

# Carolina rose

*Rosa carolina*

Kingdom: Plantae  
Phylum: 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.

## ILLINOIS RANGE





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## **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