Redbud, Flame

Cercis canadensis 'Flame'

Height: 30 feet

Spread: 25 feet

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 4b

Other Names: Eastern Redbud, Judas Tree, Love Tree



Redbud, Flame flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



Redbud, Flame flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Description:

A lavish small ornamental tree featuring stunning fully double pink flowers in early spring, followed by coppery new leaves that mature to green; blooms later than the species, and is sterile. Performs best with wind protection.

Ornamental Features

Redbud, Flame features showy fully double pink pea-like flowers along the branches from early to mid spring before the leaves. It has dark green deciduous foliage which emerges coppery-bronze in spring. The glossy heart-shaped leaves turn yellow in fall.

Landscape Attributes

Redbud, Flame is a deciduous tree with a more or less rounded form. Its relatively coarse texture can be used to stand it apart from other landscape plants with finer foliage.

This is a relatively low maintenance tree, and should only be pruned after flowering to avoid removing any of the current season's flowers. Deer don't particularly care for this plant and will usually leave it alone in favor of tastier treats. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Redbud, Flame is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Accent
- Mass Planting
- General Garden Use



Redbud, Flame in bloom
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Planting & Growing

Redbud, Flame will grow to be about 30 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 25 feet. It has a low canopy with a typical clearance of 3 feet from the ground, and is suitable for planting under power lines. It grows at a medium rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for 60 years or more.

This tree does best in full sun to partial shade. It prefers to grow in average to moist conditions, and shouldn't be allowed to dry out. This plant should be periodically fertilized throughout the active growing season with a specially-formulated acidic fertilizer. It is not particular as to soil type or pH. It is highly tolerant of urban pollution and will even thrive in inner city environments, and will benefit from being planted in a relatively sheltered location. Consider applying a thick mulch around the root zone in winter to protect it in exposed locations or colder microclimates. This is a selection of a native North American species.

Clean up Rating (1-5) 1=least effort 5=most effort

Clean Up Rate (3): Redbuds produce a few to many flat bean pods, 2 to 3 inches long. The pods generally don't germinate so clean up for all debris can be blown or raked onto the lawn and mowed or bagged. Redbuds need wind protection.