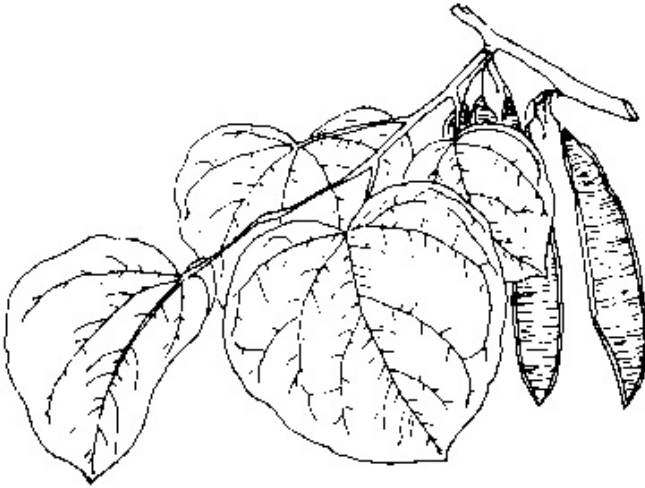


Leaf Identification



American Redbud
(*Cercis canadensis*)

American redbud is a small tree reaching 20'-30' in height with a 25'-35' spread. Its trunk divides close to the ground, often forming multiple trunks. Its graceful crown is rounded or sometimes flat with irregular, spreading branches. Small, rosy pink (sometimes purple-tinged) flowers are followed by reddish-purple leaves in summer, turning yellow in fall. Flowers will occur by age 7. The shiny reddish-brown 2"-3" seed pods remain on the tree throughout winter. The early blossoms are food for larvae and nectar-seeking insects, including butterflies and bees. Birds, squirrels, and deer eat the seeds in winter, and deer browse the foliage.

American redbud adapts to a wide range of soil textures and sites, including acid or alkaline, moist to drier soils, full sun to partial shade, and occasional flooding. It prefers moist, deep, loam soils. This native tree grows at a medium rate.