**Spicebush**
*Lindera benzoin*

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**Unique Characteristics**

Spicebush is a deer-resistant shrub with early-season nectar for butterflies and bright red berries for migratory birds. The common name refers to the sweet, spicy fragrance of the stems, leaves and fruits when bruised. The spicebush swallowtail lays its eggs on spicebush.

**Plant Type:** Deciduous shrub

**Native Range:** Eastern United States

**Sun:** Full shade to partial sun

**Water:** Medium

**Soil:** Light (sandy), medium (loamy) and heavy (clay) soils

**pH:** 4.5 to 6

**Height:** 6 to 12 feet

**Spread:** 6 to 12 feet

**Wildlife:** Spicebush Swallowtail, Promethea Silkmoth larvae, birds

**Hardiness Zones:** 4 to 9

**Bloom Time:** Late March to April

**Bloom Color:** Greenish-yellow

**Fruit:** Showy, oval-shaped bright red in summer to fall

**Reproduction:** Dioecious (male and female flowers on separate plants)

**Uses:** Hedge, rain garden, native plant gardens, shrub borders, shade or woodland gardens. Fruit used to make applesauce. Leaves and twigs made into tea.

**Tolerates:** Deer, drought, heavy shade, clay soil