

Native Plants for Muddy Soils



Acer macrophyllum

Big-leaf Maple

A tree with a large, often multi-stemmed trunk and a loose, broad crown of large leaves.
Height: 65-100 feet (20-30 meters) tall with trunk 3-5 feet (1-1.5 meters) diameter.



Caltha biflora

Marsh Marigold

Perennial herb with large white flowers held above broadly rounded leaves; grows in wet subalpine meadows.

Height: 16 inches (40 cm).



Caltha palustris

yellow marsh marigold

Large yellow flowers top this creeping, perennial, semi-aquatic herb.

Height: Up to 16 inches (40 cm).



Corylus cornuta

Beaked Hazelnut

Slender, multi-trunked deciduous shrub.

Prefers calcium and nitrogen rich soils.

Height: 3 feet - 13 feet (1 meter - 4 meters).



Juncus ensifolius

Daggerleaf Rush

Height: Can grow up to 2 feet (60 cm) tall.



Ledum groenlandicum

Labrador Tea

Evergreen, branching shrub with rusty-hairy leaf undersides and white flowers.

Height: Up to 5 feet (1.5 meters).



Lysichiton americanum

Skunk Cabbage

A wetland plant with very large waxy erect leaves and yellow flower spikes enclosed in a large yellow sheath.

Common in wet soils under cedar trees.

Height: 1-5 feet (30-150 cm).



Nuphar luteum ssp. polysepalum

Yellow Pond-Lily

An aquatic water lily with large, round, floating leaves and fleshy, yellow flowers held at the water surface.



Oenanthe sarmentosa

Pacific Water Parsley

Semi-aquatic, often reclining or scrambling herb, with stem tips ascending or curled and small flat-topped clusters of white flowers.

Saturated year-round. Occupies lowest or wettest areas of wetlands.

Height: Up to 40 inches (1 meter).



Platanthera dilatata

White Rein-Orchid, Bog Candle

Perennial orchid with spikes of white flowers from tuber-like roots.

Height: Up to 28 inches (70 cm).



Potentilla anserina ssp. pacifica

Silverweed

Low growing hairy herb with runners and solitary yellow flowers.

Height: Up to 16 inches (40 cm).



Potentilla palustris

Marsh Cinquefoil

Perennial from long, creeping, often floating, somewhat woody rhizomes, with small maroon flowers.

Height: Up to 3 feet (1 meter).



Rhamnus purshiana

Cascara

Erect, tall shrub or small tree with alternate leaves and inconspicuous flower clusters.

Favors similar soils as red alder and vine maple.

Height: Up to 33 feet (10 meters).



Sagittaria latifolia

Wapato, Arrowhead

Tall semi-aquatic perennial of marshes or lake margins, with large arrowhead shaped leaves and small white flowers.

Height: 3 feet (90 cm).



Schoenoplectus tabernaemontani
Softstem Bulrush



Scirpus maritimus
Seacoast Bulrush



Stachys cooleyae
Cooley's Hedge Nettle
Perennial from rhizomes.
Prefers nutrient rich, mucky, peaty soils.
Height: Up to 5 feet (1.5 meters).



Thuja plicata
Western Red Cedar
Large conifer with branches that droop and then turn back up (J-shaped), broad crowns.
Prefers nutrient rich soils with poor drainage.
Height: 100-230 feet (30-70 meters).