

SIZE: 40-100 cm tall.

LEAVES: Firm and lance-shaped with broad bases, 5-12 cm long and 2-7 cm wide. They have three main veins running lengthwise, coarsely toothed edges (serrate), are abruptly rounded at their base (do not taper) and a have a rough appearance. They are circularly arranged around the stem (whorled) mostly in groups of 3-4.

STEM: Stout and erect with purple spots and small sticky hairs (at least near the top).

FLOWERS: Small, purple and grouped in heads which are arranged in a fairly dense round-topped branched cluster (6-8 cm wide). Each head contains 4-10 flowers.

FRUITS: Small dry one-seeded fruits (achenes), attached to a row of long hairs or bristles.

**NOTES:** This plant is in the same family as dandelions (Daisy or Aster family) and produces similar fruits which are attached to long hairs that allow them to easily be carried by wind. Joe-Pye-Weeds are an excellent nectar source for pollinators such as butterflies and bees.

Coarsely toothed leaf



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Start of flowers and whorled leaves Leaf with three main veins

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## Habitat:

Rocky, muddy or peaty shores of lakes and rivers as well as shoreline thickets and forest edges.

**Interesting point:** This species belongs to a group of plants that were historically used for their medicinal value and were named after a medicine man named Jopi from New England.

Similar species: Spotted Joe-Pye-Weed (Eupatorium maculatum) is very similar but is taller (60 to 200 cm), has a flat-topped flower cluster, more flowers per head (9-22) and has longer leaves (6 to 20 cm) that gradually taper at their base. The leaves have one main vein whereas Coastal Plain Joe-Pye-Weed generally have three.



Spotted Joe-Pye-Weed

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