Redbud

Cercis canadensis

Blooming dates: between March and April

In the spring, redbud trees grow clusters of pea-like flowers with vibrant pink and purple coloration. These flowers last between 2-3 weeks. By mid-summer, the flowers fade away and are replaced with bean-shaped seed pods. Redbud trees will also grow heart-shaped leaves that are reddish-purple when they first appear, dark green in the summer, and yellow in the fall. Redbud blossoms attract butterflies and bees while the seed pods are great snacks for songbirds. As their name suggests, these trees are native to eastern North America. George Washington even grew redbuds in his gardens at Mount Vernon.

