

Manzanita (Arctostaphylos)

The Manzanita shrub or tree is part of the evergreen family and is common in some parts of Arizona as well as in many places throughout western North America. It is easily recognized by its red and mahogany colored branches that intertwine and form a variety of strange shapes and designs. Some Manzanita species grow edible leaves, berries, and flowers, while some have claimed that it helps with poison oak rash. The berries and flowers attract a wide range of animals and insects.

Some fun facts:

- The literal translation of Manzanita is *little apple* in Spanish.
- *Arctostaphylos hookeri* (Presidio Manzanita) is the most endangered and restricted plant in the continental United States.

