

# American Plum

## *Prunus americana*

Height: 15-25' | Spread: 15-25' | Light: ☀️-🌑 | Moisture: dry to medium, well-drained

American plum is a popular residential landscape tree with fragrant, white flowers in early spring. Late-summer fruits are sweet and juicy, making excellent jams, jellies, preserves and pies. The plums can also be halved, then pitted and dried like prunes, spread in a thin sheet and dried as fruit leather. Fall leaf color ranges from electric red to pale yellow. Regular removal of suckers, or branches growing from the base of the tree, is sometimes necessary to prevent unwanted spread. Trees provide valuable nesting cover and are a host to many butterflies. They tolerate drought, dry soil, and black walnut trees (produces allelopathic chemicals that inhibit the growth of other plants).



Photos courtesy of Bugwood.org (Clockwise from top left): T. Davis Sydnor, The Ohio State University; James R. Holland; James R. Holland; William M. Ciesla, Forest Health Management International.