



Photo by Gerald Beetham

Wild Columbine, Eastern Red Columbine

Aquilegia canadensis

Growing Information

- Sunlight: Prefers part shade to full shade.
- Soils: Well-drained and average moisture
- Bloom Time: Spring blossoms - April, May, June; flower is bell-shaped red spurs with a yellow center
- Size: 1-2ft in height, 1ft spread

May go dormant in mid-summer. Although a perennial, it readily self-seeds. Leave the seed heads or collect and spread the seeds where you want more Columbine in your garden.

Garden Companions

Golden Alexanders (*Zizia aurea*), Wild Geranium (*Geranium maculata*), Wild Ginger (*Asarum canadense*)

Nature Benefits

- The spurs contain nectar that attracts long-tongued bees and moths, and hummingbirds who are specially adapted to reach the nectar.
- Seeds are consumed by finches and buntings.
- Host to the caterpillar of the Columbine Duskywing (*Erynnis lucilius*)

Native Habitat

Occurs naturally in rich rocky woods, north-facing slopes, cliffs, ledges, pastures, and roadsides.