

**Re-establishing Juneberries on the Fort Berthold Indian Reservation
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Juneberry: *Amelanchier alnifolia*

Sometimes commonly referred to as Saskatoon berry or Serviceberry.

Before the flooding of our bottomlands along the Missouri River on the Fort Berthold, our area was rich in abundance of juneberries. Juneberries were a natural food and a way of life for centuries. But after the flooding caused by the Corps of Engineers and the Garrison Dam, we lost a high percentage of our juneberries and we no longer had the ample fruits we always had.

The Fort Berthold Community College has two plots of approximately five hundred each in White Shield. They also have a plot in Mandaree and New Town with approximately five hundred trees also.

June berries are considerably higher in nutrients than other berries such a blue berries. Historically, they grew in the wild and became abundant through time, finding the best ground to make roots in . Today, we have to conduct research to investigate ideal juneberry establishment conditions. Such conditions would be soil types, topography, which direction slopes are, water needs, land availability, and actual planting and monitoring.

The plan to re-establish juneberries on Fort Berthold is fittingly grounded and in effect. With Forth Berthold Community College (FBCC)'s involvement, and community awareness, support, and participation, this vision is well within grasp.