# Hawthorn, Paul's Scarlet

***Crataegus laevigata 'Paul's Scarlet'***



*Hawthorn, Paul's Scarlet flowers*
*Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder*

Height: 22 feet

Spread: 20 feet

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 4b

**Description:**

One of the most popular small accent trees for home landscapes; blanketed in showy double red flowers in spring and scarlet fruit in fall; can be susceptible to leaf diseases and quite thorny, best used as a feature tree in the small home landscape

**Ornamental Features**

Hawthorn, Paul's Scarlet features showy clusters of red flowers held atop the branches in mid spring. It has forest green deciduous foliage. The glossy lobed leaves do not develop any appreciable fall color. The fruits are showy red pomes displayed from early fall to late winter. The fruit can be messy if allowed to drop on the lawn or walkways, and may require occasional clean-up.

**Landscape Attributes**

Hawthorn, Paul's Scarlet is a deciduous tree with a shapely oval form. Its average texture blends into the landscape, but can be balanced by one or two finer or coarser trees or shrubs for an effective composition.

This tree will require occasional maintenance and upkeep, and should only be pruned after flowering to avoid removing any of the current season's flowers. It is a good choice for attracting birds and bees to your yard, but is not particularly attractive to deer who tend to leave it alone in favor of tastier treats. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Hawthorn, Paul's Scarlet is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Accent
- Vertical Accent

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**Planting & Growing**

Hawthorn, Paul's Scarlet will grow to be about 22 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 20 feet. It has a high canopy of foliage that sits well above the ground, and is suitable for planting under power lines. As it matures, the lower branches of this tree can be strategically removed to create a high enough canopy to support unobstructed human traffic underneath. It grows at a medium rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for 40 years or more.

This tree does best in full sun to partial shade. It does best in average to evenly moist conditions, but will not tolerate standing water. 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 somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. This is a selected variety of a species not originally from North America.

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

Clean Up Rating (2): Clusters of double pink blooms in the spring can be blown or raked onto the lawn or bagged. Clusters of persistent pea sized berries birds like to eat in winter, the dried berries and leaves can be blown or raked onto the lawn and mowed or bagged.