NANNYBERRY VIBURNUM CARE

LIGHT

Nannyberry (Viburnum lentago) grows in sun to partial shade. An open position gives room for a large shrub or small tree. Plan for its mature framework and root spread instead of planting it beneath low windows or where a tightly clipped shrub is required.

WATER

Water the original root ball and nearby soil deeply when they begin to dry. New shrubs need regular checks during the first seasons, even when established plants tolerate some drought. Continue checking during dry autumn weather. Avoid frequent shallow sprinkling and prolonged waterlogging.

SOIL & PLANTING

Use moist, well-drained garden soil and keep the root flare at the surface. Nannyberry adapts to a range of soils once established. Apply mulch over the root area without touching the trunk. Allow for suckers and a spreading colony where a naturalistic planting is wanted.

FEEDING

Base feeding on a soil test and the shrub's vigor. Heavy nitrogen can produce leafy growth without improving flowering or fruit set. Check moisture, drainage, and root competition before increasing fertilizer. Keep any recommended fertilizer off the trunk and follow the product's labeled rate.

SEASONAL CARE

Decide early whether to keep a multi-stem shrub or develop a small-tree form. Remove unwanted basal shoots and damaged branches selectively, preserving a sound framework. Shape after flowering when possible. Avoid routine topping, and remember that removing flower-bearing wood can also reduce the autumn fruit display.

HELPFUL TIPS

White spring flowers are followed by darkening fruit and fall color. Genetically different, compatible plants may improve fruiting. Nannyberry is distinct from blackhaw viburnum despite overlapping common names. Powdery mildew is more likely in shaded, crowded sites, so maintain airflow rather than repeatedly wetting the foliage.