



photo: Dan Jaffe

# CARDINAL FLOWER

*Lobelia cardinalis*

This plant is absolutely stunning with large, cardinal-red tubular flowers that are magnets for hummingbirds and butterflies. Super effective in moist and shady areas, providing a pop of brilliant color.

## Growing Information

Sunlight	Full sun to partial shade
Soil Type	Medium to wet soils; needs constant moisture
Height	2–4'
Deer resistant	
Flowering calendar	July to September

## Benefits for Wildlife

Leaves	Larval host plant to 6 species of butterflies and moths
Flowers	Hummingbird and butterfly magnet! Attracts many beneficial insects
Fruit	No
Seeds	No
Host to 6 caterpillar species	
<i>(common names)</i> Pink-Washed Looper Moth; Plevie's Aquatic Moth; Greater Black-Letter Dart; Spotted Cut-Worm; Red-Banded Leafroller Moth; Dark-Spotted Palthis	

## Benefits for People

- Adds a late summer bloom and height to gardens
- Forms colonizing clumps

## Natural Habitat

- Streams, swamps, and in low wooded areas

