



photos: Dan Jaffe

RED COLUMBINE

Aquilegia canadensis

A beautiful woodland native with nodding red and yellow spurred flowers. Attracts hummingbirds for pollination.

Benefits for Wildlife

- Flowers attract long-tongued insects such as butterflies, bees, hawk moths, and hummingbirds
- Favorite of the Ruby-throated Hummingbird, who arrives from spring migration as flowers are in bloom

Host to 9 caterpillar species:
(common names) Pink-Patched Looper Moth; Columbine Borer; Mayapple Borer; American Bordered Sallow; Four-Barred Gray; Tobacco Budworm Moth; Purple-Lined Sallow; Mouse-Colored Pyrophila; Small Engrailed

Benefits for People

- Good for cut flowers
- The name “Aquilegia” means eagle in Latin and refers to the nectar spurs that resemble eagle talons
- Shake seed pods when ripe to encourage reseeding

Growing Information

Sunlight	Full to part sun
Soil Type	Well-drained
Height	2-3'
Width	1-2'
Flowering calendar	May to June

Natural Habitat

- Rocky woods and ledges

