



# Rose Maritime Shrubland

**State Rank S4**

## Community Description

Medium height shrubs (1-2 m) usually cover 30-60% but may form dense thickets. Bayberry and roses are characteristic; raspberry and poison ivy are frequent associates. On some islands, shrublands are dominated by raspberry or bush-honeysuckle, with little or no bayberry or rose. Wild-raisin and winterberry may occur in more protected or moist pockets. Lowbush blueberry and northern dewberry are occasional as dwarf shrubs. Herbs grow in sometimes extensive patches among the shrubs and include salt tolerant shore species such as beach grass, beach-pea, sea-beach sandwort, seabeach angelica, and seaside goldenrod. Bryoids are absent, except for small amounts of lichens in some areas.

## Soil and Site Characteristics

The islands where this type occurs are exposed to onshore winds and salt spray; sometimes covering extensive areas on stabilized dunes or rocky islands. Except on dunes, soils are thin, usually less than 25 cm deep, and acidic (pH 4.8-5.5).



Virginia Rose

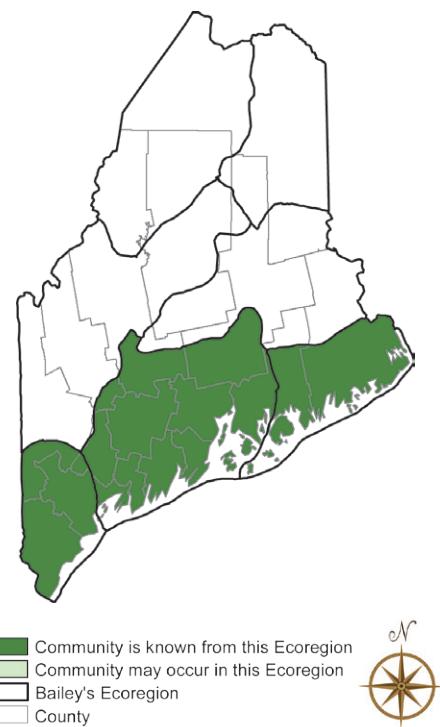
## Diagnostics

This type is typified by a seaside setting and dominance of upland shrubs (> about 1 m tall), particularly bayberry and roses, with cover >20%.

## Similar Types

Crowberry - Bayberry Headlands can share many species, but have dwarf shrub cover more abundant than taller shrub cover and lack poison-ivy. Other sandy beach community types can be adjacent to Rose - Bayberry Maritime Shrublands and share some species, but have different physiognomy: Pitch Pine Dune Woodlands have a tree canopy of >25%; Dune Grasslands are dominated by grasses, not shrubs; and Beach Strands are sparsely vegetated with herbs and no shrubs.

## Location Map



Bayberry Leaves

## Characteristic Plants

These plants are frequently found in this community type. Those with an asterisk are often diagnostic of this community.

### Sapling/shrub

Bayberry\*  
Bush-honeysuckle\*  
Meadowsweet\*  
Poison-ivy\*  
Red raspberry\*  
Rugosa rose\*  
Virginia rose\*  
Winterberry holly\*

### Dwarf Shrub

Large cranberry\*  
Lowbush blueberry\*

### Herb

Beach grass\*  
Canada mayflower\*  
Greene's rush\*  
New York aster  
Rough-stemmed goldenrod  
Sea-beach angelica  
Wire rush  
Yarrow

## Associated Rare Plants

Beach plum  
Small saltmarsh aster

## Examples on Conservation Lands You Can Visit

- Little Duck Island- Hancock Co.
- North Libby Island Wildlife Management Area - Washington Co.
- Popham Beach State Park - Sagadahoc Co.
- Seawall Beach, Morse Mountain Preserve - Sagadahoc Co.
- Stratton Island - York Co.

## Distribution

Along Maine's immediate coastline and islands (Laurentian Mixed Forest Province).

Landscape Pattern: Small Patch