

SEASIDE ALDER

Alnus maritima

Located in marshes and along pond shores and stream banks in the coastal areas of Delaware and Maryland.

A shrub or a small tree reaching a height of 10 m and with trunk diameter of 15 cm; bark reddish-brown. Leaves are oblong or oval, tapering at the base; edges with fine teeth; dark green above, pale green below. Flowers bloom from late August through September. Male catkins are slender as in the picture above. Female cones (not shown) mature in second year and resemble those of *A. serrulata*, but in clusters of only 2 or 3.

The buds, catkins and seeds may be eaten by game and song birds; twigs and foliage eaten by beaver, hare, deer, moose and other browsers. In addition, the dense thickets provide cover from predators.





Notes