



Native Plant of the Year: **Common Witchhazel** *Hamamelis virginiana*



Photos courtesy of Judy Semroc (above) and Brian Parsons (below)

Unique Characteristics

This large shrub is recognized for its distinctively long crooked branches. Brilliant gold-colored flowers appear in the fall and continue throughout the winter. The seeds are ejected with a “snapping” sound.

Plant Type:	Deciduous shrub
Native Range:	Northeast and southeast North America
Sun:	Full sun to part shade
Water:	Medium
Soil Requirements:	Well-drained; tolerates clay soil
pH:	4.5-6.2
Height:	15 to 20 feet
Spread:	15 to 20 feet
Wildlife:	Wood thrush and flycatchers use low branches for nesting sites
Hardiness Zones:	3 to 8
Bloom Time:	October to December
Bloom Color:	Yellow sometimes with an orange or red tinge
Uses:	Hedge, rain garden, winter interest, use of forked branches as divining rods, bark and leaves used for medicinal purposes, tea from its leaves

