



Celebrating 22 Years!

**ask** the landscape professional  
Linda K. Lillie of Sprigs & Twigs

**Welcome to my weekly series!**

Feel free to send me questions you'd like to have me answer and I will do my best to address the ones of most general interest.

EMAIL OR MAIL YOUR QUESTIONS TO:  
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**QUESTION THIS WEEK:**

***My Rhododendron, which has beautiful very large reddish flowers, finished blooming about a month ago. Other Rhododendrons, in my neighborhood, do as mine. About 100 feet from mine, is a Rhododendron, is in bloom now. Every year is the same, blooming one month later. Is that common or is it just lazy and waits until it feels like blooming? -Tony***

**Linda's Answer:**

Hi Tony,

Most rhododendron like yours and your neighbors, bloom in May. The rhododendron that is nearby and is blooming now is a native rhododendron called Rosebay, Great Laurel or (Rhododendron maximum). It's a large rhododendron, growing 8-15' tall and begins blooming in late June into July. It has long, strap-like leaves with pinkish-white flowers. It naturally grows in fairly shaded areas with moist soil.



There is a native stand of Rosebay Rhododendron in the Pachaug State Forest in Voluntown, CT. It's a beautiful place to visit. There's also a White Cedar Swamp in the same area. Thank you for your question.

Linda K. Lillie has been President of Sprigs & Twigs, Inc. for the last 22 years. She is a graduate of Connecticut College in Botany, an accredited NOFA Organic Land Care Professional, a Connecticut Master Gardener and a national award winning landscape designer for her design and installation projects.

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