

Eastern Redbud



GARDEN EARTH
NATURALIST
ECO-SERVICE CARDS

EASTERN REDBUD

Cercis canadensis L.

FAMILY: Fabaceae

IDENTIFICATION CLUES



SIZE: small tree, up to 35 feet



LEAF: simple, smooth, heart-shaped; deciduous



FLOWER: small purplish pink growing along branches in spring before the leaves appear



FRUIT: looks like a long flat bean pod 3-4 inches long; pods turn brown and many stay on tree into winter



BARK: dark gray to brown and fairly smooth



Where to Look

Redbuds are fairly abundant understory trees found throughout most of Georgia in a wide variety of sites from moist bottomland forests to dry slopes.

Importance to Humans

Redbuds are often used in gardens for their beautiful flowers in the Spring and for the shade they provide. Historically, the bark was used to treat dysentery.

Importance to Wildlife

Some birds and deer will eat the seeds of eastern redbud.