

Shrubs



Highbush Cranberry

Berries can be used like a cranberry bringing strong flavor to juice and jelly.

Height: 10' tall, 8' spread
Recommended Variety:
'Wentworth', 'Philips'



Hazelnuts

Hybrids of the American and European hazelnuts create delicious nuts that are low maintenance with squirrels as the main issue.

Height: 10' tall, 7' spread



Aronia Berries

A berry with one of the highest levels of antioxidants. The juice adds a rich flavor when mixed with a sweeter juice, like apple.

Height: 5' tall, 3' spread
Recommended Variety: Viking, Nero



Elderberries

Elderberries are processed for consumption and make great baked goods, juices, and wine and the flowers can be used for tea.

Height: 7' tall, 6' spread
Recommended Variety: Wildwood, Bob Gordon, Scotia



Gooseberry

Tart, juicy fruits that are great in jellies, jams, or juices!

Height: 3' tall, 4' spread
Recommended Variety: Jahn's Prarie, Pixwell



Clove Currant

Great fresh, milder than typical black currants.

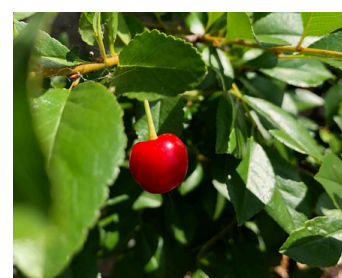
Height: 5' tall, 4' spread
Recommended variety: 'Crandall'



Jostaberry

A cross between a currant and a gooseberry. Great fresh or processed in juices, jams, and jellies.

Height: 4' tall, 4' spread



Bush Cherry

Small, cherry taste between a sweet and a tart cherry, great in pies or fresh!

Height: 6' tall, 6' spread
Recommended variety: 'Carmine Jewel'



Serviceberries

Blueberries can be a pain to grow well in Missouri, but these similar tasting fruit are native to North America and do great in St. Louis!

Height: 6' tall, 6' spread
Recommended variety: 'Success'



Mulberries

Can be eaten processed or raw. Although they have a risk of staining, the flavor is worth the mess. Harvest is easy with the dwarf variety we recommend.

Height: 6' tall, 6' spread
Recommended variety: 'Gerardi'

Care and Treatment

Shrubs for Processing

High bush cranberry, Aronia berries, Elderberries

These plants are more adapted to wet soils, making them a good choice for any site with wetter than normal soil. All of these plants are native to the area, meaning less maintenance than other fruiting plants. None of these are good for fresh eating but are great when blended with other fruit. Main care is consistent watering and pruning out older less productive branches once they reach maturity.

Ribes Fruits

Gooseberries, Jostaberries, Clove Currants

These are some of the only plants that fruit well in shade. The fruits are strong flavored and many like them processed. They add unique depth to any dish. Gooseberries are heavily thorned, currants have no thorns, and jostaberries have no or only a few thorns.

Other Shrubs

Bush Cherry, Serviceberries, Mulberries, Hazelnut

Shrub form of all of these make them easier to harvest and net for bird and squirrel protection compared to their more common tree forms. Like the other shrubs pruning out older less productive wood once the shrubs are mature is the main care needed. Make sure to pick the hazelnuts in August when the husks are still green to avoid squirrels eating all your harvest.

Pests to Look Out For

Shrubs have much fewer disease and pest concerns than trees. No major pest concerns in the St. Louis area.

Squirrels and Birds - Birds love these small fruited berry crops and squirrels love hazelnuts.

Treatment: Make sure to pick as soon as fruit is ripe and pick often. Use netting. Humming line helps repel birds but not squirrels.

Timeline of Care

Spring

- For Serviceberry and Bush Cherry: Application of four holistic sprays (liquid fish, pure neem oil, effective microbes) every few weeks once leaves start emerging and ending once fruits have formed (Late February to Mid-May)

Summer

- Net bushes once fruit starts ripening if needed
- Harvest fruit

Fall

- Harvest fruit
- Apply a new layer of mulch to the base of the tree (November)
- Remove or shred all fallen leaves to prevent diseases from spreading (Mid-October to November)
- For Serviceberry and Bush Cherry: Fifth holistic spray once all leaves have been disposed of (November)
- Install tree wraps to protect trees from rabbits and voles (Late November)

Winter

- Remove any mummified fruit - although the local animals will probably help with this!
- Winter pruning

Seed St. Louis Recorded Classes and Resources

Holistic Sprays - Recipes and ingredients available to Giving Grove projects.

Orchard Class Recordings - Summer Pruning, Dormant Fruit Tree Pruning, Pest and Disease Management, and Harvest. Available on our YouTube channel.

Companion plant recommendations - Handout available on website

Our Store - Humming Line