

Eastern Redbud

Cercis canadensis

The Pea Family (Fabaceae)

Basic Description: A small tree with a flat topped or rounded crown, often multi-stemmed with zigzagged, horizontal branching. The leaves are heart shaped, alternately arranged and deciduous.

Interesting Facts: Flowers and flower buds can be added to salads, breads and pancakes. They have a slightly sour taste and are high in vitamin C. Young pods may be eaten raw, boiled or sautéed.

Flower: Reddish purple buds; rosy pink pea-like flowers in clusters in early spring before leaves emerge.

Fruit: 2-4" long flattened brown seed pod found in clusters.

Wildlife Value: Birds eat the seed and white-tailed deer eat the foliage. Native bees are attracted to the flowers and leafcutter bees sometime use the foliage for nesting materials.

Habitat: Well drained upland areas.

LEAF TYPE

SIMPLE



POLLINATOR

INSECTS



WILDLIFE VALUE

MEDIUM

