

2026 Native Plant of Distinction:

Rose Mallow

(Hibiscus moscheutos)



Lake Erie Allegheny Partnership
for Biodiversity
leapbio.org

Unique Characteristics

Rose mallow is a cold-hardy, perennial, wetland plant that can grow into large colonies. The hollow stems are frequently used by insects to over-winter. Japanese beetles and the caterpillars of sawflies can severely damage foliage if left unchecked.

Plant type: Woody, herbaceous perennial

Native Range: Eastern North America, except New England & Florida

Sun: Full sun to partial shade

Soil: Wet, slightly acidic

Height: Up to 8 feet

Spread: 2 feet per plant, forms colonies

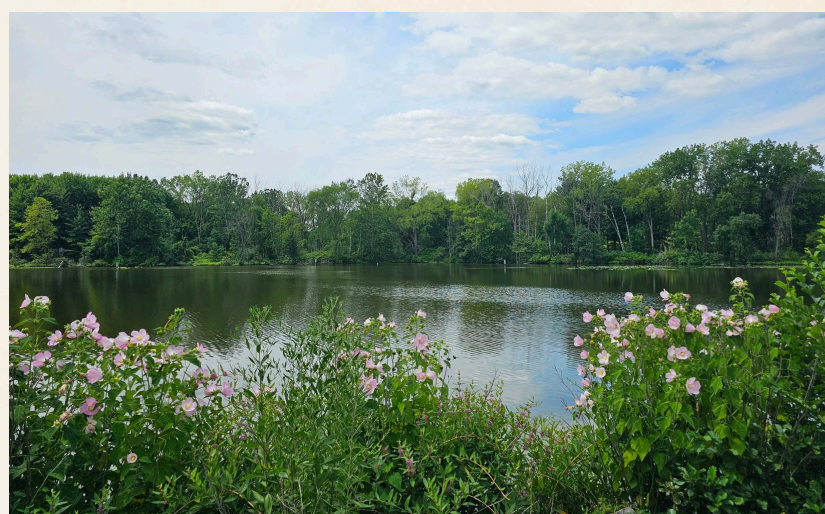
Wildlife: Host plant for Io moth, Pearly Wood Nymph, and Common Checkered Skipper

Hardiness Zones: 3-9

Bloom Time: July

Bloom Color: Variable: white, all shades of pink, red, or burgundy, usually with red centers

Uses: Wetlands, edges of ponds and wet woods, rain gardens. Many cultivars available for residential use. Used medicinally to treat coughs and sore throats.



Photos by Prairie Moon Nursery (top), Patti Donnellan (center),
& Spring Hill Nurseries 'Midnight Marvel' (bottom)



April is
**Ohio Native
Plant Month**

Sponsored by the Native Plant Promotion Committee of LEAP