Sound Native Plants

Catalog for 2003 and beyond

SOUND
NATIVE
PLANTS

This catalog and any updates are available on our website at www.soundnativeplants.com/nursery.htm.

Contact our sister business, Sound Ecological Services, for consulting and education on project planning, permitting and management, and designing planting plans for wetland mitigation, steep slope stabilization, bulkhead alternatives, and other native plant projects: (360) 352-4122 or ben@soundnativeplants.com.

SOUND NATIVE PLANTS

INTRODUCTION

This catalog looks different from other nursery catalogs because we are a different kind of nursery. We grow plants for the harsh conditions of environmental restoration and mitigation projects—we anticipate that our plants may not be fertilized, mulched, irrigated, or fussed over in any way after they go into the ground. So, our catalog offers information to help you choose plants for these types of circumstances.

If project conditions are better than these, then our plants will still be your best bet. We grow them to thrive in difficult environments, and with a few amenities they will be all the more fabulous.

How to use this catalog

The catalog has four parts:

1. Introduction to the nursery and our practices: page 2
2. Species Descriptions: page 6
3. Species Selection Guide: page 29
4. Other resources: page 39

If you already know what species you want, you can check the species descriptions for details on placement and handling. If you know your site but are not sure what to plant there, first check the species selection guide for a list of plants that can succeed in your site's conditions. Then go to the species descriptions for additional information.

Note for Gardeners and Landscapers

Although this catalog does not emphasize the plants' appearance, they are beautiful. If you want more information on how a species looks and how to use it for landscaping, please ask us or check out the references listed at the end of this catalog. Keep in mind that we sell true native species only; we do not grow cultivars that have been bred to enhance the way they look or perform.

Enjoying natives in a garden may require a shift in your expectations; they may not flower as lusciously as cultivars and may drop leaves earlier, but they offer lushness and a lovely aesthetic unique to the Pacific Northwest. Most native plants have added benefits: they have high disease resistance, low fertilizer requirements, drought tolerance (once established), and they are food and habitat for local wildlife. They are wonderful to garden with!

Our nursery practices: Plants for successful restoration

Sound Native Plants is dedicated to growing native plants well adapted for environmental restoration and mitigation projects in the Puget Sound area. Restoration sites are often tough places for plants to grow: poor, compacted soil, no shade, and little water in the summer time. Often, site conditions are different than planned and plants end up in conditions wetter or drier, sunnier or shadier than anticipated—only the most versatile and hardy plants survive.

Based on our field experience and research, we choose cultural practices, types of plant stock, and species that will give you the best possible results in the field. We want your projects to succeed!

Cultural practices

Our practices create hardy, genetically diverse plant stock. All of our propagation material comes from western Washington and includes a natural variety of form. We deliberately collect seed and cuttings from tall and short, fat and thin plants to avoid subjectively selecting genetics based on appearance. We use moderate levels of fertilization and irrigation and harden-off our plants in the fall. These measures prepare the plants for inhospitable and variable conditions.

Types of plant stock

All our stock is container-grown. Trees and shrubs are in 1 and 2 gallon pots with a few species in 5 gallon pots as well. Our herbaceous plants and woody groundcovers come in 1 gallon or 4 inch pots, depending on typical species' size. Emergents are in 10 cubic inch plugs.

We use these container sizes because they give you the best prospect for success—plants large enough to compete with other vegetation and not be lost in the landscape; small enough to quickly recover from transplant shock and require minimal irrigation and nutrients. Our plants will out-grow larger material within a few years, and likely be healthier and more vigorous overall.

We believe container-grown plants are the most versatile. While bare root material can only be planted a few months of the year, container-grown plants can be installed nearly year-round, giving you greater flexibility for scheduling your projects. Compared to bareroot or balled and burlapped (B&B) material, containers are also easier to plant correctly and less prone to damage during handling and planting.

Species
We value all our Pacific Northwest natives, but focus on growing what we call the superstars of restoration; these are the species we have seen thrive even with rough handling, poor soil, and more or less shade or water than expected (see Superstar list, page 30). We also grow some of the more finicky natives, but recommend special treatments to help them succeed; see species descriptions for specific details. Please contact us if you want a species that we do not list in this catalog.

How to order from us

Location
West side of Olympia, Washington State. Sixty miles south of Seattle, one hundred miles north of Portland, Oregon, five minutes from I-5. Please contact us for directions.

Hours
9:00-5:00 weekdays, nursery visits by appointment only

Prices
Our price list is updated annually and contains prices for species and sizes we regularly carry. We may have small quantities of other plants; please inquire.

Availability
Check our current availability on our web site, or call us and we will be happy to mail, fax, or e-mail it to you.

Bid requests
If you have a list of the plants you are looking for, please fax or e-mail it. Indicate when you will need the plants and whether alternate species or sizes will be considered. You can print a form for plant bid request from our web site.

We will provide you with a bid for the items requested. Once you receive our bid, let us know which items you would like to order.

Placing an order
When you decide what you want, fax, e-mail, or call in your order—we will send you an order confirmation. Once your order is finalized, we will hold the plants for you until the time of pickup/delivery. Please see the next page for other terms.

Retail sales policy
We are primarily a wholesale nursery. Retail orders of $100 or more will be accepted. Smaller orders of only one species will be considered.

INTRODUCTION

Advance orders
We take orders up to six months in advance of sale without deposit.

Pick ups
Pick ups are by appointment only; this is to ensure that our nursery crew will be available to help load. Let us know if you need directions to the nursery.

If you will be traveling more than 35 mph after picking up the plants, please make sure you have a way to protect the plants from wind damage. A van or covered pick up truck is a good way to go.

Payment
We accept cash, checks, and money orders. We also accept government agency purchase orders. We do not take credit cards.

Deliveries
We charge for deliveries at a rate sufficient only to cover our costs. Please contact us for details.

Shipping by UPS
Packaging and shipping may be appropriate for small orders of emergents (grown in 10 in^3 tubes). Contact us for more information.

Terms for container-grown plant orders
1. Payment due in full at the time of pickup/delivery unless prior arrangements have been made.
2. Overdue invoices are subject to 1½% per month finance charge.
3. A 10% restocking fee will be charged on orders cancelled or delayed less than 5 business days in advance. A 10% holding fee will be charged on orders delayed more than 3 months, and holding fees for additional delays may be added.
4. A non-refundable 50% deposit is required for orders placed more than 6 months in advance.
5. We reserve the right to cancel or decrease quantities of any order due to acts of nature, crop failures, or other circumstances beyond our control. Deposits will be proportionately refunded should this occur.

Terms for live stakes & cuttings orders
Live stakes and other cuttings are custom collected for your order and are highly perishable.
1. The customer shall schedule pick-up/delivery with Sound Native Plants at least 7 days in advance. Large orders (greater than 3,000 lineal feet) may require more advance notice. Small orders may be done more quickly if scheduling allows.

2. Special charges on live stake orders:
    a. For all changed or cancelled orders, payment is due in full for any and all materials already cut.
    b. Orders changed or cancelled less than 7 days before the scheduled pick-up/delivery date will be charged a 10% fee.
    c. Delayed pick-ups/deliveries will be charged a 2% per day storage fee.
3. Payment is due in full at the time of pick-up/delivery unless prior arrangements have been made.
4. Overdue invoices are subject to 1½% per month finance charge.
5. We reserve the right to cancel or decrease quantities due to acts of nature or other circumstances beyond our control.

Who we are

Sound Native Plants has been growing native plants for restoration projects since 1992. We are the largest nursery in western Washington devoted exclusively to growing native plants and have about 70,000 plants in production every year.

All four of us on staff have degrees in environmental sciences—ecology, environmental planning, and horticulture. We also share work experience in complementary fields such as: restoration in national parks wilderness, ecological field work and analysis, land use policy, environmental planning and permitting, landscaping and gardening, and watershed analysis. Our nursery crew is comprised of students in ecology and agriculture from nearby colleges.

Together, we employ a comprehensive approach to growing the best native plants for restoration projects. It is a whole lot of fun and hard work.

SOUND NATIVE PLANTS

SPECIES DESCRIPTIONS

Explanation of Terms

We have done our best to describe appropriate site conditions for each species with a few concise terms. But keep in mind that no list of terms can fully describe *all* possible conditions. If you would like more information about a particular species' needs, please contact us.

Exposure: how much sun or shade a *transplant* tolerates—*not* an established, mature plant. Providing mulch and irrigation during plant establishment can push species' tolerance to the sunny and dry end of the spectrum. Providing a shadier planting site minimizes soil moisture needs (for shade-tolerant species only).

Soil moisture: what level of soil moisture a transplant prefers:

Wet year round			Droughty
^	^	^	^
"saturated"	"wet"	"moist"	"dry"

Even with the correct soil type, irrigation is critical in most cases, especially for conditions such as: spring installations, compacted soil, little organic matter, high sun exposure, and species that suffer badly from transplant shock.

Transplanting success: typical survival rate for a plant properly handled, sited, and installed at a restoration site.

Growth rate: how fast a plant typically grows after outplanting. Transplants from larger container sizes (5 gallon or more) usually take longer to establish and achieve the stated growth rate.

Form: describes top growth as tree, shrub, vine, herbaceous perennial, or emergent (sedges, rushes, etc. that grow out of standing water), evergreen or deciduous, and gives typical maximum height at maturity. Root system description indicates erosion control potential, ability to spread by runners or rhizomes, and where and how far the established root system will reach for water and nutrients.

Current inventory may include species not on this list—please inquire.

Trees and Shrubs

Abies grandis Grand fir

Exposure: full sun to shade
Soil moisture: moist to dry
Transplanting success: high
Growth rate: moderate
Form: coniferous evergreen to 260 feet; deep, extensive root system

Grand fir is adapted to a wide range of habitats and is drought tolerant. It has deep, wide-spread roots and is a good choice for binding soil at the top or base of a slope. Provides seeds, cover, and nesting sites for wildlife.

Acer circinatum Vine maple

Exposure: partial shade to deep shade, full sun if ample soil moisture
Soil moisture: moist to dry
Transplanting success: high
Growth rate: moderate
Form: deciduous small tree or large shrub to 20 feet; moderately deep root system

Vine maple is relatively slow to establish, especially in the full sun, but it is usually a survivor. Provide mulch and/or irrigation and shade for best results.

Acer macrophyllum Big leaf maple

Exposure: full sun to shade
Soil moisture: wet to dry
Transplanting success: high
Growth rate: rapid
Form: large deciduous tree to 110 feet; deep, wide-spread roots

Big leaf maple is an excellent pioneer species that tolerates poor soil conditions and grows as much as a few feet a year. Its deep roots are good for stabilizing steep slopes, especially on stream ravines and marine shorelines. It re-sprouts vigorously from cut stumps.

Alnus rubra Red alder

Exposure: full sun to light shade
Soil moisture: wet to moist
Transplanting success: medium
Growth rate: rapid
Form: deciduous tree to 90 feet; branching, fibrous, moderately deep root system with taproot

One of the best species for high-speed revegetation—alder will grow several feet a year even in poor soil. Alder roots are associated with nitrogen-fixing bacteria that improve the soil. If there are mature red alder near the site, we suggest *not* planting alder because seedlings will usually move in on their own.

Amelanchier alnifolia Serviceberry

Exposure: full sun to shade
Soil moisture: moist to dry
Transplanting success: medium
Growth rate: moderate, may be slow to establish
Form: deciduous large shrub or small tree to 20 feet; tap root, may spread by suckers

Berries and foliage are favored by wildlife; it is common along woodland margins and is drought tolerant.

Arbutus menziesii Pacific madrone

Exposure: sun to partial shade
Soil moisture: dry and well-drained
Transplanting success: very low
Growth rate: slow
Form: broadleaf evergreen tree to 75 feet; deep taproot

This Pacific Northwest favorite grows on dry sites, usually near salt water. Seeds germinate easily, but it is very difficult to transplant successfully; saplings are susceptible to sunburn and various diseases. We recommend small material and several plants for every one you want to succeed. Success may be higher if you place the plant in the same orientation that it grew in the nursery (we mark the south side of each container). Madrones can die from over-watering, so don't plant it in an area that will receive frequent irrigation.

Cornus sericea (stolonifera) Red osier dogwood

Exposure: full sun to partial shade
Soil moisture: saturated to moist
Transplanting success: high for container-grown, low or medium for live stakes
Growth rate: rapid
Form: deciduous large shrub or small tree, 5-20 feet depending on site conditions; fibrous, shallow root system, spreads by layering and suckers

Typically found in wet sites, in ditches or over-hanging water. It can tolerate fairly dry conditions if shaded or mulched. Fast growing, vigorous, and spreading. May not be a good choice for areas with hungry deer since we've seen it get chomped at our nursery. Red osier dogwood can be grown from live stakes and other cuttings with variable success; we've heard that installing them in shade or part shade gives the best results.

Corylus cornuta Beaked hazelnut

Exposure: sun to deep shade
Soil moisture: moist and well-drained to dry
Transplanting success: medium-high
Growth rate: moderate
Form: deciduous shrub 4-12 feet; branching roots, suckers occasionally

This species grows on moist but well-drained soils, typically in shade to part sun. Can be transplanted into full sun if irrigation is provided during first few years. Nuts are coveted by wildlife.

Crataegus douglasii (suksdorfii) Black hawthorn

Exposure: sun to partial shade
Soil moisture: wet to very moist
Transplanting success: high if adequate moisture
Growth rate: moderate to rapid
Form: deciduous shrub or small tree to 30 feet; branching, moderately deep root system

Black hawthorn usually grows well when planted into wet meadows and water edges, such as streambanks. It provides good forage and cover for wildlife. It is so much favored by deer, that it may not be a good choice if deer will be frequenting the site. When strategically placed, it can be a deterrent against unwanted trespassers.

Fraxinus latifolia Oregon ash

Exposure: full sun to partial shade
Soil moisture: wet to very moist; will tolerate standing water early in growing season
Transplanting success: high
Growth rate: rapid given adequate moisture
Form: deciduous tree to 80 feet; branching, moderately deep root system

We use this hardy, fast growing tree for plantings on flood plains and wet meadows. It is also found on the banks of lakes and streams on highly organic substrate. It prefers saturated soil for much of the year, making it one of our wettest trees.

Gaultheria shallon Salal

Exposure: partial shade to deep shade
Soil moisture: moist to dry
Transplanting success: medium to high if shaded, low if not
Growth rate: slow until established
Form: evergreen shrub 2-5 feet, sometimes more; very shallow, fibrous root system, spreads vigorously by underground stems once well established

We've all seen salal growing in the full sun, but *transplanting* salal into full sun and mineral soil is a recipe for failure. It is not a pioneer species and suffers from severe transplant shock. If it survives, it generally takes at least a few years before its typical, rampant growth begins. For somewhat better results, plant into shade or partial shade and add woody mulch. It can survive full sun if irrigated and mulched, but growth is usually meager.

Holodiscus discolor Oceanspray

Exposure: full sun to shade
Soil moisture: moist to dry
Transplanting success: high
Growth rate: rapid
Form: deciduous large shrub to 12 feet; branching, fibrous, moderately deep root system, sometimes spreads by root suckers

Oceanspray tolerates a wide range of environmental conditions and generally does well on all but very wet or very hot and dry sites. It is widespread across the Puget Sound lowlands in habitats ranging from ocean bluffs to forest understory. Oceanspray can be a good choice for erosion control plantings.

Lonicera involucrata Black twinberry

Exposure: full sun to full shade
Soil moisture: saturated to moist
Transplanting success: high
Growth rate: rapid
Form: deciduous shrub to 10 feet; branching, fibrous, shallow roots

This hardy species will grow like gangbusters in the right situation; with plentiful moisture it will put on several feet a year. It is less vigorous in drier spots, but tends to be a survivor. Berries are favored by birds.

Mahonia (Berberis) aquifolium Tall Oregon grape

Exposure: full sun to partial shade
Soil moisture: moist to dry
Transplanting success: medium to high
Growth rate: moderate
Form: evergreen shrub to 8 feet; moderately deep taproot, spreads by underground stems

Tall Oregon grape is typically found on rocky soil in the open sun or partial shade. It can suffer from transplant shock, but is drought tolerant and may survive on sites that will not be irrigated. Birds love the berries.

Mahonia (Berberis) nervosa Low Oregon grape

Exposure: shade
Soil moisture: moist to dry
Transplanting success: medium
Growth rate: slow
Form: evergreen shrub to 2 feet; taproot, spreads by underground stems

The common names “long-leafed”, “low”, and “dull” all apply to this one species of Oregon grape! Its needs are very different from tall Oregon grape. It requires shade to survive transplanting, and on drier or nutrient-poor soils, organic mulch such as wood chips is advised. We have found this species difficult to establish except as an understory planting—it is best suited for enhancement projects.

Malus fusca Western crabapple

Exposure: full sun to shade
Soil moisture: wet to moist
Transplanting success: high
Growth rate: moderate to rapid
Form: deciduous tree or shrub to 35 feet

Western crabapple provides excellent cover and food for wildlife. It has dense, thicket-like growth that deters predators and produces abundant crabapples. Twigs are also favored by browsing animals, so much so that you may need to use a deer-repellant or other protection to avoid losing young plants. Transplants are tolerant of a relatively wide range of soil and light conditions.

Myrica californica Pacific wax-myrtle

Exposure: full sun to shade
Soil moisture: moist but well-drained
Transplanting success: medium
Growth rate: moderate to rapid
Form: broadleaf evergreen shrub to 15 feet

Pacific wax myrtle is typically found on the coast in sandy soils. It can do well inland with similar soil conditions. Given enough water, it is the fastest growing evergreen shrub in our inventory.

Oemleria cerasiformis Indian plum

Exposure: partial shade to shade
Soil moisture: moist to dry
Transplanting success: high
Growth rate: moderate to rapid
Form: deciduous shrub to 15 feet; branching, fibrous, shallow root system

This species does fine in poor soil conditions with shade. Planted in the sun, it may scrape by—provide mulch and irrigation or expect high mortality. The “plums” are sought after by birds. It grows well on slopes and is a good candidate for erosion control plantings where shade is available.

Philadelphus lewisii Mock orange

Exposure: full sun to partial shade
Soil moisture: moderately moist to dry
Transplanting success: medium to high
Growth rate: rapid
Form: deciduous shrub to 10 feet; branching roots moderately deep

Mock orange favors dry, rocky soils and is common only in the southern part of western Washington. However, its tolerance for dry conditions (and probably it’s heavenly fragrance) have meant that it is commonly used for revegetation projects throughout western Washington. It may grow slowly if the soil is extremely dry or poor in nutrients, but in most cases this species grows by leaps and bounds. Mock orange is a nectar plant for butterflies.

Physocarpus capitatus Pacific ninebark

Exposure: full sun to shade
Soil moisture: wet to moist
Transplanting success: high
Growth rate: rapid
Form: deciduous shrub to 12 feet; fibrous, shallow root system, spreads by suckers

Pacific ninebark is abundant along wet roadsides in our area. It favors moist to very wet soils, but also can sometimes be found on drier sites. It does fine with "flashy" hydrology—alternatingly wet and dry—which makes it useful for planting stormwater ponds and other fluctuating water edges. The twigs and greenery provide browse for wildlife.

Picea sitchensis Sitka spruce

Exposure: full sun to partial shade
Soil moisture: moderately wet to moist
Transplanting success: high
Growth rate: moderate to rapid
Form: coniferous evergreen tree to 200 feet; shallow, branching roots

Sitka spruce is most abundant on the wet, sandy soils of the coast and associated rainforests. In Puget Sound it is found only along the major rivers. It prefers moist or wet well-drained soils and transplants fine. Along with shore pine, Sitka spruce can be a good choice over western hemlock and western red cedar for transplanting into sunny sites.

Pinus contorta var. *contorta* Shore pine

Exposure: full sun to partial shade
Soil moisture: wet to dry
Transplanting success: high
Growth rate: rapid
Form: coniferous evergreen tree to 60 feet; tap root

Shore pine is common in coastal bogs and Puget Sound wetlands. It can accept an extraordinary range of moisture—from wet or even saturated to dry, rocky soil. It also will tolerate bare mineral soil under full sun, which means it can survive open, unimproved sites. Give it fluffy loam and mulch, and it will thrive all the more.

Populus balsamifera Black cottonwood

Exposure: full sun to partial shade
Soil moisture: saturated to moist
Transplanting success: high (both container-grown & live stakes)
Growth rate: rapid
Form: deciduous tree to 160 feet; roots are fibrous and branching, shallow or deep, and extensive

Cottonwood grows along lakeshores and streams and anywhere else the soil is wet enough. It is tolerant of nutrient-poor soil, but does not do well with drought until established. Keep it wet, and it will grow a dozen feet a year. Live stakes of this species have a very high success rate. Cottonwood may out-compete other native plantings. It is the tallest deciduous tree species in North America.

Prunus virginiana Choke cherry

Exposure: full sun to partial shade
Soil moisture: moist to dry
Transplanting success: high
Growth rate: moderate
Form: deciduous shrub or small tree to 20 feet; spreads from suckers

Choke cherry is found in clearings and edges on well-drained soils of western Washington. It is more common east of the Cascades. Provides food for wildlife; nearly all parts of the plant are favored by some creature or another.

Pseudotsuga menziesii Douglas-fir

Exposure: full sun to light shade
Soil moisture: moist to dry
Transplanting success: high
Growth rate: moderate to rapid
Form: evergreen tree to 200 or 300 feet; tap or modified taproot, shallow or deep, wide-spread root system

Doug-fir prefers open sites and grows well in mineral soil. It is also drought tolerant and fast growing, which means it can accept harsh conditions that might make other plants wither. Also an excellent species for anchoring steep slopes; planted at the top or toe of a rise, its root system provides far-reaching stability. While we've seen this species transplant very well from one and two gallon pots, we've heard that larger specimens can suffer from severe transplant shock.

Quercus garryana Garry oak

Exposure: full sun to partial shade
Soil moisture: moist to dry, well-drained
Transplanting success: medium to high
Growth rate: slow to moderate
Form: deciduous tree to 80 feet; deep taproot

Garry oak is typical of well-drained, rocky prairie soil in the Puget Trough and, once established, withstands drought very well. Also found on flood plains where it can tolerate winter flooding along with summer drought. Transplanting success is highest in partial shade or with part-shade screens. Oaks grow slowly on top and quickly below; we grow our oaks in tall pots, since even a two-inch seedling will have a taproot over a foot long. Acorns are coveted food for wildlife.

Rhamnus purshiana Cascara

Exposure: full sun to shade
Soil moisture: wet to dry
Transplanting success: high
Growth rate: rapid
Form: deciduous tree to 30 feet; fibrous, moderately deep root system with taproot

Cascara transplants well, thrives in a range of conditions, and grows fairly quickly, making it useful for revegetation in a variety of situations. It is a small tree with relatively open growth, and may be a good choice for slope plantings where view preservation is important. It is not a good species for sites with bad air quality as it is sensitive to pollution. Cascara is very common in western Washington, but is often mistaken for red alder—they look similar to each other when full-grown.

Rhododendron macrophyllum Pacific rhododendron

Exposure: partial shade to shade
Soil moisture: moderately moist to dry
Transplanting success: low to medium
Growth rate: slow
Form: evergreen shrub to 20 feet; shallow, fibrous and massive roots

Like other native species in the heath family (*Ericaceae*), Pacific rhododendron is tricky to establish successfully. With an organic mulch and part shade, transplanting success may be high, but even so, it is slow growing. Not a plant for quick results. It is the state flower of Washington state!

Ribes divaricatum Straggly gooseberry

Exposure: partial shade to shade
Soil moisture: wet to moist
Transplanting success: medium
Growth rate: moderate
Form: thorny, deciduous shrub to 10 feet; branching root system

Gooseberries are important for wildlife as hedgerows or individual plantings. The berries provide food and the dense, prickly growth is excellent cover. This species is also called wild gooseberry and wax currant (usually "currants" are thornless).

Ribes sanguineum Red-flowering currant

Exposure: sun to part shade
Soil moisture: dry
Transplanting success: medium
Growth rate: moderate
Form: deciduous shrub to 10 feet; branching root system

The trick with red-flowering currant is not *over* watering, as it is susceptible to root rot. Make sure it is planted in well-drained soil and do not irrigate unless the soil is very dry. This species is scattered in many dry habitats throughout western Washington; it is widely planted for its sun and drought tolerance and its ornamental qualities. The flowers are magnets for hummingbirds and the fruits are food for many other birds and mammals.

Rosa gymnocarpa Bald-hip rose

Exposure: partial shade to shade
Soil moisture: moist to dry
Transplanting success: medium
Growth rate: moderate
Form: deciduous shrub to 6 feet; can spread by suckers

This is the driest and shadiest of our three native roses; it is typically found in dry to moist native forests. Bald-hip rose can be transplanted into the open successfully if adequate moisture and mulch are provided, but full sun is definitely not its preferred condition. Rose hips are eaten by wildlife.

Rosa nutkana Nootka rose

Exposure: full sun to partial shade
Soil moisture: wet to moist, dry okay if shaded
Transplanting success: high
Growth rate: rapid
Form: deciduous shrub to 10 feet; branched, fibrous, shallow roots, spreads vigorously by suckers

Nootka rose is a workhorse of a plant. It is successful in a range of sun and moisture conditions and spreads easily. We have monitored harsh restoration sites where Nootka rose was not only surviving but spreading. It is also one of the few species that can compete with Himalaya blackberry. Nootka rose likes it wetter than bald-hip rose but not as wet as swamp rose.

Rosa pisocarpa Swamp rose

Exposure: full sun to partial shade
Soil moisture: saturated to moist
Transplanting success: high
Growth rate: rapid
Form: deciduous shrub to 8 feet; branched root system, spreads vigorously by suckers

In wet soils, swamp rose grows quickly and spreads to create thickets, even holding its own against aggressive Douglas spirea. It transplants well and is one of the most dependable plants for wetland revegetation. It prefers the wettest conditions of our three native roses. It will do okay in merely moist soils as long as they don't dry up entirely during the summer.

Rubus parviflorus Thimbleberry

Exposure: full sun to shade
Soil moisture: moist
Transplanting success: high
Growth rate: rapid
Form: deciduous shrub 3-8 feet; spreads vigorously by suckers

This common species grows very well planted into moist soils—it quickly becomes established, spreading to form thickets. It also can do well in relatively dry soil if initial irrigation, shade, or mulch is provided. Wet soils are fine, if well drained. Thimbleberry is often a good choice for erosion control plantings, since it is drought tolerant and spreads by underground stems. We have found this species to be a good survivor!

Rubus spectabilis Salmonberry

Exposure: partial shade to shade
Soil moisture: wet to moist
Transplanting success: medium to high
Growth rate: moderate to rapid
Form: deciduous shrub to 12 feet; fibrous shallow roots, spreads by suckers

Salmonberry is a frequent choice for mitigation sites, but some practioners have reported high mortality. This may be due to droughty conditions that salmonberry seedlings cannot tolerate. In our experience, given adequate moisture or shade during establishment, this species grows vigorously and spreads to form thickets. May be planted in full sun if soil remains moist through the summer.

Salix hookeriana Hooker's willow

Exposure: full sun to partial shade
Soil moisture: saturated to moist
Transplanting success: high (both container-grown & live stakes)
Growth rate: rapid
Form: deciduous tree or shrub to 20 feet; fibrous, moderately deep root system

Hooker's willow is generally found within a few miles of salt water. All native willows are excellent for stabilizing slopes and bluffs, as long as there is plenty of moisture. This species is also known as Piper's willow (*Salix piperi*).

Salix lucida (lasiandra) Pacific willow

Exposure: full sun to partial shade
Soil moisture: saturated to moist
Transplanting success: high (both container-grown & live stakes)
Growth rate: rapid
Form: multi-stemmed deciduous tree to 60 feet; fibrous, moderately deep and widespread root system

Pacific willow is the tallest of our native willows. Given ample moisture, it grows abundantly and can quickly become established to anchor soil at the base of a slope. Pacific willow grows very well from cuttings, although the wood is somewhat brittle and live stakes may split if pounded vigorously.

Salix scouleriana Scouler's willow

Exposure: full sun to partial shade
Soil moisture: moderately dry to moist
Transplanting success: high (both container-grown & live stakes)
Growth rate: moderate to rapid
Form: deciduous tree or shrub to 40 feet; fibrous, moderately deep and widespread roots

Scouler's willow is drought tolerant and prefers drier sites than the other western Washington willows. This makes it a good choice for planting on moderately dry slopes or at the top of stream banks. Also the most shade tolerant of our willows and may work for shady wetland plantings. Planted from live stakes, this species root more slowly and may not leaf out until late spring, but the success rate is still generally high.

Salix sitchensis Sitka willow

Exposure: full sun to partial shade
Soil moisture: saturated to moist
Transplanting success: high (both container-grown & live stakes)
Growth rate: rapid
Form: deciduous shrub to 25 feet; fibrous, moderately deep and widespread roots

Sitka is the most common native willow in south Sound wetlands. This species is a shrubby willow, but can still attain heights of twenty-five feet or more. To maintain a view, you can cut them down by half their height without significant harm to the plants. Sitka willow is our favorite choice for live stakes because it has a very high success rate and the wood stays sound when pounded with a mallet.

Sambucus cerulea Blue elderberry

Exposure: full sun to light shade
Soil moisture: moderately moist to dry, must be well-drained
Transplanting success: medium
Growth rate: moderate
Form: deciduous shrub to 20 feet, thick taproot

This species is generally found in open sites with rocky or gravelly soil, primarily in the Puget Sound prairies and further south; it is much more common east of the Cascades. Blue elderberry must be planted into well-drained soil or will likely suffer high mortality. Berries are important food for wildlife and come later in the season than berries of most other natives.

Sambucus racemosa Red elderberry

Exposure: full sun to shade
Soil moisture: moist to dry
Transplanting success: medium
Growth rate: rapid
Form: deciduous shrub to 20 feet; fibrous, branching, shallow root system

Red elderberry does best in moist, well-drained soil. Occasionally it does not survive transplanting, but once it lives through transplant shock it grows vigorously even in its first growing season. Stems that are damaged or die back have an amazing ability to regenerate from the roots.

Symphoricarpos albus Snowberry

Exposure: full sun to shade
Soil moisture: very moist to dry
Transplanting success: high
Growth rate: rapid
Form: deciduous shrub 2-6 feet; fibrous, shallow root system, spreads vigorously by suckers

Snowberry is an incredible survivor, flourishing in situations that would slay a lesser plant. It transplants well, tolerates sun or shade, withstands drought and/or occasional flooding, and spreads quickly even in poor soil or on steep hillsides. Another plus for snowberry is that it is one of the few native shrubs that stays small—it averages three or four feet tall—and thus is a good choice for areas where view corridors are important. Hooray snowberry!

Thuja plicata Western red cedar

Exposure: partial shade to deep shade
Soil moisture: wet to moist, tolerates seasonal flooding
Transplanting success: medium
Growth rate: moderate
Form: coniferous evergreen tree to 200 feet with buttressed base; shallow, widely spreading root system

Western red cedar does not do well planted in open sites; the foliage sunburns easily and transplants often do not survive. With mulch and ample moisture, success in the sun will be higher, but this species is better suited to shady, nutrient rich sites. If the site is somewhat dry, provide mulch and shade. If the site is wet, plant the cedar where it will not be saturated during the growing season.

Tsuga heterophylla Western hemlock

Exposure: partial shade to deep shade
Soil moisture: wet to moist
Transplanting success: medium
Growth rate: moderate
Form: coniferous evergreen tree to 200 feet; shallow, slow-growing roots becoming widespread

Like western red cedar, western hemlock transplants best into shaded sites; seedlings are often dried up by sun. This species is not tolerant of drought after transplanting, but will accept a fairly wide range of soil moisture if mulch and/or shade are available. At the nursery, we have seen best root growth with very low levels of fertilization.

Vaccinium ovatum Evergreen huckleberry

Exposure: partial shade to shade
Soil moisture: moist to dry
Transplanting success: medium
Growth rate: slow until established
Form: evergreen shrub to 12 feet; fibrous, shallow root system

Like other natives in the heath family, evergreen huckleberry can be difficult to establish, although it may be the easiest of the lot! Success is highest with shaded plantings, but with rich soil or an organic mulch and sufficient moisture, sun plantings can work. Evergreen huckleberry seems to grow most gloriously on well-drained marine bluffs and shorelines.

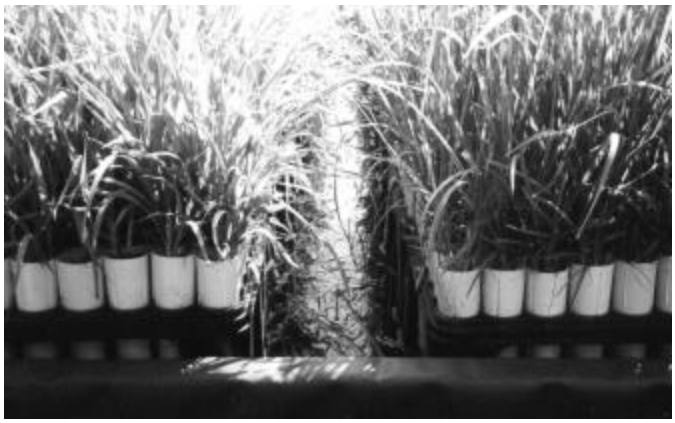
Vaccinium parvifolium Red huckleberry

Exposure: shade to deep shade
Soil moisture: moist to dry
Transplanting success: low to medium
Growth rate: slow until established
Form: deciduous shrub to 12 feet; deep and spreading, woody roots

Typically, red huckleberry favors rotting wood as a substrate, a difficult preference to satisfy at a restoration site. Certainly, if there is rotten wood available, plant directly into it or break it up and mix it into the soil. Otherwise, provide an organic mulch such as wood chips. This species is shade dependant—do not plant it in the full sun, as it will shrivel and die.

Current inventory may include species not on this list—please inquire.

Emergents



Carex lenticularis (kelloggii) Shore sedge

Exposure: full sun
Soil moisture: wet
Transplanting success: high
Growth rate: rapid
Form: dense tufts to 30 inches, fibrous roots

Found on lakeshores, stream-banks, wet meadows, and bogs. Shore sedge generally transplants and grows well, although it spreads slowly.

Carex obnupta Slough sedge

Exposure: full sun to shade
Soil moisture: moist to wet
Transplanting success: high
Growth rate: rapid
Form: dense tufts to 60 inches on long, fleshy rhizomes

Slough sedge is the superstar of emergent revegetation. It transplants very well, grows and spreads quickly, tolerates wide seasonal water level fluctuations, and is one of the few shade-tolerant sedges. If project conditions are at all suitable, it will perform impressively. It is one of our most competitive emergents against invasive species; established swards may resist even reed canarygrass. Slough sedge is very common and is found in wet woods, ditches, meadows, lakeshores, streambanks, and marshes.

Carex stipata Sawbeak sedge

Exposure: full sun
Soil moisture: wet
Transplanting success: high
Growth rate: rapid
Form: dense tufted clumps to 40 inches, no rhizomes

This widespread species frequents wet meadows, ditches, and streamsides. It likes disturbed ground, which means it *prefers* the conditions of most restoration and mitigation sites. It grows vigorously, but does not spread by rhizomes. Sometimes tolerant of part shade.

Carex utriculata (rostrata) Beaked sedge

Exposure: full sun
Soil moisture: wet to shallow water
Transplanting success: high
Growth rate: rapid
Form: large, thick stems to 45 inches, arising from long rhizomes and stolons

Beaked sedge is a common species found in soils wet year-round, such as the edges of ponds and lakes. It is sometimes tolerant of shade.

Deschampsia cespitosa Tufted hairgrass

Exposure: full sun
Soil moisture: moist to wet, can be well-drained
Transplanting success: high
Growth rate: rapid
Form: dense tufts to 5 feet, hummock forming

Tufted hairgrass is found in profusion on tidal marshes and also occurs on river bars and lakeshores. It is considered a keystone species for wet meadows. It transplants and grows well. Tolerates occasional drying and salt water and will not accept year-round flooding.

Eleocharis palustris Common spikerush

Exposure: full sun
Soil moisture: wet to shallow water
Transplanting success: medium
Growth rate: unknown
Form: small clusters to 40 inches along rhizomes

Common spikerush is found in wet meadows, tidal marshes, and shorelines. It can spend much of the year in shallow water, but needs to dry out for at least a few months during the growing season. Tolerates some salt water.

Glyceria elata Tall mannagrass

Exposure: full sun to partial shade
Soil moisture: moist to wet
Transplanting success: high
Growth rate: rapid
Form: somewhat tufted perennial, almost succulent, to 4.5 feet, with creeping rhizomes

Tall mannagrass prefers open habitat and is typically found on streamsides, wet meadows, and lakeshores. It transplants well, and grows quickly.

Glyceria grandis Reed mannagrass

Exposure: full sun to partial shade
Soil moisture: moist to wet
Transplanting success: high
Growth rate: rapid
Form: tall, single stems to 6 feet arising from creeping rhizomes

One of our frequent customers calls this species a “workhorse” because it transplants and grows so well: it tolerates wide seasonal water fluctuations and is robust enough to be somewhat competitive with invasive species. We are encouraged by this endorsement to recommend it to others. It can take drier, shadier habitats than tall mannagrass.

Juncus acuminatus Tapered rush

Exposure: full sun
Soil moisture: wet to shallow water
Transplanting success: high
Growth rate: medium to rapid
Form: mostly tufted to 30 inches, sometimes with short rhizomes and in dense mats

Tapered rush prefers to be wet throughout the year, frequenting the shallow water of lake-shores, ditches, meadows, and marshes. This species matures quickly and produces prolific seeds that may aid in your revegetation efforts.

Juncus ensifolius Dagger-leaf rush

Exposure: full sun
Soil moisture: moist to wet
Transplanting success: high
Growth rate: medium
Form: stems to 24 inches, arising from fat rhizomes, often growing in a line

This small rush grows in moist sites but usually not in standing water. Common in wet mead-ows and tolerant of somewhat compacted soil. Can spread rapidly along disturbed shorelines.

Juncus tenuis Slender rush

Exposure: full sun
Soil moisture: moist to wet,
Transplanting success: high
Growth rate: unknown
Form: tufted and slender, to 26 inches, fibrous roots

Slender rush is most frequent in disturbed sites such as pastures, roadsides, and clearings. It is tolerant of compacted soils, some shade, and some drought, which means it will survive the conditions of many mitigation sites!

Scirpus acutus (lacustris ssp. acutus) Hardstem bulrush

Exposure: full sun
Soil moisture: wet to shallow water
Transplanting success: medium to high
Growth rate: rapid **Form:** stout stems to 10 feet, from rhizomes

Hardstem bulrush can form large colonies in standing water at lakeshores and marshes. It grows in deeper water than any other emergents we grow—plant it at a depth of 2-8" at lowest water. Generally a fresh water species, but can tolerate some salt water. Provides food, cover, and/or nesting sites for many species of birds and mammals.

Scirpus microcarpus Small-fruited bulrush

Exposure: full sun
Soil moisture: wet to shallow water
Transplanting success: high
Growth rate: rapid **Form:** large clumps to 5 feet, arising from rhizomes

Small-fruited bulrush is a vigorous grower in sloughs, streambanks, and disturbed sites such as ditches and wet clearings. This species likes to be wet year-round, although the soil may be dry at the surface during drought. It can tolerate some shade, but will grow less vigorously. Provides valuable food and nesting material for wildlife.

SOUND NATIVE PLANTS

Current inventory may include species not on this list—please inquire.

Groundcovers and Perennials

Aquilegia formosa Red columbine

Exposure: full sun to partial shade
Soil moisture: moist, well-drained okay, dry soil in shade okay
Transplanting success: high
Growth rate: moderate
Form: perennial herb to 3 feet, with taproot

Red columbine grows in moist, open sites or in partial shade on the edge of woodlands. It may spread by seed, but generally doesn't compete well with invasives. It is a nectar plant for hummingbirds.

Arctostaphylos uva-ursi Kinnikinnik

Exposure: full sun to partial shade
Soil moisture: moist to dry, well-drained
Transplanting success: medium
Growth rate: slow until established
Form: evergreen shrub or groundcover to 8 inches, mat forming,

Once established, kinnikinnik withstands drought and full sun exposure and does best in coarse, low-nutrient soils. It is not competitive on richer sites. It is slow to start growing, so plant densely or intermix with a fast grower if quick coverage is important. After a year or two, kinnikinnik will spread more rapidly to form mats. We often recommend this species for erosion control projects in full sun. An important food plant for wildlife. "Kinnikinnik" is the longest palindrome in the English language!

Aruncus dioicus (sylvester) Goat's beard

Exposure: partial shade to shade
Soil moisture: moist, dry in shade okay
Transplanting success: high
Growth rate: rapid
Form: herbaceous perennial to 6 feet, short rhizomes, separate male and female plants

Goat's beard has attributes that may serve you well on restoration sites: it transplants fine, tolerates some sun, and is much larger than most of our native perennials so it's less likely to get lost or stepped on. Seeds are food for song birds.

Asarum caudatum Wild ginger

Exposure: partial shade to deep shade
Soil moisture: moist
Transplanting success: medium
Growth rate: slow
Form: evergreen perennial, mat forming to 10 inches, from thick rhizomes and woody stem

Wild ginger requires shade and soil rich in organic matter. It may not grow noticeably for a year or so following transplanting, but once established it begins to spread moderately by rhizomes. It is common under western red cedar. We consider this a species for enhancement projects, not for revegetating open sites.

Athyrium filix-femina Lady fern

Exposure: partial shade to shade
Soil moisture: wet to moist
Transplanting success: high
Growth rate: moderate to high
Form: deciduous fern with fronds to 6 feet, from stout rhizomes

With ample moisture, lady fern is a vigorous grower; it is common on mucky streamside terraces. With very moist soil and fall installation, it may tolerate full sun.

Camassia quamash Common camas

Exposure: full sun to partial shade
Soil moisture: moist to dry, well-drained
Transplanting success: unknown
Growth rate: moderate **Form:** herb to 25 inches, from a deep bulb

Common camas is abundant in meadows of western Washington, most typically in the prairies formed on gravelly glacial soils. For best results, outplant in the fall when camas is dormant—bulbs generally don't transplant well when disturbed during the growing-season.

Dicentra formosa Bleeding heart

Exposure: partial shade to shade
Soil moisture: moist, dry in shade okay
Transplanting success: high
Growth rate: rapid
Form: soft herbaceous perennial to 20 inches, from slender, fleshy rhizomes

Bleeding heart needs soil rich in organic matter to really shine—given moist , fluffy soil, this plant will spread rapidly. In poorer soil, bleeding heart will do reasonably well, as long as it is protected from the sun. Bleeding heart can provide food and nectar for wildlife.

Fragaria chiloensis Coastal strawberry

Exposure: full sun to partial shade
Soil moisture: moist to dry
Transplanting success: high
Growth rate: rapid
Form: leathery, somewhat evergreen perennial to 10 inches, spreads by runners

Very successful in coarse, poor soils characteristic of the early stages of restoration. It is competitive in disturbed, weedy sites and grows vigorously through the winter following fall planting in the Puget Sound area. It generally grows on sand dunes and sea bluffs, and it is well adapted to droughty, exposed conditions. We recommend it for erosion control projects because it spreads quickly and anchors the surface layer.

Fragaria vesca Woodland strawberry

Exposure: full sun to shade
Soil moisture: moist
Transplanting success: high
Growth rate: rapid
Form: herbaceous perennial to 12 inches, spreads by runners

Woodland strawberry will accept a fairly wide range of soil and light conditions, from dry soil in shaded areas to moist soil in the open sun. It spreads very quickly, and if the soil is rich, it will grow lushly to provide good cover and weed suppression. Fruit is eaten by birds and small mammals (and humans if they're quick enough).

Gaultheria shallon Salal

Exposure: partial shade to deep shade
Soil moisture: moist to dry
Transplanting success: medium to high if shaded, low if not
Growth rate: slow until established
Form: evergreen shrub 2-5 feet, sometimes more; very shallow and fibrous root system, spreads vigorously by underground stems once well established

Salal does not like to be transplanted. For best results, plant into shade or partial shade and add woody mulch. If planted into full sun, it will require a lot of babying to survive. Once transplanted, salal generally remains small for a few years following planting as it becomes established. When it begins its more typical, rampant growth, it may require regular pruning to maintain it as a "groundcover". It generally grows to around three feet at maturity, except in the wettest coastal climates where it may tower overhead.

Hydrophyllum tenuipes Pacific waterleaf

Exposure: partial shade to shade
Soil moisture: moist
Transplanting success: high
Growth rate: moderate to rapid
Form: herbaceous perennial to 30 inches, from short, thick rhizome and fleshy roots

Waterleaf is common in moist, open forests in the lowlands. We have seen it spread copiously, once established. This species must be planted in shade and will benefit from a light application of organic mulch (not more than an inch).

Linnaea borealis Twinflower

Exposure: partial shade to deep shade
Soil moisture: moist
Transplanting success: low to medium
Growth rate: moderate
Form: semi-woody evergreen to 4 inches, with long, leafy runners

We have found twinflower somewhat difficult to transplant successfully—it may rot if too wet or get crispy if too dry. Twinflower does well in shaded, organically rich habitats, free of invasives. It does not compete well with weeds.

Mahonia (Berberis) nervosa Low Oregon grape

Exposure: shade
Soil moisture: moist to dry
Transplanting success: medium
Growth rate: slow
Form: evergreen shrub to 2 feet; taproot, spreads by underground stems

The common names "long-leafed", "low", and "dull" all apply to this one species of Oregon grape! Its needs are very different from tall Oregon grape. It requires shade to survive transplanting, and on drier or nutrient-poor soils, organic mulch such as wood chips is advised. We have found this species difficult to establish except as an understory planting.

Maianthemum dilatatum False lily-of-the-valley

Exposure: partial shade to shade
Soil moisture: moist, dry in shade okay
Transplanting success: high
Growth rate: rapid
Form: herbaceous perennial (somewhat evergreen) to 12 inches, from branching rhizomes

False lily-of-the-valley does not like being in a pot, but once released into the soil, it spreads abundantly. For best results, with this species and many other native perennials, plant in at least partial shade and top-dress lightly with organic mulch.

Mimulus guttatus Yellow monkey-flower

Exposure: full sun to partial shade
Soil moisture: wet, well-drained okay
Transplanting success: medium
Growth rate: moderate
Form: herbaceous perennial or annual to 30 inches, from creeping stolons and rhizomes

This species is found along streams, in wet meadow, seeps, and other wet places. It does not require rich soil, but does need a steady supply of moisture. It spreads well by seed.

Oxalis oregana Wood sorrel

Exposure: partial shade to shade
Soil moisture: moist to dry
Transplanting success: high
Growth rate: rapid
Form: herbaceous perennial to 6 inches, from rhizomes

Wood sorrel spreads very well once established. It will tolerate fairly dry soil if planted in the shade. It is one of our most robust groundcovers, but still has trouble in open, weedy sites.

Polystichum munitum Sword fern

Exposure: partial shade to shade
Soil moisture: moist to dry
Transplanting success: high
Growth rate: moderate
Form: evergreen fern with fronds to 5 feet, woody rhizomes

We often see sword fern planted in full sun, but transplants usually don't survive in the open unless there is ample soil moisture. However, with suitable conditions this plant will thrive with little or no care after planting; it is highly successful when planted in partial or full shade and mulched. Sword fern is also tough and competitive against invasive species once established.

Smilacina (Maianthemum) racemosa False Solomon's seal

Exposure: partial shade to shade
Soil moisture: moist
Transplanting success: medium
Growth rate: moderate
Form: herbaceous perennial to 3 feet, from stout rhizomes

False Solomon's seal is found in moist forests and on stream banks in mature soils. Unless it will be receiving irrigation, transplant at the end of the growing season, in September through November. We consider false Solomon's seal and other lilies for enhancement projects, rather than for revegetating open sites.

Smilacina (Maianthemum) stellata Starry false Solomon's seal

Exposure: partial shade to shade
Soil moisture: moist
Transplanting success: medium
Growth rate: moderate
Form: herbaceous perennial to 20 inches, from thin rhizomes

Starry false Solomon's seal grows in similar habitats to false Solomon's seal, sometimes in slightly drier (or better-drained) substrates. For best results, transplant in the fall or provide irrigation and put it into rich soil.

Tellima grandiflora Fringecup

Exposure: partial shade to shade
Soil moisture: moist
Transplanting success: high
Growth rate: moderate
Form: herbaceous perennial to 30 inches, with short rhizomes

One of our customers says that this is the toughest flowering upland herb he knows: it competes with invasive species and tolerates disturbed soil and drought. For best results in full sun, provide an inch of mulch and some irrigation. This species transplants well and spreads well from seed.

Thalictrum occidentale Western meadowrue

Exposure: full sun to shade
Soil moisture: moist
Transplanting success: high
Growth rate: rapid
Form: herbaceous perennial to 2 feet, from fleshy rhizomes, separate male and female plants

Our native meadowrue grows and spreads vigorously in fluffy, rich soil, but it also will tolerate less ideal soil as long as some moisture and an inch of mulch are available through the summer.

Tolmiea menziesii Piggyback plant

Exposure: partial shade to shade
Soil moisture: moist to wet
Transplanting success: high
Growth rate: rapid
Form: herbaceous perennial to 30 inches tall, from well-developed rhizomes

Piggyback plant is very common along streamsides, wetland edges, and moist forests. It requires plentiful moisture and some shade. Given these conditions, it can establish itself quickly and spread.

Vancouveria hexandra Inside-out flower

Exposure: partial shade to shade
Soil moisture: moist
Transplanting success: high
Growth rate: moderate
Form: herbaceous perennial to 10 inches, from rhizomes

Inside-out flower spreads extensively in fertile, mature soils. We advise planting it in at least partial shade and, if soils are poor in organic matter, mulching lightly with wood chips.

Viola sempervirens Evergreen violet

Exposure: partial shade to deep shade
Soil moisture: moist
Transplanting success: medium
Growth rate: slow
Form: evergreen perennial to 3 inches, from scaly rhizomes, mat forming

Evergreen violet will tolerate fairly dry conditions in the shade. It is tricky to transplant successfully, but once it has put down roots, it will flower frequently and spread by seed.

SOUND NATIVE PLANTS

SPECIES SELECTION GUIDE

What plants do you want for your project?

Native species are not created equal when it comes to surviving transplant shock and adapting to a harsh site. Success may depend on choosing species that are not only suited to site conditions but are also hardy and adaptable, capable of handling nutrient poor soil, scarce water and shade, and competitive weeds. This guide suggests only those species we have found most successful and reliable for revegetation. See the first list for our very favorites.

We do not intend this guide to replace site-specific recommendations from an experienced restoration ecologist. We do hope it will help you double-check and refine your species selection. Many species show up on more than one of these lists, so make sure to cross-reference before finalizing your choices.

Remember that these lists indicate site conditions for successful *transplanting*, not necessarily the conditions where you would find established plants. Unless specified, these lists exclude plants that need shade since cover is rare at most planting sites.

Lists

- Restoration superstars
- Plants for steep slopes/soil erosion control
- Plants for very wet sites
- Live stakes and cuttings (also wet sites)
- Plants for moist sites
- Plants for dry sites
- Plants hard to establish/need extra care

Restoration superstars

Based on our field experience, a few species stand out as star performers. These are the ones that seem determined to thrive even with some abuse: rough handling, poor soil, more or less water and shade than expected. No plant will guarantee success, but the species on this list are often your best bet.

All are tolerant of full sun. Most also grow rapidly and, in adequate conditions, will put on many inches or even feet every growing season. The fastest growers are indicated in the Comments.

We've listed each species in its ideal spot along the moisture spectrum, but all of the superstars will take moisture fluctuations or overall wetter or drier conditions than indicated. The *most* tolerant species are noted in the comments as "versatile". You get the best results by putting the right plant in the right place, but these plants cut you more slack than most.

	Species		**Comments**
Wet	Sitka willow	*Salix sitchensis*	container-grown or stakes
	Hooker's willow	*Salix hookeriana*	container-grown or stakes
	Pacific willow	*Salix lucida*	container-grown or stakes
	Slough sedge	*Carex obnupta*	emergent
	Red osier dogwood	*Cornus sericea*	container-grown only, versatile
	Swamp rose	*Rosa pisocarpa*	fast growing
	Black twinberry	*Lonicera involucrata*	fast growing
	Pacific ninebark	*Physocarpus capitatus*	versatile
	Black cottonwood	*Populus balsamifera*	very fast growing
	Red alder	*Alnus rubra*	very fast growing
V	Shore pine	*Pinus contorta*	versatile
	Nootka rose	*Rosa nutkana*	versatile
	Cascara	*Rhamnus purshiana*	versatile
	Vine maple	*Acer circinatum*	slower growing, a survivor
	Big leaf maple	*Acer macrophyllum*	fast growing, versatile
	Snowberry	*Symphoricarpos albus*	very versatile
	Thimbleberry	*Rubus parviflorus*	versatile
	Woods strawberry	*Fragaria vesca*	herb, versatile
Dry	Western hazel	*Corylus cornuta*	slower growing, a survivor
	Douglas fir	*Pseudotsuga menziesii*	versatile
	Coastal strawberry	*Fragaria chiloensis*	herb, versatile
	Oceanspray	*Holodiscus discolor*	versatile
	Tall Oregon grape	*Mahonia aquifolium*	versatile

These are fabulous plants to work with!

Plants for steep slopes/soil erosion control

The best strategy for stabilizing a slope with plants is to establish vegetation at multiple levels—plant trees, shrubs, and groundcovers. A multi-level canopy will do the best job of intercepting and slowing precipitation before it hits the ground, thus reducing surface erosion. Multiple vegetation types also provide both deep and spreading roots which stabilize the entire soil profile.

If maintaining a view is important, plant trees at the edges of the view, space them widely, or prune selectively, but don't leave them out—you can't beat a mature tree for its root system.

The plants recommended here are drought tolerant, except for those with "wet soil" noted in the Comments. Most slopes shouldn't be irrigated, since irrigation can exacerbate soil erosion. These plants are also relatively rapid growers that stabilize soil quickly.

Trees		**Comments**
Grand fir	*Abies grandis*	
Big leaf maple Shore pine Douglas fir	*Acer macrophyllum* *Pinus contorta* *Pseudotsuga menziesii*	
Cascara	*Rhamnus purshiana*	small tree
Pacific willow	*Salix lucida*	wet soil
Scouler's willow	*Salix scouleriana*	small tree
Shrubs		
Vine maple	*Acer circinatum*	
Red-osier dogwood Oceanspray Indian plum	*Cornus sericea* *Holodiscus discolor* *Oemleria cerasiformis*	wet soil needs shade
Thimbleberry	*Rubus parviflorus*	spreads by suckers
Salmonberry	*Rubus spectabilis*	wet soil, likes shade
Hookers willow Sitka willow Snowberry	*Salix hookeriana* *Salix sitchensis* *Symphoricarpos albus*	wet soil wet soil spreads by suckers
Groundcovers		
Kinnikinnick	*Arctostaphylos uva-ursi*	slow to establish
Strawberries	*Fragaria vesca, F. chiloensis*	*chiloensis* good in sandy soil
Sword fern	*Polystichum munitum*	needs shade

Plants for very wet sites

Most coastal Pacific Northwest species that grow in or near the water require at least a few months of drying out during the growing season. Only a few emergent species can tolerate saturation year round, and even then standing water must be shallow enough to allow some greenery above the surface.

Water levels can fluctuate widely and conditions can change unpredictably, so you should monitor water levels at the site for a year before planting if you have that luxury. Even with this information, it can be difficult to predict which species will give you the best results at the water's edge, so we recommend selecting a mix of emergents to improve your chances of making a good match.

Saturated ∨ usually wet (dry in summer)	Species		Comments
	Hardstem bulrush	*Scirpus acutus*	plant in 2-8" of water*
	Tapered rush	*Juncus acuminatus*	plant in 0-4" of water*
	Beaked sedge	*Carex utriculata*	shallow water*
	Small-fruited bulrush	*Scirpus microcarpus*	
	Slough sedge	*Carex obnupta*	shade tolerant sedge
	Sawbeak sedge	*Carex stipata*	
	Common spikerush	*Eleocharis palustris*	
	Shore sedge	*Carex lenticularis*	
	Pacific willow	*Salix lasiandra*	
	Sitka willow	*Salix sitchensis*	
	Hookers willow	*Salix hookeriana*	plant near salt water
	Oregon ash	*Fraxinus latifolia*	
	Red osier dogwood	*Cornus sericea*	forms thickets
	Swamp rose	*Rosa pisocarpa*	forms thickets
	Black twinberry	*Lonicera involucrata*	forms thickets
	Dagger-leaf rush	*Juncus ensifolius*	
	Pacific ninebark	*Physocarpus capitatus*	forms thickets
	Black cottonwood	*Populus balsamifera*	
	Salmonberry	*Rubus spectabilis*	
	Shore pine	*Pinus contorta*	
	Sitka spruce	*Picea sitchensis*	
	Reed mannagrass	*Glyceria grandis*	sod forming in wet meadows

We don't recommend planting highly aggressive natives such as Douglas spirea (*Spiraea douglasii*), cattails (*Typha latifolia*), or soft rush (*Juncus effusus*) because they tend to form monocultures. If site conditions suit them, they will probably move in anyway.

Live stakes and cuttings (also wet sites)

Under the right conditions, live stakes are a terrific way to revegetate wet areas with minimal expense and labor. We have found that some species give you better results than others—our native willows and black cottonwood generally are the most successful. These species are also appropriate for brush material and fascines.

This list may help you narrow the field further and decide which species are best for the specific demands of your project. Please contact us for more information on use, ordering, and handling of cuttings.

Species		**Comments**
Sitka willow	*Salix sitchensis*	very good rooter, most common willow in south Sound
Pacific willow	*Salix lucida*	good rooter, brittle/difficult to pound, tree-size
Scouler's willow	*Salix scouleriana*	drier sites, roots dependably but more slowly, tree-size
Hooker willow	*Salix hookeriana* and *Salix hookeriana v. piperi*	very good rooter, flexible but brittle, plant near salt water
Geyer willow	*Salix geyeriana*	good rooter, prefers year-round saturated soil: inundated banks and muddy shores
Black cottonwood	*Populus balsamifera*	good rooter, may grow several feet a year in flood plains
Red osier dogwood	*Cornus sericea*	often lower success rate than willows, put in the shade for highest success, mix with willows for diversity

Other species may work from live stakes, such as snowberry, ninebark, twinberry, salmonberry, and red elderberry, but we would consider them experimental.

Plants for moist sites

There are numerous Pacific Northwest species that favor moist sites. However, "moist" comes in many degrees and variations, from damp to soaking and from steady moisture to fluctuating wet and dry. One person's "moist" may be very different than another's.

So we have included only the most versatile and vigorous growers for this list; only the species that can accept a wide range of moist conditions. These plants will tolerate some dry times in the summer, especially if mulched and/or watered for the first few years. They will also tolerate some flooding, although species usually limited to saturated soils are excluded from this list.

There is overlap between this list and the wet lists, as we are following the continuum from wet to dry.

Very moist > moderately moist	**Species**		**Comments**
	Red osier dogwood	*Cornus sericea*	very versatile
	Swamp rose	*Rosa pisocarpa*	
	Black twinberry	*Lonicera involucrata*	
	Pacific ninebark	*Physocarpus capitatus*	very versatile
	Black cottonwood	*Populus balsamifera*	
	Red alder	*Alnus rubra*	very versatile; riparian
	Black hawthorn	*Crataegus douglasii*	
	Salmonberry	*Rubus spectabilis*	needs moisture in summer
	Shore pine	*Pinus contorta*	very versatile
	Nootka rose	*Rosa nutkana*	versatile
	Sitka spruce	*Picea sitchensis*	
	Cascara	*Rhamnus purshiana*	good choice for riparian
	Vine maple	*Acer circinatum*	
	Big leaf maple	*Acer macrophyllum*	
	Snowberry	*Symphoricarpos albus*	very versatile
	Red elderberry	*Sambucus racemosa*	
	Thimbleberry	*Rubus parviflorus*	good choice for riparian, versatile
	Western hazelnut	*Corylus cornuta*	

Plants for dry sites

Sunny, dry sites present extremely challenging conditions for transplanting and success rates are generally low. Sunny, dry sites benefit the most from irrigation. If irrigation is unavailable, plant in the fall and apply mulch for best survival.

It is also critical to choose species that are most likely to hang tough in the midst of the summer drought. These are species typically found in well-drained soil and even recent transplants are somewhat drought tolerant.

Trees		**Comments**
Shore pine	*Pinus contorta*	versatile
Douglas fir	*Pseudotsuga menziesii*	fast growing
Garry oak	*Quercus garryana*	slow growing
Shrubs		
Serviceberry	*Amelanchier alnifolia*	
Beaked hazelnut	*Corylus cornuta*	survives but doesn't thrive
Ocean spray	*Holodiscus discolor*	likes marine bluffs
Tall Oregon grape	*Mahonia aquifolium*	
Mock orange	*Philadelphus lewisii*	
Red-flowering currant	*Ribes sanguineum*	do not over water
Snowberry	*Symphoricarpos albus*	very versatile
Groundcovers/Perennials		
Kinnikinnik	*Arctostaphylos uva-ursi*	slow to establish
Common camas	*Camassia quamash*	
Coastal strawberry	*Fragaria chiloensis*	likes sandy soil
Wild strawberry	*Fragaria virginiana*	
Early blue violet	*Viola adunca*	

Plants hard to establish/need extra care

Many favorite Pacific Northwest natives are difficult to establish in restoration sites. They often grow abundantly in forests or on roadsides, but for various reasons don't take well to transplanting into harsh sites. Most of these species require mature soils or shade as they settle in (also see our shade list) and are best suited for enhancement plantings.

We generally recommend *against* using these plants for revegetation, unless you need them to serve a specific purpose. If you want to include them, we propose the following treatments.

Trees		**Treatments**
Pacific madrone	*Arbutus menziesii*	Assume large transplanting losses, don't over water
Bitter cherry	*Prunus emarginata*	Assume losses to disease
Pacific flowering dogwood	*Cornus nuttallii*	Assume losses to disease, plant at an edge with stem in shade
Shrubs/vines		
Red huckleberry	*Vaccinium parvifolium*	Plant in shade, mulch with wood chips, irrigate but don't over water
Oregon grape	*Mahonia nervosa*	Plant in shade, mulch, irrigate
Orange honeysuckle	*Lonicera ciliosa*	Assume transplanting losses
Red-flowering currant	*Ribes sanguineum*	Plant only in well drained soils, don't over water
Pacific rhododendron	*R. macrophyllum*	Mulch, shade, irrigate, be patient for it to grow
Groundcovers		
Herbaceous groundcovers		Plant in shade, mulch lightly, irrigate, suppress weed competition
Bunchberry	*Cornus canadensis*	Incorporate composted wood into soil, plant in cool, shaded spot
Twinflower	*Linnaea borealis*	Plant in dry shade, mulch lightly

If you've figured out a way to get consistently good results on restoration sites with any of these, please let us know!

Plants that need shade

The salal and sword fern that you see growing in clear cuts were originally growing under tree cover. Only with a mature root system do they flourish in full sun. If you are determined to put these species out in the open, expect losses and give them special care such as mulching with wood chips and irrigation during the summer drought.

Trees		**Comments**
Western hemlock	*Tsuga heterophylla*	plant on the northeast side of a shading plant or use shade screen
Western red cedar	*Thuja plicata*	
Shrubs		
Red huckleberry	*Vaccinium parvifolium*	very sun sensitive, hard to establish
Bald-hip rose	*Rosa gymnocarpa*	does well in shade
Oregon grape	*Mahonia nervosa*	slow grower
Salal	*Gaultheria shallon*	slow grower
Indian plum	*Oemleria cerasiformis*	does well in shade
Pacific rhododendron	*R. macrophyllum*	slow grower
Groundcovers		
Sword fern	*Polystichum munitum*	does well in shade
Most herbaceous groundcovers!		most also need mature soil, rich in organic matter

Deer resistant plants

There is no such thing as a deer-*proof* plant. Deer are adaptable creatures, and they may choose to eat any species if it is easily available to them and they are hungry. However, you can choose species that at least are not their favorites.

Trees		**Comments**
Grand fir	*Abies grandis*	
Oregon ash	*Fraxinus latifolia*	
Sitka spruce	*Picea sitchensis*	
Shore pine	*Pinus contorta*	
Douglas fir	*Pseudotsuga menziesi*	
Garry oak	*Quercus garryana*	
Cascara	*Rhamnus purshiana*	
Western red cedar	*Thuja plicata*	needs shade
Western hemlock	*Tsuga heterophylla*	needs shade
Shrubs		
Vine maple	*Acer circinatum*	
Serviceberry	*Amelanchier alnifolia*	
Beaked hazelnut	*Corylus cornuta*	
Salal	*Gaultheria shallon*	needs shade
Tall Oregon grape	*Mahonia aquifolium*	
Oregon grape	*Mahonia nervosa*	needs shade
Pacific wax-myrtle	*Myrica californica*	
Indian plum	*Oemleria cerasiformis*	needs shade
Mock orange	*Philadelphus lewisii*	
Straggly gooseberry	*Ribes divaricatum*	
Red-flowering currant	*Ribes sanguineum*	
Bald-hip Rose	*Rosa gymnocarpa*	
Nootka rose	*Rosa nutkana*	
Swamp rose	*Rosa pisocarpa*	
Red elderberry	*Sambucus racemosa*	
Snowberry	*Symphoricarpos albus*	
Huckleberries	*Vaccinium* spp.	most need shade
Ground covers		
Kinnikinnik	*Arctostaphylos uva-ursi*	
Bleeding heart	*Dicentra formosa*	needs shade
Strawberries	*Fragaria* spp.	
Piggyback plant	*Tolmiea menziesii*	needs shade

SOUND NATIVE PLANTS

USEFUL RESOURCES

Field guides

Cooke, S. S., ed. 1997. *A Field Guide to the Common Wetland Plants of Western Washington and Northwestern Oregon*. Seattle Audubon Society/Washington Native Plant Society. Seattle, Washington.

Indispensable for learning wetland plants in western Washington. This book is best for intermediate to advanced botanists, but beginners would find it useful as well. Organized by large plant groups (trees/shrubs/herbs/sedges/etc.); illustrated with line drawings and some color photographs.

Jacobson, A. L. 2001. *Wild Plants of Greater Seattle.* Arthur Lee Jacobson. Seattle, Washington.

A new field guide to native and naturalized plants of the Seattle area. This book fills in some gaps left by other guides, including the many weeds and other naturalized species found alongside the natives. Species descriptions emphasize ornamental attributes and are accompanied by line drawings. There are also species lists for different habitat types and recommendations for appropriate wild flower mixes. Includes some typos and no keys.

Pojar, J. and A. MacKinnon. 1994. *Plants of the Pacific Northwest Coast*. Lone Pine Publishing. Redmond, Washington.

The favorite field guide for many serious and amateur botanists. Impressively thorough in its coverage and includes pointers on distinguishing between similar species. Lots of ethnobotanical information. Illustrated with color photographs and line drawings of nearly every species. Organization is somewhat confusing—by family in some sections, by larger groups in others.

Propagation and Salvage

Leigh, M. 1999. *Grow Your Own Native Landscape*. Native Plant Salvage Project/ WSU Cooperative Extension – Thurston County. Olympia, Washington.

A terrific how-to guide. Most of the book is devoted to descriptions of species' appearance, habitat, advantages and disadvantages, and propagation and salvage techniques. Also includes descriptions of propagation techniques, commercial sources, and problem plants. Illustrated with line drawings. For a copy, phone the Native Plant Salvage Project: (360) 704-7785.

Rose, R., Chachulski, C. E. C, and D. L. Haase. 1998. *Propagation of Pacific Northwest Native Plants*. Oregon State University Press. Corvallis, Oregon.

Species descriptions, habitat and range, and propagation techniques for a selection of natives—mostly from the west coast, but also from the montane regions and east of the Cascades. Minimal illustrations (all drawings).

Landscaping and gardening

Kruckeberg, A. R. 1996. *Gardening with Native Plants of the Pacific Northwest*. University of Washington Press. Seattle, Washington.

The well-known classic on the virtues of native plants as ornamentals, oriented toward the home garden. Extensive discussion by species of gardening merits. Black and white photographs, some color plates, and drawings.

Link, R. 1999. *Landscaping for Wildlife in the Pacific Northwest*. Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife. Seattle, Washington.
Detailed descriptions of designing gardens and structures for attracting wildlife. Excellent line drawings and some color plates. This book emphasizes design, management, and special features to attract wildlife on your property; most of the information on specific native plants is in Appendix C. Useful for home gardens and larger projects too.

Restoration

Stevens, M. L., Gordon, D. G., and D. Sheldon. 1993. *Restoring Wetlands in Washington*. Washington State Department of Ecology. Olympia, Washington.
A guidebook for wetland restoration, planning, and implementation. Contains chapters on planning, site assessment, design, implementation, and monitoring. Somewhat dated, but offers a good overview and introduction for people new to wetland restoration.

Periodicals

Land and Water
A trade magazine covering erosion control and stormwater management that occasionally has interesting articles on slope stabilization and shoreline restoration. Contains a lot of advertisements. Phone: (515) 567-3191. Website: www.landandwater@dodgenet.com.

Native Plants Journal
A journal intended as a clearinghouse for information on all aspects of growing and planting native plants in the U.S. The articles are well written and cover a wide range of topics. Attractive, full-color layout. Subscriptions: (800) 847-7377. Website: www.nativeplantnetwork.org. Email: nativeplants@uidaho.edu.

Wetland Journal
A quarterly magazine published by Environmental Concern, an East Coast nonprofit specializing in wetland issues. Despite the East Coast focus, this publication often has a wealth of practical information. The occasional "Do's and Don'ts" column is outstanding. Phone: (410) 745-9620. Website: www.wetland.org.

Organizations

Society for Ecological Restoration (SER)
An organization for both professionals and lay-people interested in the science of restoration ecology and its implications in management, education, and culture. Publishes the magazine *Restoration Ecology* four times a year and the scientific journal *Ecological Restoration*. Pacific Northwest chapter office: (206) 547-9641. Pacific Northwest chapter website: www.sernw.org. E-mail: info@sernw.org.

Washington Native Plant Society
A non-profit organization dedicated to learning about and protecting our state's native flora. Publishes the quarterly journal *Douglasia*. Local chapters have field trips, monthly meetings, and newsletters. The members are very friendly and happy to help you learn to identify plants. For information on the chapter nearest you, phone: (888) 288-8022. Website: www.wnps.org.

SOUND NATIVE PLANTS

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We take responsibility for any mistakes or errors contained in the catalog; please provide corrections to joslyn@soundnativeplants.com or (360) 352-4122.