

REDBUD

A NATIVE, SMALL FLOWERING TREE THAT BRINGS SPECTACULAR EARLY SPRING COLOR WHILE SUPPORTING POLLINATORS, BIRDS, AND WILDLIFE.



KEY IDENTIFICATION FEATURES

- **Growth Habit:** Small tree with a rounded to vase-shaped crown, often multi-trunked.
- **Leaves:** Distinctive heart-shaped leaves, 3–5 inches across, dark green above and lighter beneath.
- **Flowers:** Clusters of bright pink to reddish-purple, pea-like flowers appear in early spring before the leaves emerge.
- **Fruit:** Flat, bean-like seedpods about 2–4 inches long persist into winter.
- **Bark:** Smooth and brown on young trees, becoming darker and furrowed with age.

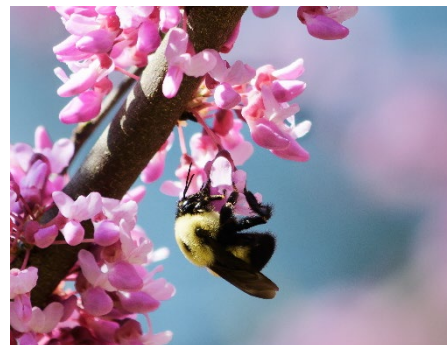
Scientific Name	<i>Cercis canadensis</i>
Plant Type	Deciduous native understory tree
Size	Typically, 15–30 feet tall and 15–25 feet wide
Light	Full sun to part shade
Moisture	Medium moisture; well-drained soils
Best Uses	Specimen tree, woodland edges, pollinator gardens, native landscapes
Other Names	Eastern Redbud, Judas Tree

HABITAT & GROWING CONDITIONS

- Native throughout much of the eastern and south-central United States, including Kentucky.
- Common along woodland edges, stream banks, rocky slopes, ravines, and open forests.
- Performs best in fertile, moist, well-drained soils but tolerates a wide range of soil conditions.
- Thrives in full sun for maximum flowering but adapts well to partial shade.
- An excellent choice for residential landscapes, parks, and naturalized plantings.

WHY IT MATTERS

- **Early Pollinator Support:** One of the first native trees to bloom each spring, providing nectar and pollen.
- **Wildlife Value:** Seeds are eaten by songbirds, quail, and other wildlife, while deer may eat young growth.
- **Butterfly Benefit:** Flowers attract native pollinators, including butterflies and hummingbirds.
- **Ornamental Beauty:** Showy spring flowers, attractive heart-shaped foliage, and golden-yellow fall color.
- **Native Heritage:** A signature tree of Kentucky woodlands and one of the region's most recognizable native flowering trees.



PLANTING TIPS

- Plant in full sun to partial shade for best flowering performance.
- Choose a location with well-drained soil and adequate space for mature spread.
- Prune only as needed to remove dead or crowded branches and maintain structure.