## Eastern Redbud

## Cercis canadensis

The Eastern Redbud gets its name from the abundant showy light to dark magenta pink flowers that appear in clusters in the Texas springtime on its bare stems before the tree leafs out for the summer.

It is one of the harbingers of spring for East Texas and consequently look for it to brighten the park's walkways before the other natives have woken up from the winter.

The Redbud is a deciduous shrub to small tree with heart shaped leaves and widely spreading branches. Although it can be found anywhere within the native east Texas landscape, it tends to prefer the shade to partial shade of the understory of mixed forests.

The flowers of the Eastern Redbud require "long-tongued" bees for pollination.









This sign provided by Polk County Fresh Water Supply District #2