



Cardinal Flower

Lobelia cardinalis

Plant Description – native, herb/wildflower, deciduous, perennial

Height: 2 – 4 ft **Width/Spread:** 1 – 2 ft



Leaves

Shape: lanceolate

Arrangement: alternate

Margin: serrate

Form: simple

Leaf Description: dark green leaves are pointed at both ends and grow up to 4 inches long; lower portion of unbranched, erect stem lined with leaves

Flower/Bloom

Flower Color: red or blue

In Bloom: May – Oct

Flower Shape: tubulate

Flower(s) Description: terminal raceme (compact cluster of small flowers attached by short equal stalks at equal distances along the end of a stem) up to 8 inches long; flowers are 1-2 inches long, resupinate (twisting as they open) and have 2 lips with the upper portion two-lobed and the lower divided into three parts and spreading, all parts uniting into a tube at base



Fruits & Seeds

Spreads via: Seeds

Seed Type: Dry seed pod

Seed Season: Fall

Fruit and Seed Description: capsule is two-celled, holding many small golden seeds, opening at the top

Ecological Benefits

Food source for Butterflies, Hummingbirds, and Other Birds

Maintenance Notes

Dormant in winter; prefers moist to wet soil all of the time (*water three times per week*)