

swamp rose mallow *Hibiscus moscheutos*

Kingdom: Plantae

Phylum: Magnoliophyta

Class: Magnoliopsida

Order: Malvales

Family: Malvaceae

ILLINOIS STATUS common, native

FEATURES

The plants reach three to seven feet in height. The flowers are large and have five petals. Flowers are pink or white and resemble in appearance those of the tropical hibiscus plants sold in garden centers and to which they are related. The fruits are produced in a capsule, and the plant spreads by seeds.

BEHAVIORS

Swamp rose mallow grows in wet soil in a few scattered locations in eastern and southern Illinois. It is found in open swamps and marshes and around ponds, lakes and rivers where there is full to partial sunshine during the day, wet soil and plenty of soil nutrients. Flowers are produced from July through September. This plant is pollinated by insects and attracts many pollinator species.

HABITATS

Aquatic Habitats

bottomland forests; marshes; peatlands; rivers and streams; wet prairies and fens; lakes, ponds and reservoirs

Woodland Habitats

bottomland forests; southern Illinois lowlands

Prairie and Edge Habitats

edge

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