

## Red Canna Lily (*Canna x generalis*)

Canna lilies, also known as Green Leaf - Red Bloom, aren't actually lilies, but they are great flowering perennials for your garden. They can get as tall as 5 feet. They will bloom from late spring throughout the summer until frost. Like most flowering perennials, they love full sun but will tolerate some shade.



**Plant Care:** Cannas form rhizomes which spread underground (similar to the way that warm season grasses like Bermuda spread). This makes them great for naturalizing an area. Fertilizing during the growing season with any flower fertilizer (SuperBloom, MiracleGro, etc.) will strengthen the plant for the future but is not necessary. After a stalk has finished producing all its flowers, “dead-heading” the plant by removing the spent stalk will encourage future flower growth. The leaves will last until the first frost, at which point they will turn black. Pull off or cut back the dead leaves if they bother you. After several years you will notice that the plants are becoming crowded. To keep them looking their best, dig them up and divide them, pulling the bulb-like roots apart. Replant some of them in the same spot and either plant the rest elsewhere in your yard or pass them along to your neighbors and friends.

**Watering:** Water canna lilies regularly until they are settled in the landscape, particularly the first summer. After that, they require about the same amount of water as a lawn, about an inch a week, so water them if your lawn needs watering. They may need more water during drought conditions. Check the soil near the base of the plant and water if it is not moist.

References:

<https://www.almanac.com/plant/cannas>