

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

Acer rubrum

Red Maple



A beautiful, large shade tree, roughly two-thirds wide as it is tall. Blazing fall color, often red, but sometimes orange or yellow. Tiny red flowers are one of the first signs of spring. Often grows in swampy areas in the wild. Not recommended as a street tree due to its very shallow, wide-spreading root system and its tendency to drop large limbs during wind or ice storms. Good for wetland plantings. Requires acid soil.

Suggested companions: swamp white oak (*Quercus bicolor*), red ash (*Fraxinus pennsylvanica*), black spruce (*Picea mariana*), paper birch (*Betula papyrifera*)

Photo Credit: Land Ethics, Inc.

Plant Type: Tree
Size: 60-90' H
40-80" W

Water Tolerant: Somewhat

Habitat:

Forested Upland
Forested Wetland
Swamp/ Bog

Soil: Average Garden Soil
Sandy/ Gravelly
Rich Moist
Very Damp/Wet
Clay

Exposure: sun
filtered
shade

Flower Color:

Red

Bloom Time:

March
April

Plant in: Spring

Groundcover: No

Other Attributes:

Wildlife attracting
Fall color
Bird attracting