POLLINATION FAQs

General Information On the Pollination Requirements of Select Plants

Bayberry (Myrica spp.)

• Bayberry are dioecious, meaning that plants have either male or female flowers
• Females will bear fruit, but there must be a male in the vicinity (closer is always better) to serve as the pollinator

Blackberry & Raspberry (Rubus spp.)

• Plants are monoeccious, meaning that both female and male flowers appear on the same plant; one plant is adequate for fruit set
• Often bee pollinated, but can be self-pollinating unless otherwise noted

Blueberry & Cranberry (Vaccinium spp.)

• Generally it is better to have at least one other variety or clone for blueberries to produce fruit; you will always have bigger and better fruit set when planting multiples
• There are a few varieties (not always available) that will produce fruit even when you have only one plant
• Many people like to plan their varietal plantings around when the plants will bear, often having a mix of early-, mid-, and late-season crops
• Cranberries are bee pollinated almost exclusively. Plants will have both male and female portions of the flower, but they are typically not active at the same time; generally best to have multiples

Cherry & Plum (Prunus spp.)

• Black Cherry is self-pollinating, requiring only one tree to produce fruit; SEED SHOULD NOT BE CONSUMED
• Plums require cross-pollination in order to bear fruit; generally best to have multiples

Crabapple (Malus spp.)

• Crabapple is self-pollinating, requiring only one tree to produce fruit
Grape (Vitis)

- Grapes are self-pollinating, requiring only one plant to produce fruit

Hazelnut (Corylus spp.)

- Requires cross-pollination in order to bear; generally best to have multiples

Holly (Ilex opaca, Ilex verticillata spp.)

- Holly are dioecious, meaning that plants have either male or female flowers; some varieties of female winterberry (Ilex vert.) require a specific male for pollination, please check our signage for more detailed information
- Females will bear fruit, but there must be a male in the vicinity (within 50-100 yards, however closer is always better).
- One male is typically able to pollinate up to 10 females

Paw Paw (Asimina spp.)

- Requires cross pollination (multiples) to ensure more vigorous fruit set and production; primary pollinators are flies and beetles (rarely bees!)
- It may take 3-4 years for a tree to reach a mature enough size to bear fruit

Persimmon (Diospyros spp.)

- Persimmon trees are dioecious, meaning that trees have either male or female flowers; generally best to have multiples
- Female trees will bear fruit, but there must be a male tree in the vicinity to serve as the pollinator (within 200-300 yards, however closer is always better)
- Flowers are white and shaped like tiny barrels (similar to blueberry flowers); female flowers typically appear singly, while male flowers appear in clusters of three; occasionally both female and male flowers will appear on the same tree

Serviceberry (Amelanchier spp.)

- Serviceberry is self-pollinating, requiring only one tree to produce fruit
- It may take 3-4 years for a tree to reach a mature enough size to bear fruit