## Types of Hydrangeas at Dunn Gardens

**July 2017**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Photo</th>
<th>Name. If cultivar at Dunn (Station # where found at Dunn)</th>
<th>Flower and leaf look</th>
<th>When to prune</th>
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<td>![Photo]</td>
<td><strong>H. macrophylla</strong>, Bigleaf Hydrangea or Hortensia, the florist hydrangea [sometimes referred to as mopheads or lacecaps]**</td>
<td><strong>Mopheads</strong> or hortensia: Inflorescence in large, globose corymbs, essentially sterile flowers with small fertile flowers hidden beneath the large outer sepals. Outer sepals in multitude of colors from white to pink to blue depending on acidity, blue if high, pink if low. All long-lasting, showy.</td>
<td>Blooms on old wood of previous season OR in late summer from ends of laterals produced in late summer or fall, prune after flowering in either case. Prune back to a developing bud or by 1/3 of the length of the stem on thin, older, woodier shoots. Plant with morning sun and light afternoon shade or sun. Require abundant moisture.</td>
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| ![Photo] | **Mopheads**:  
Altona, blooms red-purple (9)  
Enziandom (at left), blooms vivid pink (1)  
Hamburg, blooms deep, creamy pink (6)  
Mme Emile Mouillere, blooms white to pale pink (2)  
Purple Gem (at left), blooms deep reddish purple (10)  
Souvenir de President Doumer (at left), blooms pink, blue or lavender (10) | **Lacecaps**: Inflorescence are slightly domed outer ring of sterile sepals sometimes mixed with fertile flowers, and a center of and delicate fertile, non-showy florets. | |
| ![Photo] | **Lacecaps**:  
Mariesii (at left), blooms white to pink (7)  
Teller White, blooms white (9)-a lacecap series from Switzerland | **Leaf**:  
Opposite, thickish, 4- to 8-inch, obovate to elliptic leaves lustrous medium to dark green, coarsely serrate with triangular teeth. | |
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| ![H. macrophylla 'Endless Summer'](image) | *H. macrophylla* ‘Endless Summer’ (at left) is a remontant or reblooming variety of mopheads. Blooms blue on acid soils, pink on alkaline, but always light in intensity of color  
  Inflorescence up to 9” with florets like mopheads. Regularly reblooms if deadheaded. | **Blooms on both old and new wood.** Mophead varieties benefit from early spring pruning so old spent flowers can provide some protection from frost in winter. | |
| ![H. anomala subsp. petiolaris](image) | *H. anomala* subsp. petiolaris – **Climbing Hydrangea**  
  Blooms creamy-white (12)  
  Growing on trees in many places with flakey, exfoliating bark.  
  Outer, sterile flowers composed of 3-5 sepals (versus single sepal of *Schizophragma*), inner white flowers are fertile & fragrant.  
  Leaf: Opposite, broad-ovate, 2 to 4-inch long and wide, serrate, dark green and lustrous above, paler below. | **Blooms on old wood,** so prune after flowering. It may need help attaching, but will leave residue on a wall or brick surface.  
  Control climbing by pruning.  
  Look for peeling, shaggy stems creating a trellis effect around climbing surface. | |
| ![H. arborescens](image) | *H. arborescens* – **Smooth Hydrangea**  
  **Example:** Annabelle, not found at Dunn  
  Dull white, all fertile flowers on 4-6” corymb, colors fade from green to white to brown.  
  Leaf: Opposite, ovate to elliptic, 2 to 8-inches long, 2 to 6 inches wide, serrate, dark green. | **Blooms on new wood,** prune late winter or early spring. Recommend removing spent flowers and may re-flower with smaller ones.  
  Prefers part shade, and sun if moisture sufficient. | |

*corymb*: inflorescence with flowers growing in such a fashion that the outermost are on longer pedicels than those in the middle, bringing all flowers up to a common level. Hydrangeas tend to flower in flat-topped corymb. Some exceptions are *H. quercifolia* (oak leaf) and *H. paniculata* (panicle). [PKriese]
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| ![Photo](image1).jpg | *H. involucrata* – *Lacecap Hydrangea*  
Tama Azisai (at left), blooms pink to lilac (1)  
Yokudanka (bud at left), blooms creamy white to pink/coral/apricot (1) | 3-5” lacecap flowers from a giant, peony-like bud and 3-5-inch corymbs of white, pink and blue sepals.  
**Leaf:**  
Opposite, finely bristle-tipped serrated, medium green 3 to 6-inch 1 to 2 ½-inch leaf, | **Blooms on new wood,** prune early spring. |
| ![Photo](image2).jpg | *H. paniculata* – *Panicle Hydrangea,* the Giant of the Genus  
Greenspire (at left), blooms greenish white changing to pink (10)  
Limelight, blooms bright lime green (10)  
Pink Diamond (at left), blooms white to rich pink (10)  
Ruby, blooms white to light pink (10) | 6- to 8-inch long pyramidal panicle changes from white to pink to purple-pink. Bulk of the flowers are fertile, fragrant and not showy. Few to many showy, sterile flowers. Flowers last through the long transformation of colors.  
**Leaf:**  
Opposite, sometimes whorled; 3 to 6-inch long, 1 ½ to 3-inch wide, elliptic or ovate, serrated edge in dark green, covered with soft hairs and bristles on underside. | **Blooms on new wood,** prune very late fall as turning brown or very early spring.  
Site in sun or partial shade. Very hardy. |

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| ![H. serrata](image1.jpg) | **H. serrata** – **Mountain Hydrangea** [formerly with H. Macrophylla lacecaps]  
Benigaku, at left, blooms white to red in sunlight; fertile flowers blue-lilac (2, 4)  
Lacecaps more compact that *H. macrophylla*. Blue or pink flattened flower heads.  
**Leaf:** Opposite, lanceolate, 2 to 6 inches long, serrate, dark green with short or curly hairs beneath, and reddish color in fall.  
Blooms on old wood of previous season, prune after flowering. | | |
| ![H. hybrid](image2.jpg) | **H. hybrid** [H. serrata x H. macrophylla]  
Sweet Carol (at left), blooms lilac pink to bluish with white eye on sterile sepals when young (10)  
Recent hybrid with large lacecap-like inflorescence like *macrophylla* but hardy like *serrata*.  
**Leaf:** deeply serrated dark green leaves turn merlot color in fall.  
Blooms on old wood of previous season, prune after flowering. | | |
| ![Schizophragma hydrangeoides](image3.jpg) | **Schizophragma hydrangeoides** – **Japanese hydrangea vine**  
Blooms creamy-white (13)  
Growing on trees in many places with longitudinally splitting bark.  
Inflorescence with small sprays of flowers with showy single, ovate, white sterile florets to 2” resembling lacecaps.  
Distinguish from *H. petiolaris* by solitary sepal of the sterile flowers.  
**Leaf:** Opposite, coarsely dentate, dark green with 1 to 3-inch reddish petiole.  
A vigorous, woody root climber to 36 ft, attaches with aerial roots. Flowers best in sunny location.  
Look for smooth surfaced, aerial roots attaching closely to climbing surface. | | |

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[PKriese]