Native Plant of the Year:
Northern Bayberry
Morella pensylvanica (Synonym: Myrica pensylvanica)

Unique Characteristics
This versatile shrub tolerates a wide range of soil and growing conditions, including drought and salt spray. Northern Bayberry should be planted in groups to ensure fruiting.

*This plant is recommended for landscapes prone to deer damage.*

**Plant type:** deciduous shrub

**Native range:** Eastern North America

**Sun:** full sun to part shade

**Water:** dry to medium

**Soil:** tolerates a wide range of soils; roots have nitrogen-fixing bacteria which enable the plants to grow on soils that are very poor in nitrogen content.

**pH:** 5.5 to 7.8

**Height:** 6 to 10 feet

**Spread:** 3 to 7

**Wildlife:** provides food and shelter for birds, especially the yellow-rumped warbler

**Hardiness zones:** 3 to 7

**Bloom time:** May

**Bloom color:** yellow

**Uses:** erosion control; the fragrant fruit provides winter interest and can be used to make aromatic candles; can be used as an alternative to Privet (*Ligustrum* spp.).