

NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY OF TEXAS

Lindheimer Chapter

PLANT OF THE MONTH MAY, 2023

ROCK ROSE, *PAVONIA LASIOPETALA*



Rock Rose is a great addition to a Wildflower Garden. Its rose pink flowers, each about 1" – 1½" wide, appear from April through November. A native of the Edwards Plateau, it grows naturally in open woods, rocky slopes, ravines and pastures. In the garden it prefers sun or part shade and a well drained soil. Given good conditions, it will become an open, woody shrub about 4' tall.

Once established, Rock Rose requires little care. It benefits from being cut back each year to encourage bushy growth. Since blooms occur on new growth, occasional pruning during the growing season will not only keep it from getting leggy, but also encourages more blooms. Supplemental water during dry periods will also encourage flowering, however, too much water can cause mildew. Hummingbirds like the flowers, but so do deer so it needs to be protected. Rock Rose can usually be found in native plant nurseries. It can also be started from seed or softwood tip cuttings taken in the spring.

Rock Rose is a NPSOT Lindheimer Chapter NICE! 2023 Spring Native Plant selection