Carolina Sweetheart® Redbud

Cercis canadensis 'NCCC1'

Height: 25 feet

Spread: 30 feet

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 5

Other Names: Eastern Redbud, Judas Tree, Love Tree

Description:

A spectacular spring bloomer, with very showy pink flowers held tightly on bare branches in early spring; elegant foliage emerges a rich purple, turning shades of white, green, and pink, before turning green in summer; a great small ornamental tree



Carolina Sweetheart Redbud foliage
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Ornamental Features

Carolina Sweetheart Redbud is covered in stunning pink pea-like flowers along the branches from early to mid spring before the leaves. It has attractive white-variegated green foliage with hints of pink which emerges purple in spring. The heart-shaped leaves are highly ornamental and turn yellow in fall.



Carolina Sweetheart Redbud foliage
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Landscape Attributes

Carolina Sweetheart Redbud 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. Gardeners should be aware of the following characteristic(s) that may warrant special consideration;

- Disease

Carolina Sweetheart Redbud is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Accent
- Mass Planting
- General Garden Use

Planting & Growing

Carolina Sweetheart Redbud will grow to be about 25 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 30 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. It may require supplemental watering during periods of drought or extended heat. This plant does not require much in the way of fertilizing once established. 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.