

The Flowering Dogwood is a common tree that grows beneath taller trees, making an understory tree. It grows to be between 30 and 35 feet high and 25 to 30 feet wide with a short trunk, which has a diameter of about 2 feet. The leaves on a Flowering Dogwood usually grow to 6 inches and longer with a width between 4 and 6 inches wide. The leaves, which have an entire margin, are oppositely arranged, simple and are ovately shaped. They are bright green on top and pale green underneath. Heading into the Fall, the leaves turn a maroon color.



The flowers on a Flowering Dogwood are beautiful when in bloom. They display a large, wide spread with 4 white bracts, sometimes with a hint of pink, while the actual small flowers are yellow.

In the late Summer and early Fall, the fruits on a Flowering Dogwood hang in clusters are a bright red. These drupes are typically a half inch long. Various animals eat the fruit and help distribute the seeds in the droppings.

Cornus florida

Family, Genus and Species

The Flowering Dogwood (*Cornus florida*) is in the genus *Cornus*, which is in the *Cornaceae* family.

Location

The Flowering Dogwood is often located as far north as Maine to as far south as northern Florida. There is known to have been a few located in parts of Mexico such as Nuevo Leon and Veracruz.

Cultivation

The flowers on the Flowering Dogwood typically bloom in early spring, near late March. They usually do best in shaded areas where the soil is moist.



Flowering Dogwood

Tree number 2 on Miami's Tree Walk

Found on the south western side of Shriver Center

