

## Flowering Dogwood

*Cornus florida*



**Description:** small tree 20 to 30 feet tall, less than 1 foot diameter. with a spreading, rounded crown. Beautiful large white flowers in Spring. Opposite, toothless leaves with impressed, curved veins. The bark of older trees is broken into rounded scales

**Leaves:** opposite, simple, born on very short half inch Leaf stocks. Blades oval, 2 through 5 in long, pointed at tip, basis taper to stem, veins are recessed and curved upward, Leaf edges smooth. Bright green above, paler below, little hairiness. Turn a beautiful red in fall

**Bark:** rough, dark gray to dark brown, broken into small, thin rounded scales that resemble coins

**Flowers:** bisexual flowers open before leaves in late April through May several greenish white clusters, each surrounded by four large, showy, pedal like, white modified leaves

**Fruits:** ripe in September / October clusters of bright Scarlet oval shiny berries; seeds oval, pointed pits in each fruit

**Habitat/Range:** Upland Woods, roadsides, Woody Old Fields. Beautiful ornamental and widely planted throughout Indiana