

Flowering Crabapple Tree

Malus Species

Malus Species more commonly known as the Flowering Crabapple Tree are popular ornamental trees know for crabapple flowering, announcing the arrival of spring. They are valued for their foliage. Flowering Crabapple tree bloom in April to May depending on variety and elevation. The length of blossoming can be 1 to 2 weeks depending on variety and weather.



The Flowering Crabapple Tree leaves and buds are alternate. The bud color is reddish – brown with several imbricate scales. Bud size 1/8 to 1/4 inches.

The leaf type and shape are simple ovate to elliptical oblong. Leaf margins are finely serrate to irregularly tooth or lobed. Leaf length is 1 1/2 to 3 1/4 inches the width 3/4 to 2 inches leaf surface variable, glabrous to pubescent. Leaf color dark or olive – green above paler green beneath: yellow fall color. Cultivars with variable purplish leaf colors.

Flowers / Fruits: Flower type Umbel or racemes. Flower color White to pink to rose to carmine red shades. Fruit characteristics winged acorn or in pod without husk or capsule. They are loose not packed together tightly fruit with seeds 1/4 or less in length. The fruit is round 1" or more in diameter without grit cells. Fruit is used fresh or processed and also loved by wildlife.

The Flowering Crabapple Tree growth ranges from tall informal spreading to densely oval, globose narrow upright or pendulous forms. The height is 10 to 25 feet and width is 15 to 25 feet except narrow upright cultivars. The bark color is gray to reddish brown. The root system is spreading fibrous. The Flowering Crabapple Tree prefers well – drained, moist soils, moderately drought tolerant, light full sun.

The wood is desirable for smokehouse, kindling and firewood.

You can find the Flowering Crabapple Tree at the Salt Lake City Cemetery as you approach 1100 East and look to your right you will see one of many.