Rivers Flowering Crab

Malus spectabilis 'Riversii'



Rivers Flowering Crab in bloom
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 30 feet

Spread: 30 feet

Sunlight: ○

Hardiness Zone: 4

Other Names: Chinese Flowering Crabapple, Roseybloom

Description:

A highly ornamental tree for use as an accent in the home landscape, absolutely smothered in clear pink flowers in spring, followed by negligible small green fruit, vigorous grower; moderately disease resistant; limit pruning as much as possible



Rivers Flowering Crab flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Ornamental Features

Rivers Flowering Crab is covered in stunning clusters of fragrant pink flowers along the branches in mid spring, which emerge from distinctive red flower buds before the leaves. It has dark green deciduous foliage. The pointy leaves turn yellow in fall. The fruits are showy light green pomes displayed from mid to late summer. The fruit can be messy if allowed to drop on the lawn or walkways, and may require occasional clean-up.

Landscape Attributes

Rivers Flowering Crab is a deciduous tree with a more or less rounded 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 usually looks its best without pruning, although it will tolerate pruning. It is a good choice for attracting birds to your yard. Gardeners should be aware of the following characteristic(s) that may warrant special consideration;

- Messy

Rivers Flowering Crab is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Accent
- Shade

Planting & Growing

Rivers Flowering Crab will grow to be about 30 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 30 feet. It has a low canopy with a typical clearance of 5 feet from the ground, and should not be planted underneath power lines. It grows at a fast rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for 50 years or more.

This tree should only be grown in full sunlight. 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. 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. This is a selected variety of a species not originally from North America.