Buttonbush
*Cephalanthus occidentalis*

**Unique Characteristics**

Shrub or small tree with showy flowers and fruit that grow well under diverse conditions and provide winter interest. Pruning is usually not necessary. Bees and butterflies use nectar for honey.

**Plant Type:** Deciduous shrub  
**Native Range:** North America and Cuba  
**Sun:** Full sun to part shade  
**Water:** Medium to wet  
**Soil:** Sandy, loamy soils and favors acidic or neutral soils  
**pH:** 4.7 to 8.6  
**Height:** 5 to 12 feet  
**Spread:** 4 to 8 feet  
**Wildlife:** Seeds eaten by waterfowl  
**Hardiness Zones:** 5 to 9  
**Bloom Time:** June  
**Bloom Color:** White flowers  
**Companion Plant:** Black Willow (*Salix nigra*)  
**Uses:** Erosion control along shorelines, popular choice for use in native plant gardens and water gardens

Photos courtesy of Ann McCulloh (top), Bobbie Schwartz (bottom left), and Constance Hausman (bottom right)