



Grand Erie Master Gardeners



Brant

Haldimand

Norfolk



Swamp or Rose-Mallow (*Hibiscus moscheutos*)

Swamp Mallow is a large, clump-forming perennial that produces large pink hibiscus-like flowers from late summer into early autumn.

In the wild, as its common name suggests, Swamp Hibiscus occurs in wetlands and along shorelines, often growing in shallow water. The northern range of this species is in southern Ontario and the southern Great Lakes region. It is more widespread through the Mississippi Valley and from coastal New England southward to Florida where other flower colours can be found.



Photo credits: Kevin Kavanagh



Plant Type:
Long-lived, clump-forming perennial.



Light Conditions:
Full sun required.



Soil/Moisture:
Organic rich soils that remain wet to moist throughout the growing season are preferred. Adaptable to drier conditions if watered in extended dry periods.



Size/Height:
A large plant that can reach 2.5 m (8 ft) in height and more than 1m (3 ft) in diameter.



Flowers:
Large bright pink flowers from August into September. More southern populations have flowers that are white with a red center.



Wildlife Benefits:
Good pollinator plant for both bees and hummingbirds.



Cautions:
Like many species in the hibiscus family, Japanese Beetles can sometimes be a problem on open flowers.

Nativars:
Many flower colour varieties have been selected, including some that are solid red.