

Carolina rose *Rosa Carolina*

Kingdom: Plantae

Division: Magnoliophyta

Class: Magnoliopsida

Order: Rosales

Family: Rosaceae

ILLINOIS STATUS common, native

FEATURES

Carolina rose may attain a height of one to three feet, although it typically is a low-growing plant. Each flower contains five pink petals and five green sepals. The leaves are compound and composed of three to seven leaflets. Leaves are arranged alternately along the stem. Thin, straight thorns in pairs are present at the leaf base. Fruits are red, spherical "hips" that can provide food for wildlife in the fall and winter.

BEHAVIORS

Carolina rose, also known as pasture rose, grows in prairies, upland woods and fields throughout Illinois. Flowers are produced from May through July.

HABITATS

Aquatic Habitats

none

Woodland Habitats

upland deciduous forests

Prairie and Edge Habitats

black soil prairie; dolomite prairie; edge; gravel prairie; hill prairie; sand prairie; shrub prairie

© Illinois Department of Natural Resources. 2020. Biodiversity of Illinois.