

Rosa rugosa

Beach Rose

Invasive to Maine

Coastal and Upland Forests, Fields, and Developed Areas

Leaves



GMRI

Leaves are compound-pinnate, with 5 to 9 leaflets. The compound leaves alternate on the stem. Each leaflet is 2-7 cm long, dark green, shiny, and looks wrinkly. Small hairs grow on the bottom of the leaves.

LEAF ARRANGEMENT	LEAF TYPE	LEAF/LEAFLET SHAPE	LEAF/LEAFLET EDGE
 ALTERNATE	 SIMPLE	 PALMATE	 SMOOTH
 OPPOSITE	 COMPOUND-PALMATE	 OVAL	 TOOTHED
 WHORLED	 COMPOUND-PINNATE	 ROUND	 WAVY

Plant



Vital Signs user TESA

Look for a thick bush that grows up to 0.5 to 2.5 m tall. It can often be found in public and private gardens.

Stem



Our Enchanted Garden, www.flickr.com

Look for stems that are covered in lots of thin, straight, sharp, spiny thorns that are various sizes. The stem is initially green and turns to brown.

Seasonal Change



Vital Signs user TESA/VS user JT1

June to August, look for large (5 to 10 cm) pink or white flowers that smell sweet. In Sept. and Oct. look for round red or orange fruit called rose hips.

Similar Species

You can tell the Beach Rose apart from other roses because it is very, very thorny, and its leaves are wrinklier than most ("rugosa" means "wrinkly").

Did You Know?

The petals and rose hips of the Beach Rose are used in potpourri. You can also eat the rose hips. People sometimes use them to make jelly or tea. Now commonly found in coastal Maine this species is actually native to China, Korea, and Japan!