

Viburnum opulus,
European Cranberry Viburnum

Also known as Guelder-rose, this viburnum has been seen near the towns of Amsterdam and Hoosick in the Capital-Mohawk region. It has traditionally been grown for the ornamental value of its flowers and berries.

Population Status: Confirmed- Montgomery, Rensselaer Co.'s, Unconfirmed- Albany Co.

Description: This shrub grows 13-16 feet tall and has opposite, three-lobed leaves with a rounded base. The leaves also have coarsely serrated margins with a wrinkled surface. The fruits are bright red and grow in clusters, which then have their seeds dispersed by birds.

Control: Small plants can be hand-pulled.

Look-alikes: Other species of Viburnum look somewhat like European Cranberry Viburnum, such as the Double-filed Viburnum. (Invasive, Tier 1) The three-lobed leaf of Guelder-rose is the primary identification factor. It has no relation to actual Cranberry.

Flower Time and Description: The flowers come out at the top of the stems and like Double-filed Viburnum, has a group of showy, sterile flowers that surround and inner section of fertile flowers. This flowering body comes out in early summer.

