilex opaca*) flower. You can see the prominent green center of the flowers, called the pistil.

The second image shows male American Holly flowers, with the four anthers (collectively called the stamen) bearing yellow pollen grains that pollinate the female flowers. Hollies are pollinated by wind and pollinators, including bees, flies, and wasps.

This applies to all Hollies, including Inkberry (*Ilex glabra*), Winterberry (*Ilex verticillata*), Possumhaw (*Ilex decidua*), and others.

A male and female Holly of the same species are required for pollination. This is because males and females of the same species bloom at the same time. For example, a male Inkberry Holly (*Ilex glabra*) will not pollinate a female American Holly (*Ilex opaca*) because they don't bloom at the same time. There can be a few exceptions of cross-pollination between two species in different geographical areas, though.



Save the Date ~ Open to the Public



Heartwood Nursery, Inc.
17th Annual

Serviceberry Festival

**Friday & Saturday
June 19 & 20
10am - 4pm**

**8957 Hickory Road
Felton, PA 17322
(close to Stewartstown, PA)**



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