

Scientific Name: *Cotinus obovatus*

Common Name: American Smoketree

Environmental Conditions:

Hardiness Zone: 5a

Soil Moisture:

VERY WET			VERY DRY								
occasionally saturated or very wet soil			consistently moist, well drained soil			occasional periods of dry soil			prolonged periods of dry soil		
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12

Sun/Shade: full sun

Salt: unknown

pH: ≤ 8.2

Insect/Disease Factors: none serious or limiting

Growth Characteristics:

Height: 20'-30'

Width: 15'-30'

Form/Habit: oval to rounded, low branching tendency and absent central leader creates very short trunk, single-stem tree form is available (although rare), must specify single-stemmed tree form if desirable as it is most often available in multi-stemmed large upright shrub form

Rate: medium

Ornamental Characteristics:

Flower: greenish to pale purple, on 6"-10" long, light/airy pyramidal clusters, spring

Fruit: individually inconspicuous and not ornamentally important, often sparse fruit production, but tan clusters can be attractive when fruiting, 'smoky' appearance due to silky hairs on sterile flowers in cluster, although not as showy as *C. coggygia* – Smoke Bush

Seasonal Foliage Color: new growth emerges bright light green, blue-green to dark green in summer, fall color variable and mixed (yellow, orange, red or red-purple) but reliably bright and excellent

Bark: attractive, gray to gray-brown, becoming scaly with age

Other: stems often orangeish

Transplant Issues: difficult to transplant B&B or bare root

Management Issues: low branch attachments may require pruning for street tree use

Suggested Uses: wide street tree lawns/pits, narrow street tree lawns/pits with pruning, parks

Cultivars: none commercially available