



Dorota Haber-Lehigh

Pacific Crabapple Crabapple - *Malus Fusca*- Color Pencil 12” by 16”

Pacific Crabapple is a native plant that grows as a tree or a shrub near riverbanks, coastal dunes and beaches, estuaries, meadows or moist forests. In the spring it is covered with gorgeous, fragrant white or pinkish flowers, resembling apple blossoms. The flowers grow in clusters of 5-12 from spurs. In the fall, flowers become mini egg-shaped apples Crabapples are very popular with woodpeckers, waxwings and grouse; flowers provide nectar for butterflies, and trees provide shelter for nesting birds and cover for foxes, coyotes and deer.

Native Americans collected crabapple “berries” in the summer and stored them in cedar wood boxes underwater for winter use. Bark of Crabapple has medicinal purposes and it was used to make tea to treat diarrhea, ulcers and coughs. Coastal people used Crabapple wood to make tool handles, spoons, digging sticks and handles for hammers, axes and other utensils. The wood was also shaped into canoes, boxes, snowshoes, fishhooks and bows. Some people eat Crabapple flowers’ petals like rose petals; you can also make jams, jellies or crabapple butter from the berries. Color Pencil, 12” x 16”