

Viburnum lantana, Wayfaring Tree

Another invasive viburnum that was used for landscaping, Wayfaring tree has been reported at Saratoga Battlefield National Park in the Capital-Mohawk Region.

Population Status: Confirmed- Saratoga Co., Historical- Columbia Co.

Description: This tree ranges from eight to fifteen feet tall and shares the opposite leaves of other viburnums. These leaves are simple with small teeth and have a wrinkled appearance. They are very pubescent, fuzzy to the touch much like Linden Viburnum. The fruits come out yellow, becoming red and black as the season progresses and will most likely be of uniform color on the same cluster. The fruit is dispersed by birds most likely and grows best in alkaline soils. Bark is grey to brown.

Control: Small plants can be hand-pulled.

Look-alikes: Leatherleaf Viburnum (non-native) has evergreen leaves that have deeply inset veins.

Flower Time and Description: The flowers come out in spring and grow in flat-topped or slightly domed clusters, with a sometimes unpleasant smell. The flowers are hermaphroditic but are still pollinated by insects.

