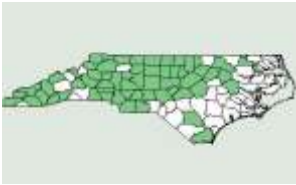


# **SILKY DOGWOOD**

*Cornus amomum*

*Though it's a wetland species that is most at home on a stream bank or swamp's edge in partial shade, silky dogwood does well in sunnier and drier locations. Massed along a stream, creek, or pond, it makes a beautiful and useful addition to the wildlife garden. Transplanting is easy, and poorly drained, heavy clay soils are not a problem.*



**Description:** Large deciduous perennial shrub with 2 to 4" elliptical leaves. Flat-topped clusters of small cream-colored flowers appear in May and June. Small blue, berry-like drupes mature in August and September. Leaves are often plum-colored in fall.

**Natural Habitat:** Found in much of the Eastern U.S.

**Conservation status:** Endangered in Indiana.

**Size:** 6 to 10' tall and wide.

**Growth Rate:** Moderate.

**Light:** Full sun to part shade.

**Planting and Care:** Although plants thrive in moist, partially shaded sites, they also tolerate drier, sunnier conditions.

**Ornamental Value:** Interesting maroon-colored twigs, clusters of creamy flowers in late spring, and blue fruits in late summer.

**Landscape Usage:** Mass along stream banks to control erosion or woodland edges.

**Wildlife Benefits:** A variety of birds eat the fruits, and deer browse on the leaves.