



**SHOWY LADY'S SLIPPER**  
*Cypripedium reginae*

**Family:** Orchid (Orchidaceae)

**Height:** 1-3' (30-90 cm)

**Flower:** a spectacular flower, 2-3" (5-7.5 cm) tall, with 3 white, pointed, upper petal-like sepals and 1 large, inflated pink-and-white lower petal; the lower, inflated petal is often veined in deep pink; hairy, flowering stalks

**Leaf:** basal leaves, 10" (25 cm) long and up to 2" (5 cm) wide, with deeply ribbed parallel veins, clasp the stem; leaves on flower stem are smaller, clasping, alternating

**Fruit:** elliptically shaped, pod-like capsule, 2" (5 cm) long, containing extremely small seeds

**Bloom:** summer

**Cycle/Origin:** perennial, native

**Habitat:** wet, sun, swamps, moist woods, slow-moving streams

**Range:** throughout, except for the southwestern corner

**State's Notes:** The official state flower of Minnesota, the Showy Lady's Slipper is the largest and most impressive of the orchids found in the state. It should never be handled or dug up, as this long-lived plant takes up to 15 years to mature and form flowers. Some people get a Poison-ivy-like rash from touching its stem's glandular hairs. Also called the Pink-and-White Lady's Slipper.

