

Cercis canadensis

Redbud

Height: 20' to 30'

Spread: 25' to 35'

Sun: Prefers part sun but will grow in full sun to shade

Soil Moisture: Mesic to dry. Avoid inundated soils.

Soil Types: Loam, clay-loam, or some rocky material

Bloom Time: April, one of the first trees to bloom

Bloom Description: Very showy, pea-like, pink to light purple blooms appear in clusters over the entire tree before the leaves emerge. It can remain attractive up to a month.

Leaf: Fall foliage color is variable, but can be a good, clear yellow

Fruit: Numerous seed pods, as it is a prolific self-seeder

Uses: Specimen or lawn groupings, shrub borders, woodland margins, by patios, naturalized, container planting, and numerous public uses. Flowers are edible and especially pretty in salads.

Wildlife: Bird habitat and some food for Bobwhite Quail, Cardinal and Rose-breasted Grosbeak

Nectar: Bees, both honey bees and native bees

Larval Host: Henry's Elfin butterfly and several moths

Pollinators: Bees, both honeybees and native bees

Deer Resistant: Somewhat

Comments: Small, graceful, often multi-trunked understory tree. with a short, often twisted trunk and spreading branches.

Pruning: It can be trained to grow with a single or multiple trunks. For a single trunk, prune branches to be about 6 to 10 inches apart along a main trunk. Avoid weak forks by pruning 'V'-shaped crotches. Keep branches less than half the diameter of the main trunk to increase longevity of the tree.

