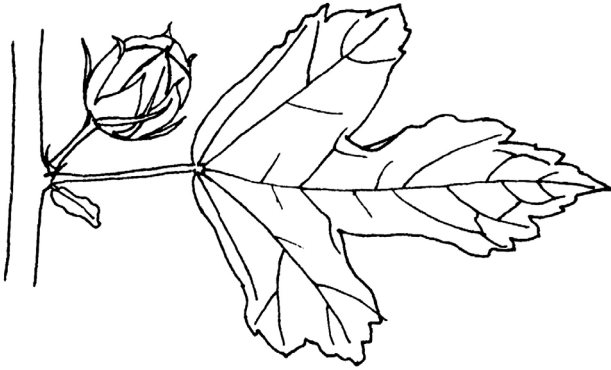


Leaf Identification



Rose-of-Sharon
(*Hibiscus syriacus*)

Rose-of-Sharon is a medium-sized shrub reaching 8'-12' in height with a 6'-10' spread. It has an upright, occasionally spreading form. The branches will not droop except in flower. Medium to dark green leaves emerge late in the spring, and fall color change is slight, if any. The 2"-4" trumpet-shaped, five-petal flowers can bloom in late spring through early fall in colors of white, pink, purple, or violet. Butterflies and hummingbirds are attracted to the flowers.

Rose-of-Sharon is tolerant of many soil textures, moisture conditions, and acidic to alkaline pH if it is in full or nearly full sun. It requires ample moisture and some protection from midday to afternoon sun for flowering at its best. Plant 2'-5' apart for a single row hedge.

While pruning can be done at any time, pruning in late winter or early spring will minimize the loss of emerging flower buds on new growth. Pruning heavily in early spring or pruning back to two or three buds will produce fewer but larger flowers. This shrub grows at a medium rate.