

Hardhack

*Spiraea douglasii*Rose Family (*Rosaceae*)

General Description: A medium-sized shrub, erect and leggy. It grows in dense thickets up to 8ft high. It has few competitors and although it is a native, it can be very invasive in wetland areas.

Key Characteristics: Alternately arranged, small, oval shaped, and white haired buds. Dark brown bark. Cluster of dark brown dried seeds remains on tip of branch throughout winter.

Confused With: Commonly confused with Oceanspray, however the buds of Spirea have small white hairs.

Photo: Joe Bettis