

LANDSCAPING WITH NATIVE PLANTS

GREEN
SNOQUALMIE
PARTNERSHIP 

LANDSCAPING WITH NATIVE PLANTS

Washington state is home to thousands of plants, many of which can beautify your yard while providing numerous benefits to wildlife, humans, and ecosystems.



Sword fern — *Polystichum munitum*



Nootka rose — *Rosa nutkana*



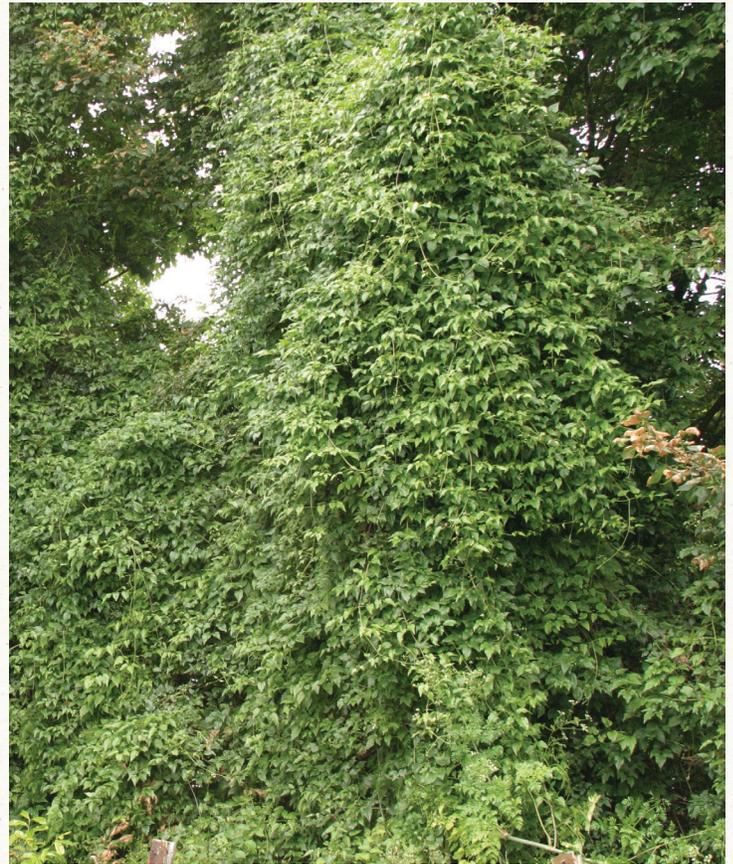
Western trillium — *Trillium ovatum*

Native plants are great for a home gardener because they are adapted to our region's wet winters and dry summers. This means that, once established, they are easier to manage and require less water. They are also more pest and disease resistant.

Gardens with native plants are great for local forests. They provide habitat and foraging opportunities for birds, pollinators, and other wildlife, increasing and improving habitat corridors. Native plants control erosion and reduce pollution and runoff, benefiting both people and wildlife.

Some nursery plants, though beautiful, can escape backyard gardens and become invasive weeds in forests. Invasive plants diminish habitats and ecosystems and are a constant battle for land managers. When you garden with native plants, you eliminate this risk of nonnative plants naturalizing in our local forests.

Gardening with native plants protects Snoqualmie's forests and increases our connection to our beautiful region.



Ivy — *Hedera helix*, a popular landscaping plant can escape and become a big problem in forested areas.

GENERAL TIPS FOR PLANTING WITH NATIVE PLANTS

- Snoqualmie has shallow soils so it is important to use lots of arborist mulch or chips (ground-up tree material) to fortify the soil. Chipdrop.com provides free wood chips.
- Give conifers room to grow. Plant away from structures and power lines and anticipate how large your tree will grow.
- Plant species that are appropriate for your site, taking into consideration conditions such as soil, moisture, and sunlight.
- Plant during the dormant season (fall/winter). Water in summer for the first few years until the plant is established.
- Consider how plants will spread, especially shrubby plants like roses, thimbleberry, salmonberry, and snowberry.

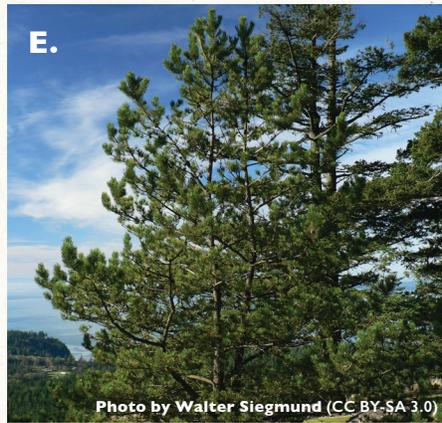


Photo by brewbooks (CC BY-SA 2.0)

Spreading, multi-stem shrubs like **thimbleberry** (above) can quickly overtake areas and be difficult to maintain.

Western redcedar (above) should not be planted in a dry area.

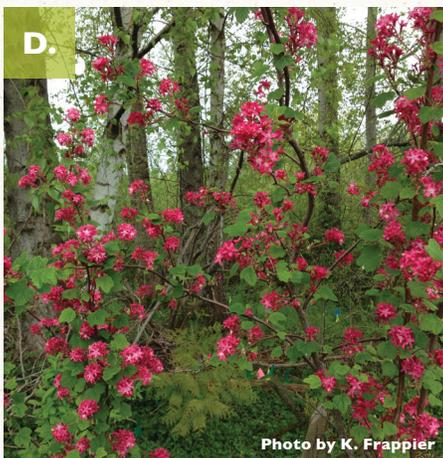
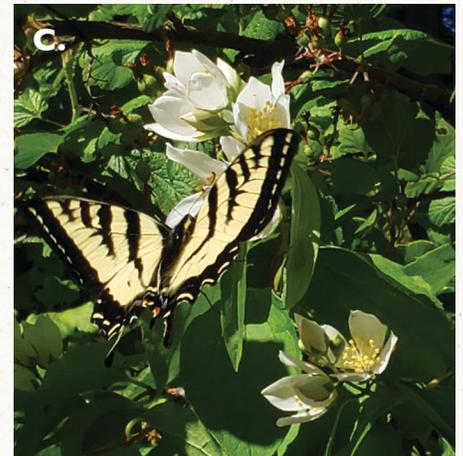
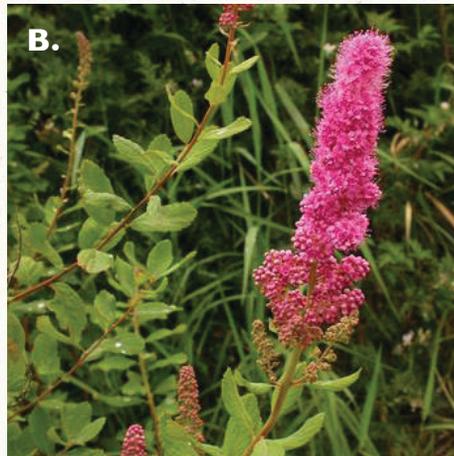
TREES



These beautiful trees are native to our region and work great in yards. Plant them with enough room to grow.

- A. Douglas-fir** — *Pseudotsuga menziesii*. This iconic PNW tree is versatile and great for adding shade or privacy to your yard. Make sure you give this tree plenty of room to grow.
- B. Cascara** — *Rhamnus purshiana*. Cascara is a perfect addition to a backyard and grows in a variety of conditions. Along with deep purple berries and colorful leaves, this tree sports unique silver bark.
- C. Grand fir** — *Abies grandis*. The grand fir's symmetrical shape makes it an attractive addition to any yard and provides important wildlife habitat.
- D. Sitka spruce** — *Picea sitchensis*. Another classic PNW tree, the Sitka spruce is a good option for planting in wetter conditions.
- E. Shore pine** — *Pinus contorta*. Dark green, year-round foliage, red bark, and low maintenance make the shore pine a great backyard addition.
- F. Western white pine** — *Pinus monticola*. Best in a drier site with more space, the western white pine is a spectacular tree that provides quality wildlife habitat.

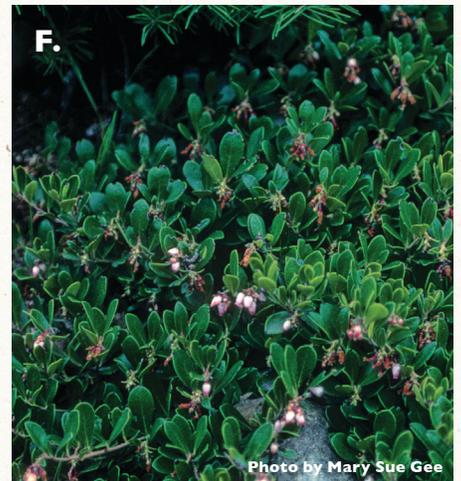
SHRUBS



These shrubs would be incredible additions to any yard, providing colorful flowers and delicious edible berries.

- A. Evergreen huckleberry** — *Vaccinium ovatum*. Evergreen huckleberry provides delicious, edible berries and year-round foliage, making it the perfect addition to a shady backyard.
- B. Hardhack** — *Spirea douglasii*. Hardhack is part of the rose family, and its bright pink flowers will brighten your yard throughout the summer.
- C. Mock-orange** — *Philadelphus lewisii*. Bright white blossoms and a delightful smell make the mock-orange a perfect backyard shrub.
- D. Red-flowering currant** — *Ribes sanguineum*. Red-flowering currant is an early bloomer, making it a welcome sign of spring. In the fall, yellow leaves add color to the landscape.
- E. Tall Oregon-grape** — *Mahonia aquifolium*. Berries on the tall Oregon-grape provide important food for PNW birds.
- F. Vine maple** — *Acer circinatum*. The vine maple adds color to the landscape throughout the year.

GROUNDCOVERS



These low-growing native plants provide nice pops of color and a green carpet to the understory.

- A. Pacific bleeding heart** — *Dicentra formosa*. Pacific bleeding heart is perfect for planting around trees or providing a pop of color.
- B. Salal** — *Gaultheria shallon*. Salal is a versatile groundcover with evergreen, glossy foliage and deep purple berries.
- C. Sword fern** — *Polystichum munitum*. The sword fern is a classic Washington species that grows well in shady areas.
- D. Large-leaved lupine** — *Lupinus polyphyllus*. Large-leaved lupine can add color and texture to any garden.
- E. Red columbine** — *Aquilegia formosa*. The unique and bright red flowers of the red columbine attract pollinators to your garden.
- F. Kinnickinnick** — *Arctostaphylos uva-ursi*. Kinnickinnick is hardy and low maintenance and provides year-round beauty with flowers, berries, and evergreen foliage.

MANAGING WEEDS

Remove Invasive Species

Invasive species are plants that have been recently introduced to this region and grow aggressively. They have disastrous long-term impacts on landscapes, as they can choke out natural areas and prevent the development of future forests. Removing these plants from your yard will help prevent them from spreading into our natural areas.

Common Invasive Species

The following plants are weeds both in our forests and in your landscape. Remove them early so they don't establish in your yard. See the [Green Snoqualmie Forest Steward Field Guide](#) for best practices for removal.



- A. Western clematis** — *Clematis vitalba*
- B. Evergreen blackberry** — *Rubus laciniatus*
- C. Herb-Robert** — *Geranium robertianum*
- D. Himalayan blackberry** — *Rubus discolor*
- E. Nightshade** — *Solanum dulcamara*
- F. Purple loosestrife** — *Lythrum salicaria*

- G. Scotch broom** — *Cytisus scoparius*
- H. Common tansy** — *Tanacetum vulgare*
- I. Tansy ragwort** — *Jacobaea vulgaris*
- J. Field bindweed** — *Convolvulus arvensis*
- K. Reed canary grass** — *Phalaris arundinacea*

AVOID AND REMOVE INVASIVE LANDSCAPE PLANTS

Some common landscape plants can escape into nearby natural areas where they become weedy and smother native plants. Many are still sold at many nurseries. Consider replacing invasive weeds with native plants that are similar in appearance and better for our region's landscape.

Trees and shrubs to avoid	Replace with
European mountain-ash — <i>Sorbus aucuparia</i>	Red elderberry — <i>Rhamnus purshiana</i>
English hawthorn — <i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	Pacific crabapple — <i>Malus fusca</i>
Butterfly bush — <i>Buddleia davidii</i>	Hardhack — <i>Spirea douglasii</i>
Cherry-laurel — <i>Prunus laurocerasus</i>	Evergreen huckleberry — <i>Vaccinium ovatum</i>
English holly — <i>Ilex aquifolium</i>	Tall Oregon-grape — <i>Mahonia aquifolium</i>
Herbaceous/flowering groundcovers to avoid	Replace with
Italian arum — <i>Arum italicum</i>	Pacific bleeding heart — <i>Dicentra formosa</i>
Yellow archangel — <i>Lamium galeobdolon</i>	Red columbine — <i>Aquilegia Formosa</i>
St. John's wort — <i>Hypericum perforatum</i>	Kinnickinnick — <i>Arctostaphylos uva-ursi</i>
English ivy — <i>Hedera helix</i>	Salal — <i>Gaultheria shallon</i>

English holly (left) easily spreads into nearby forests. Try replacing it with the very similar looking **tall Oregon-grape** (right).



Photo by Nicole Marcotte

HABITAT PREFERENCE: TREES

	Full Shade	Partial Shade	Full Sun
Dry	Cascara — <i>Rhamnus purshiana</i>	Cascara — <i>Rhamnus purshiana</i>	Cascara — <i>Rhamnus purshiana</i>
	Western hemlock — <i>Tsuga heterophylla</i>	Grand fir — <i>Abies grandis</i>	Garry oak — <i>Quercus garryana</i>
	Western yew — <i>Taxus brevifolia</i>	Western hemlock — <i>Tsuga heterophylla</i>	Shore pine — <i>Pinus contorta</i>
		Western white pine — <i>Pinus monticola</i>	Douglas-fir — <i>Pseudotsuga menziesii</i>
		Western yew — <i>Taxus brevifolia</i>	Western hemlock — <i>Tsuga heterophylla</i>
			Western white pine — <i>Pinus monticola</i>
Moist	Cascara — <i>Rhamnus purshiana</i>	Cascara — <i>Rhamnus purshiana</i>	Cascara — <i>Rhamnus purshiana</i>
	Western hemlock — <i>Tsuga heterophylla</i>	Grand fir — <i>Abies grandis</i>	Western hemlock — <i>Tsuga heterophylla</i>
	Mountain hemlock — <i>Tsuga mertensiana</i>	Western hemlock — <i>Tsuga heterophylla</i>	Western redcedar — <i>Thuja plicata</i>
	Western yew — <i>Taxus brevifolia</i>	Western redcedar — <i>Thuja plicata</i>	Bitter cherry — <i>Prunus emarginata</i>
		Sitka spruce — <i>Picea sitchensis</i>	Black hawthorn — <i>Crataegus douglasii</i>
		Flowering dogwood — <i>Camus nuttallii</i>	Paper birch — <i>Betula papyifera</i>
		Western hemlock — <i>Tsuga heterophylla</i>	Sitka spruce — <i>Picea sitchensis</i>
		Pacific willow — <i>Salix lucida</i>	Flowering dogwood — <i>Camus nuttallii</i>
		Western redcedar — <i>Thuja plicata</i>	Douglas-fir — <i>Pseudotsuga menziesii</i>
		Mountain hemlock — <i>Tsuga mertensiana</i>	Shore pine — <i>Pinus contorta</i>
		Silver fir — <i>Abies amabilis</i>	Oregon ash — <i>Fraxinus latifolia</i>
		Subalpine fir — <i>Abies lasiocarpa</i>	Pacific willow — <i>Salix lucida</i>
		Western white pine — <i>Pinus monticola</i>	Western redcedar — <i>Thuja plicata</i>
		Western yew — <i>Taxus brevifolia</i>	Mountain hemlock — <i>Tsuga mertensiana</i>
		Alaska yellow-cedar — <i>Chamaecyparis nootkatensis</i>	Silver fir — <i>Abies amabilis</i>
		Pacific crabapple — <i>Malus fusca</i>	Subalpine fir — <i>Abies lasiocarpa</i>
			Western white pine — <i>Pinus monticola</i>
			Western yew — <i>Taxus brevifolia</i>
			Alaska yellow-cedar — <i>Chamaecyparis nootkatensis</i>
			Pacific crabapple — <i>Malus fusca</i>
Wet	Cascara — <i>Rhamnus purshiana</i>	Cascara — <i>Rhamnus purshiana</i>	Cascara — <i>Rhamnus purshiana</i>
		Pacific willow — <i>Salix lucida</i>	Oregon ash — <i>Fraxinus latifolia</i>
		Western redcedar — <i>Thuja plicata</i>	Pacific willow — <i>Salix lucida</i>
		Subalpine fir — <i>Abies lasiocarpa</i>	Western redcedar — <i>Thuja plicata</i>
		Pacific crabapple — <i>Malus fusca</i>	Subalpine fir — <i>Abies lasiocarpa</i>
			Pacific crabapple — <i>Malus fusca</i>

HABITAT PREFERENCE: SHRUBS

	Full Shade	Partial Shade	Full Sun	
Dry	Dull Oregon-grape — <i>Mahonia nervosa</i>	Baldhip rose — <i>Rosa gymnocarpa</i>	Red-flowering currant — <i>Ribes sanguineum</i>	
	Evergreen huckleberry — <i>Vaccinium ovatum</i>	Dull Oregon-grape — <i>Mahonia nervosa</i>	Thimbleberry — <i>Rubus parviflorus</i>	
		Evergreen huckleberry — <i>Vaccinium ovatum</i>	Baldhip rose — <i>Rosa gymnocarpa</i>	
		Oso berry — <i>Oemlaria cerasiformis</i>	Evergreen huckleberry — <i>Vaccinium ovatum</i>	
		Pacific rhododendron — <i>Rhododendron macrophyllum</i>	Mock-orange — <i>Philadelphus lewisii</i>	
		Serviceberry — <i>Amelandchier alnifolia</i>	Nootka rose — <i>Rosa nutkana</i>	
		Sitka mountain-ash — <i>Sorbus sitchensis</i>	Ocean spray — <i>Holodiscus discolor</i>	
		Snowberry — <i>Symphoricarpos albus</i>	Pacific rhododendron — <i>Rhododendron macrophyllum</i>	
		Tall Oregon-grape — <i>Mahonia aquifolium</i>	Serviceberry — <i>Amelandchier alnifolia</i>	
		Common juniper — <i>Junerpris communis</i>	Sitka mountain-ash — <i>Sorbus sitchensis</i>	
			Snowberry — <i>Symphoricarpos albus</i>	
			Tall Oregon-grape — <i>Mahonia aquifolium</i>	
			Common juniper — <i>Junerpris communis</i>	
		Red huckleberry — <i>Vaccinium parvifolium</i>	Goat's beard — <i>Aruncus dioicus</i>	Red huckleberry — <i>Vaccinium parvifolium</i>
	Moist	Dull Oregon-grape — <i>Mahonia nervosa</i>	Red huckleberry — <i>Vaccinium parvifolium</i>	Red elderberry — <i>Sambucus racemosa</i>
Evergreen huckleberry — <i>Vaccinium ovatum</i>		Red elderberry — <i>Sambucus racemosa</i>	Baldhip rose — <i>Rosa gymnocarpa</i>	
Vine maple — <i>Acer circinatum</i>		Baldhip rose — <i>Rosa gymnocarpa</i>	Evergreen huckleberry — <i>Vaccinium ovatum</i>	
		Dull Oregon-grape — <i>Mahonia nervosa</i>	Mock-orange — <i>Philadelphus lewisii</i>	
		Evergreen huckleberry — <i>Vaccinium ovatum</i>	Nootka rose — <i>Rosa nutkana</i>	
		Oso berry — <i>Oemlaria cerasiformis</i>	Ocean spray — <i>Holodiscus discolor</i>	
		Pacific rhododendron — <i>Rhododendron macrophyllum</i>	Pacific rhododendron — <i>Rhododendron macrophyllum</i>	
		Serviceberry — <i>Amelandchier alnifolia</i>	Serviceberry — <i>Amelandchier alnifolia</i>	
		Sitka mountain-ash — <i>Sorbus sitchensis</i>	Sitka mountain-ash — <i>Sorbus sitchensis</i>	
		Snowberry — <i>Symphoricarpos albus</i>	Snowberry — <i>Symphoricarpos albus</i>	
		Tall Oregon-grape — <i>Mahonia aquifolium</i>	Tall Oregon-grape — <i>Mahonia aquifolium</i>	
		Hardhack — <i>Spirea douglasii</i>	Hardhack — <i>Spirea douglasii</i>	
		Hooker's willow — <i>Salix hookeriana</i>	Hooker's willow — <i>Salix hookeriana</i>	
		Pacific ninebark — <i>Physocarpus capitatus</i>	Pacific ninebark — <i>Physocarpus capitatus</i>	
Wet			Salmonberry — <i>Rubus spectabilis</i>	Red osier dogwood — <i>Cornus sericea</i>
		Sitka willow — <i>Salix sitchensis</i>	Salmonberry — <i>Rubus spectabilis</i>	
		Twinberry — <i>Lonicera involucrata</i>	Sitka willow — <i>Salix sitchensis</i>	
		Vine maple — <i>Acer circinatum</i>	Twinberry — <i>Lonicera involucrata</i>	
		Highbush-cranberry — <i>Viburnum edule</i>	Highbush-cranberry — <i>Viburnum edule</i>	
		Blackcap raspberry — <i>Rubus leucodermis</i>	Blackcap raspberry — <i>Rubus leucodermis</i>	
		Common juniper — <i>Junerpris communis</i>	Common juniper — <i>Junerpris communis</i>	
	Vine maple — <i>Acer circinatum</i>	Hardhack — <i>Spirea douglasii</i>	Hardhack — <i>Spirea douglasii</i>	
		Hooker's willow — <i>Salix hookeriana</i>	Hooker's willow — <i>Salix hookeriana</i>	
		Pacific ninebark — <i>Physocarpus capitatus</i>	Pacific ninebark — <i>Physocarpus capitatus</i>	
		Red osier dogwood — <i>Cornus sericea</i>		
		Salmonberry — <i>Rubus spectabilis</i>		
		Sitka willow — <i>Salix sitchensis</i>		

HABITAT PREFERENCE: GROWDCOVERS

	Full Shade	Partial Shade	Full Sun
Dry	Salal — <i>Gaultheria shallon</i>	Salal — <i>Gaultheria shallon</i>	Kinnickinnick — <i>Arctostaphylos uva-ursi</i>
	Sword fern — <i>Polystichuwwm munitum</i>	Trailing blackberry — <i>Rubus ursinus</i>	Salal — <i>Gaultheria shallon</i>
	Trailing blackberry — <i>Rubus ursinus</i>	Pearly everlasting — <i>Anaphalis margaritacea</i>	Trailing blackberry — <i>Rubus ursinus</i>
		Yarrow — <i>Achillea millefolium</i>	Oregon stonecrop — <i>Sedum oreganum</i>
			Pearly everlasting — <i>Anaphalis margaritacea</i>
			Yarrow — <i>Achillea millefolium</i>
Moist	Salal — <i>Gaultheria shallon</i>	Pearly everlasting — <i>Anaphalis margaritacea</i>	Pearly everlasting — <i>Anaphalis margaritacea</i>
	Sword fern — <i>Polystichuwwm munitum</i>	Salal — <i>Gaultheria shallon</i>	Salal — <i>Gaultheria shallon</i>
	Deer fern — <i>Blechnum spicant</i>	Fringe cup — <i>Tellima grandiflora</i>	Woodland strawberry — <i>Fragaria vesca</i>
	Foam flower — <i>Tiarellatrifoliata</i>	Maidenhair fern — <i>Adiantum pedatum</i>	Trailing blackberry — <i>Rubus ursinus</i>
	Fringe cup — <i>Tellima grandiflora</i>	Trailing blackberry — <i>Rubus ursinus</i>	Bracken fern — <i>Pterifium aquilinum</i>
	Maidenhair fern — <i>Adiantum pedatum</i>	Bracken fern — <i>Pterifium aquilinum</i>	Large leaf lupine — <i>Lupinus polyphyllus</i>
	Pacific bleeding heart — <i>Dicentra formosa</i>	Lady fern — <i>Athyrium filixfemina</i>	Oregon stonecrop — <i>Sedum oreganum</i>
	Piggy-back plant — <i>Tolmiea menziesii</i>	Western trillium — <i>Trillium ovatum</i>	Common paintbrush — <i>Castilleja miniata</i>
	Trailing blackberry — <i>Rubus ursinus</i>	Palmate coltsfoot — <i>Petasites palmatus</i>	Palmate coltsfoot — <i>Petasites palmatus</i>
	Lady fern — <i>Athyrium filixfemina</i>	Redwood sorrel — <i>Oxalis oregana</i>	
	Western trillium — <i>Trillium ovatum</i>	Red columbine — <i>Aquilegia formosa</i>	
	Palmate coltsfoot — <i>Petasites palmatus</i>		
Redwood sorrel — <i>Oxalis oregana</i>			
Wet	Lady fern — <i>Athyrium filixfemina</i>	Bracken fern — <i>Pterifium aquilinum</i>	Bracken fern — <i>Pterifium aquilinum</i>
	Western trillium — <i>Trillium ovatum</i>	Lady fern — <i>Athyrium filixfemina</i>	Common paintbrush — <i>Castilleja miniata</i>
	Palmate coltsfoot — <i>Petasites palmatus</i>	Western trillium — <i>Trillium ovatum</i>	Palmate coltsfoot — <i>Petasites palmatus</i>
		Palmate coltsfoot — <i>Petasites palmatus</i>	



Photo by Jim Avery

RESOURCES

Gardening Resources:

- [King County Native Plant Guide](#)
- [King County Native Plant Resources for the Pacific Northwest](#)
- [King County Conservation District Better Backyards](#)

PNW Native Plants:

- [Native Plants PNW](#)
- [Washington Native Plant Society](#)
- [Burke Herbarium](#)

Interested in getting to know more about Snoqualmie’s native forests? Help care for the city’s natural areas by volunteering with the Green Snoqualmie Partnership. We welcome folks of all ages and abilities and provide a variety of opportunities to get involved, from one-time events to long-term stewardship roles. Build your ecological restoration skills, engage with your neighbors, and leave a positive legacy in Snoqualmie. For more information go to www.greensnoqualmie.org or email info@greensnoqualmie.org.

The Green Snoqualmie Partnership envisions a city with healthy forests that provide high-value habitat for wildlife and access for residents and visitors to experience nature, supported by an aware and engaged community that is working together to restore and care for these lands.

We are a partnership of volunteers, organizations, neighborhood associations, businesses, and tribal and city government.



Photo by Jim Avery



FORT&ERRA



King County

