



# Buttonbush

*Cephalanthus occidentalis*

**Plant Description** – Native, shrub, deciduous, perennial

**Height:** 6 – 12 ft **Width/Spread:** 4 – 8 ft



## Leaves

**Shape:** Ovate

**Arrangement:** Opposite

**Margin:** Entire/Smooth

**Form:** Simple

**Leaf Description:** Leaves are 2-6 inches long and 1-3 inches wide; Long and narrow with a pointed tip and a rounded base; Top surface is glossy while underside of the leaf is more dull; Leaves are paired or in groups of 3

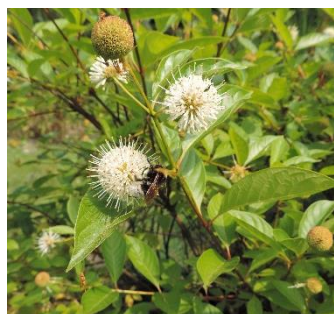
## Flower/Bloom

**Flower Color:** White, Tan, Pink

**Flower Shape:** Funnelform

**In Bloom:** June - Sep

**Flower Description:** Flowers have 4-5 petals each and are small and occur in round, white ball-like clusters that are around 1 inch in diameter; Flowers resemble a pincushion due to the pistils of the flower sticking out beyond the rest of the flower; Fragrant with a sweet odor



## Fruits & Seeds

**Spreads via:** Seeds

**Seed Type:** Fruit – Nut

**Months in Seed:** Fall - Winter

**Fruit and Seed Description:** Reddish brown pyramid-shaped nutlets that occur in pairs of two; Occur in rounded masses that persist through the winter

## Ecological Benefits

Food source for Butterflies, Hummingbirds, Native Bees, Other Pollinators, Other Birds including ducks, waterbirds, and shorebirds

## Maintenance Notes

Dormant in winter; Flowers can be cut for an indoor vase; Pruning is not generally necessary; Gather seeds in late summer before seed heads fall apart; Can be propagated with stem cuttings; Until established, water two times per week during the summer and once per week during the rest of the year.