

# Swamp Hibiscus

## *Hibiscus coccineus*

This spectacular native shrub, with large scarlet flowers, is a butterfly attractor. Swamp hibiscus is also known as the scarlet rosemallow, marsh hibiscus or swamp mallow. While the swamp hibiscus is native to wetland areas—which is where its common name comes from—it is tolerant of somewhat drier soils. The swamp hibiscus is frequently used as a specimen and can be placed in a border. It may also be used around the edge of a pond or along a stream since this type of site is similar to their native habitat.

**Type:** herbaceous perennial

**USDA hardiness zones:** 8 through 10

**Uses:** accent; border; mass planting; attracts butterflies; attracts hummingbirds

**Origin:** native to Florida

**Height:** 4 to 8 feet      **Spread** 3 to 4 feet

**Plant spacing:** 24 to 36 inches

**Light requirement:** part shade to part sun

**Soil tolerances:** extended flooding; acidic; sand; loam; clay

**Drought tolerance:** moderate

**Soil salt tolerances:** poor

**Invasive potential:** not known to be invasive

**Pest resistance:** very sensitive to one or more pests or diseases which can affect plant health or aesthetics

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Photo: UF/ IFAS