



Viburnum Leaf Beetle Citizen Science

How to identify viburnums

Express Key

Is it a Viburnum?

1A1. If the plant is a vine (low and trailing along the ground), you do not have a viburnum.

1A2. If the plant is a shrub (many stems) or small tree about 3 to 12 feet tall, **go to 2A.**

2A1. If the leaves alternate on the twig, you do not have a viburnum.

2A2. If the leaves are opposite each other on the twig, **go to 3A.**

3A1. If the leaf is compound (three or more leaflets), it is not a viburnum.

3A2. If the leaf is simple (one main part), **go to 4A.**

4A1. If the leaf is lobed (divided into three or more segments, resembling a maple leaf), go to 5A.

4A2. If the leaf is not lobed (not divided into segments) **go to 5B.**

5A1. If the petiole (leaf stem) is without stipules (fang-like appendages at the base) it is not a viburnum.

5A2. If the petiole has stipules, you have a viburnum. Go below to **Which viburnum is it?**

5B1. If the twigs have corky ridges you do not have a viburnum

5B2. If the twigs do not have corky ridges **go to 6A.**

Make a long tapered cut in the twig.

6A1. If the inside of the stem is hollow or chambered you do not have a viburnum.

6A2. If the inside of the stem is solid **go to 7A.**

Look at the twig between the petioles (leaf stems) - best seen on newest growth.

7A1. If the base of the petioles are **not connected** by a line, you do not have a viburnum.

7A2. If the base of the petioles are **connected** by a line, **go to 8A.**

Look for fruit, or dried flower/seed heads.

8A1. If the fruiting structure is a dry flower or capsule, you do not have a viburnum.

8A2. If the fruiting structure is a red, blue or black berry, **go to 9A.**

9A1. If the leaf margin is entire (smooth) **and** the underside is glabrous (smooth) you do not have a viburnum.

9A2. If the leaf margin has serrations (teeth) or if the margin is smooth but the underside is pubescent (velvety covering), go below to **Which viburnum is it?**

Which viburnum is it?

1A1. If your leaf is divided into lobes (segments, resembling a maple leaf) **go to 2A.**

1A2. If your leaf is orbicular (rounded) or ovate to broad ovate (egg to wide egg shape), **go to 2B.**

1A3. If your leaf is elliptic (football) or oblong-ovate (long and narrow shaped), **go to 2C.**

2A1. If the underside of the leaf has black dots your species is *Viburnum acerifolium*.

2A2. If there are glands (bumps) on petiole (leaf stem) **and** pubescent (hairs – under magnification) veins on the underside of the leaf, your species is *Viburnum opulus*.

2A3. If there are glands on the petiole **and** the veins on the underside of the leaf are without hairs, your species is *Viburnum sargentii*.

2B1. If the teeth on the leaf margin are closely spaced, 10 or more teeth in the width of a dime, **go to 3A.**

2B2. If the teeth are widely spaced, 9 or fewer teeth within the width of a dime, **go to 3B.**

2B3. If the leaf margin has obscure, indistinct or no teeth **go to 3C.**

3A1. If your leaf has dense pubescence (velvety tufts under magnification) on the underside of the along the veins, your species is *Viburnum lantanoides*.

3A2. If your leaf does **not** have pubescence on the underside, **go to 4A.**

4A1. If the petiole (leaf stem) has wavy margins, your species is *Viburnum lentago*.

4A2. If the petiole is without wavy margins, your species is *Viburnum prunifolium*.

3B1. If your leaf is pubescent (velvety tufts under magnification) on the underside, **go to 4B.**

3B2. If your leaf does not have pubescence on the underside, **go to 4C.**

4B1. If the length of the petiole (leaf stem) is less than the width of a dime, **go to 5A.**

4B2. If the length of the petiole is greater than the width of a dime, **go to 5B.**

5A1. If the leaf veins extend beyond the margin, your species is *Viburnum carlesii*. (*Viburnum x carlcephalum* is very similar.)

5A2. If the leaf veins do not extend beyond the margin, your species is *Viburnum macrocephalum*.

5B1. If your leaf has less than 9 secondary leaf veins on one side of the midrib (main central vein), your species is *Viburnum lantana*.

5B2. If your leaf has 9 or more secondary leaf veins on one side of the midrib, your species is *Viburnum plicatum* var. *tomentosum*.

4C1. If the twigs are smooth, **go to 5C.**

4C2. If the twigs are hairy, **go to 5D.**

5C1. If your leaf has brown dots on the underside, especially along the veins (under magnification) **and** the teeth are rounded, your species is *Viburnum cassinoides*.

5C2. If your leaf does not have brown dots on the underside, your species is *Viburnum dentatum*.

5C2. If your leaf has brown dots on the underside **and** the teeth are sharp pointed, go to *Viburnum wrightii*.

5D1. If your leaf does not have 2 to 4 circular glands at the base of the underside, your species is *Viburnum dentatum*.

5D2. If your leaf has 2 to 4 circular glands at the base of the underside, your species is *Viburnum dilatatum*.

3C1. If your leaf is more rounded, your species is *Viburnum carlesii*.

3C2. If your leaf has few, if any teeth, your species is *Viburnum x burkwoodii*.

3C3. If the leaf is egg shape, your species is *Viburnum x carlcephalum*.

2C1. If the teeth are closely spaced, 10 or more within the width of a dime, **go to 3D**.

2C2. If the leaf teeth are widely spaced, 9 or fewer within the width of a dime, **go to 3E**.

2C3. If the edge of the leaf has obscure, indistinct or no teeth **go to 3F**.

3D1. If the petiole (leaf stem) has wavy margins, your species is *Viburnum lentago*.

3D2. If the petiole is without wavy margins, your species is *Viburnum prunifolium*.

3E1. If the underside of the leaf is pubescent (velvety tufts under magnification) **go to 4D**.

3E2. If the underside of the leaf is not pubescent, **go to 4E**.

4D1. If your leaf has 9 or more secondary leaf veins on one side of the midrib (main central vein), your species is *Viburnum plicatum* var. *tomentosum*.

4D2. If your leaf has are fewer than 9 secondary leaf veins on one side of the midrib, **go to 5E**.

5E1. If the petiole (leaf stem) is longer than the width of a dime, your species is *Viburnum lantana*.

5E2. If the petiole is shorter than the width of a dime **and** the teeth are distinct, your species is *Viburnum macrocephalum* (*Viburnum x carlcephalum* is very similar.)

5E3. If the petiole is shorter than the width of a dime **and** the teeth are small or irregular your species is *Viburnum x juddii*.

4E1. If the leaf has brown dots on the underside (under magnification), **go to 5F**.

4E2. If the does not have brown dots on the underside **go to 5G**.

5F1. If the leaf has brown dots mostly along the veins on the underside (under magnification), your species is **Viburnum cassinoides**.

5F2. If the leaf smells like burnt rubber when crushed, your species is **Viburnum sieboldii**.

5G1. If your leaf has 2 to 4 circular glands at the base of the underside, your species is *Viburnum dilatatum*.

5G2. If the leaf base is cuneate (long taper), your species is *Viburnum farreri*.

5G3. If the leaf base is rounded, your species is *Viburnum setigerum*.

5G4. If the leaf smells like burnt rubber when crushed, your species is *Viburnum sieboldii*.

3F1. If the leaf is less than 3 inches long **go to 4F**.

3F2. If the leaf is more than 3 inches long **go to 4G**.

4F1. If the twig is smooth (under magnification), your species is *Viburnum cassinoides*.

4F2. If the top of leaf is smooth (under magnification), your species is *Viburnum utile*.

4F3. If there are sparse teeth along the margin **and** the twig is hairy (under magnification), your species is *Viburnum x burkwoodii*.

4G1. If the leaf has brown dots on the underside (under magnification), your species is *Viburnum cassinoides*.

4G2. If the leaves are deeply wrinkled, your species is *Viburnum rhytidophyllum*.

4G3. If the leaves are less wrinkled your species is *Viburnum x rhytidophylloides*.

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