**Lythrum salicaria**

**Common name:**
Purple loosestrife

**Origin:**
Europe

**Key features:**

**Stems:** Plants have herbaceous stems and can grow 1.5-5 feet (0.5-1.5 m) tall

**Leaves:** Opposite, or in whorls of 3, 1-4 inches (3-10 cm) long, linear, or lanceolate in shape, leaves can be smooth or hairy

**Flowers:** Large, pink-purple flowers clustered on long terminal spikes 4-16 inches (10-40 cm) long, floral tube is twice as long as it is wide and typically has 6 petals

**Fruits/Seeds:** Fruit is a two cavity capsule with numerous reddish-brown seeds

**Reproduction:** Seed

**Easily confused species:**
Winged loosestrife: *Lythrum alatum*