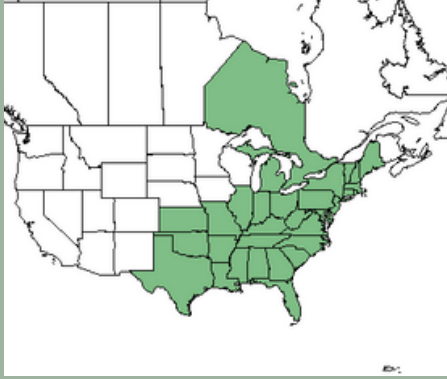


LaRC Nature Series



It's found in the South, along the East Coast, and Canada.



Its common name was derived from the Old English word "Dagwood", since its hardwood was used to make daggers.

Dogwoods are deciduous trees, meaning they shed their leaves in the fall.

They are great for rejuvenating soil, because the leaves decompose more quickly than many other kinds of leaves.

These trees can live up to 80 years and grow to a height of 40 feet.

The hardwood is extremely shock-resistant, and used to make spools, mallet heads, small pulleys, and jewelers blocks.

FLOWERING DOGWOOD

SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Cornus florida*

CLASS: Plant

CONSERVATION STATUS: Least concern



Native Americans used the aromatic bark and roots as a remedy for malaria and extracted a red dye from the roots.

The flowers may be white, pink, or yellow.

It has been the Virginia state flower since 1918 and the state tree since 1956.

Population

The Flowering Dogwood is endangered in Maine, vulnerable in New York, and threatened in Vermont, but thrives on the East Coast and into Canada.



The dogwood's red berries are poisonous to humans but important for wildlife.

For any wildlife-related concerns, please call the LaRC Environmental Office (Ande Remington) at 757-864-8332.

environmental.larc.nasa.gov

Data obtained from the National Wildlife Federation and the National Geographic.

○ — ○ **Fun Facts** ○ — ○