



Winter Flame Dogwood

Cornus sanguinea 'Winter Flame'

Dogwood Family (Cornaceae)

Zones: 4-8

Full Sun

Moderate Water

Location: Rose Garden

It is hard to find a more colorful winter interest shrub than Winter Flame Dogwood. This is a multi-stemmed, deciduous shrub with amazing winter color. It shows brightly its red-tipped, yellow branches flickering with orange after its leaves have fallen for the winter. Even as showy as it is during the winter months, this wonderful plant has year-round interest.

In late spring, when it blooms, small clusters of white flowers emerge on the ends of the stems. Some have claimed that flowers give off an offensive odor, but they are pleasant-looking all the same.

The form of the Winter Flame Dogwood is, for the most part, round with foliage that reaches all the way to the ground. In the summer, the leaves are oval and glossy green. It grows to approximately 5 feet in height and equally as wide. It also tolerates a range of soil conditions and once established, is fairly drought tolerant.

In late summer, it produces non-showy deep purple berries. In fall, the foliage turns a brilliant yellow.

It is best pruned in later winter and usually requires no other maintenance. Only prune after the second year after planting, otherwise the pruning may shock it too much.

The shrub is a good use for hedges and screenings, and is also deer resistant. When harvested, the cut branches are excellent in live and dried flower arrangements.