

# Native Plants for Freshwater Shoreline and Riparian Habitats



## ***Abies grandis***

### **Grand Fir**

*Abies grandis* is a tall, straight tree with short, dense branches.  
Height: 130-260 feet (40-80 meters). Leaves evergreen.



## ***Acer circinatum***

### **Vine Maple**

Tall, erect, multi-trunked shrub or small tree with sprawling branches.  
Height: 13-26 feet (4-8 meters) Leaves deciduous.



## ***Achlys triphylla***

### **Vanilla Leaf**

Grows low to the ground, spreading by rhizomes to form dense ground cover in shady areas.  
Height: To 12 inches (30 cm) tall. Leaves deciduous.



## ***Adiantum aleuticum***

### **Maidenhair Fern, Aleutian maidenhair, western maidenhair, serpentine maidenhair**

Small to medium-sized delicate, deciduous fern with a fan-shaped arrangement of five to seven fingerlike branchlets each bearing many toothed leaflets.  
Height: 6-43 inches (15-110 cm). Leaves deciduous.



## ***Alisma plantago-aquatica***

### **Broadleaf Water-Plantain**

A terminal cluster of small white flowers sits above a tall leafless stem. It grows in marshy or semi-aquatic environments.  
Height: up to 48 inches (120 cm). Leaves deciduous.



## ***Alnus rubra***

### **Red Alder**

A fast-growing deciduous tree well suited to disturbed sites.  
Height: Up to 80 feet (25 meters). Leaves deciduous.



## ***Aquilegia formosa***

### **Red Columbine**

Delicate perennial with large nodding, star-shaped, spurred flowers that are a favorite of hummingbirds.  
Height: Can grow up to 3 feet (1 meter) tall. Leaves deciduous.



***Armeria maritima***

**Sea-thrift.**

Round balls of pink flowers held on slender leafless stems above a cluster of grass-like leaves.  
Height: Up to 18 inches (45 cm). Leaves deciduous.



***Aruncus dioicus***

**Goat's Beard**

Tall perennial herb topped with large feathery clusters of white flowers, grows from rhizomes and has multiple stems.

Height: Can grow up to 6.5 feet (2 meters) tall. Leaves deciduous.



***Asarum caudatum***

**Wild Ginger**

Low-growing evergreen perennial that smells strongly of lemon-ginger when crushed.

Height: Can grow up to 8 inches (20 cm) tall. Leaves deciduous.



***Aster chilensis***

**Common California Aster**

A slender, sprawling perennial that produces light purple flowers.

Height: Can grow up to 3 ft. (100 cm.) Leaves deciduous.



***Aster modestus***

**Great Northern Aster**

A tall, much-branched perennial with numerous heads of purplish flowers.

Height: Grows up to 40 inches (100 cm). Leaves deciduous.



***Aster subspicatus***

**Douglas Aster**

Rhizomatous perennial wildflower with much-branched stems and light purple aster-like flower heads.

Height: Grows up to 32 inches (80 cm). Leaves deciduous.



***Athyrium filix-femina***

**Lady Fern**

Tall, delicate, light-green fronds from a basal cluster.

Height: Grows 3-6 feet (2 meters) tall. Leaves deciduous.



***Betula glandulosa***

**Bog Birch**

Spreading, small-branched perennial shrub of bogs and wet areas.

Height: Up to 10 feet (3 meters) tall; usually shorter. Leaves deciduous.



***Betula papyrifera***

**Paper Birch**

A small to medium sized deciduous tree with attractive white, peeling papery bark.  
Height: Up to 100 feet (30 meters). Leaves deciduous.



***Boykinia occidentalis***

**Slender Boykinia**

A slender herb with open panicles of small white flowers.  
Height: Up to 24 inches (60 cm). Leaves deciduous.



***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). Leaves deciduous.



***Caltha palustris***

**yellow marsh marigold**

Large yellow flowers top this creeping, perennial, semi-aquatic herb.  
Height: Up to 16 inches (40 cm). Leaves deciduous.



***Camassia leitchlinii***

**Great Camas**

Stately perennial from a deep bulb, producing spikes of large blue flowers in early spring.  
Height: Up to 28 inches (70 cm). Leaves deciduous.



***Carex obnupta***

**Slough Sedge**

Large grass-like plant creating thick patches in coastal wetlands.  
Height: 1-5 feet (30-150 cm). Leaves deciduous.



***Castilleja miniata***

**Red Paintbrush**

An attractive wildflower with red brush-like flower clusters.  
Height: 8-32 inches (20-80 cm). Leaves deciduous.



***Chamerion angustifolium***

**Fireweed**

Tall perennial from rhizome like roots with unbranched stem and terminal spikes of large red to pink flowers.  
Height: Up to 10 feet (3 meters), but usually shorter than 6 feet (2 meters). Leaves deciduous.



***Claytonia sibirica***  
**Siberian Spring Beauty**

Low-growing delicate herb.  
Height: Up to 16 inches (40 cm). Leaves deciduous.



***Cornus nuttallii***  
**Western Flowering Dogwood**

Multi-branched, irregular trees with attractive large white "flowers".  
Height: Up to 65 feet (20 meters) tall. Leaves deciduous.



***Cornus stolonifera***  
**Red-osier Dogwood**

Spreading, thicket-forming shrub with bright red stems.  
Height: Up to 20 feet (6 meters). Leaves deciduous.



***Corylus cornuta***  
**Beaked Hazelnut**

Slender, multi-trunked deciduous shrub.  
Height: 3 feet - 13 feet (1 meter - 4 meters). Leaves deciduous.



***Crataegus douglasii***  
**black hawthorn**

large shrub or small tree with clusters of white flowers and dark purplish-black berries.  
Leaves deciduous.



***Deschampsia cespitosa***  
**Tufted Hairgrass**

Densely tufted perennial grass.  
Height: Up to 4 feet (120 cm) tall. Leaves deciduous.



***Dicentra formosa***  
**Bleeding Heart**

Hairless, soft stems and light green lacy leaves overtopped by small nodding clusters of pink heart-shaped flowers.  
Height: Up to 1.5 feet (50 cm). Leaves deciduous.



***Dodecatheon hendersonii***  
**Henderson's Shooting Star**

Leafless stems topped with nodding star-shaped pink flowers. This is our only shooting star with oval leaves.  
Height: Up to 1.5 feet (50 cm). Leaves deciduous.



***Eleocharis palustris***

**Creeping Spikerush**

A wetland plant with leafless, grass-like stems topped by small brownish spikes of flowers.  
Height: Up to 3 feet (100 cm). Leaves deciduous.



***Epilobium watsonii***

**Watson's Willowherb**

Erect herbaceous perennial with opposite leaves.  
Height: Up to 5 feet (150 cm). Leaves evergreen.



***Equisetum arvense***

**Field Horsetail**

Succulent, hollow, jointed stems with whorls of branches.  
Height: 6-24 inches (15-60 cm). Leaves evergreen.



***Equisetum telmateia***

**Giant Horsetail**

More robust and larger than common horsetail. Sheaths around its sterile stems have 14-18 teeth.

Height: 3-7.5 (10) feet tall; 1-2.3 (3) meters tall. Leaves deciduous.



***Erigeron philadelphicus***

**Philadelphia Fleabane**

Short-lived perennial with erect stem-base and taproot or fibrous roots.  
Height: Up to 2.25 feet (70 cm). Leaves deciduous.



***Erythronium revolutum***

**Pink fawn lily**

Large nodding pink flowers grow from a thick and segmented corm.  
Height: Up to 14 inches (35 cm). Leaves deciduous.



***Festuca rubra***

**Red Fescue**

Perennial grass with thread-like leaves forming small patches.  
Height: Can grow up to 4 feet (1.2 meters) tall. Leaves evergreen.



***Fraxinus latifolia***

**Oregon Ash**

Tough-wooded tree with gray bark and compound leaflets arranged oppositely around twigs.  
Height: Up to 82 feet (25 meters). Leaves deciduous.



***Fritillaria lanceolata***

**Chocolate Lily, Rice Root**

Rare herb to 80 cm tall from bulb with numerous rice-like bulblets; flowers are mottled maroon and yellow.

Height: Up to 32 inches (80 cm). Leaves deciduous.



***Galium trifidum***

**Small Bedstraw**

Sprawling perennial with numerous stems from slender rhizomes.

Height: up to 28 inches (70 cm). Leaves evergreen.



***Geum macrophyllum***

**Large-leaved Avens**

Hairy perennial with short rhizomes and big leaves topped by small yellow flowers.

Height: Up to 3 feet (1 meters). Leaves deciduous.



***Glyceria elata***

**Tall Mannagrass, Fowl Mannagrass**

Tall wetland grass.

Height: Up to 5 feet (1.5 meters). Leaves deciduous.



***Glyceria grandis***

**Reed Mannagrass**

very similar to *G. elata*

Height: up to 5 feet (1.5 meters) Leaves evergreen.



***Gymnocarpium dryopteris***

**Oak Fern**

Delicate, deciduous fronds. Usually solitary, but often forms a mat of herbaceous cover in forests.

Height: To 16 inches (40 cm). Leaves deciduous.



***Heuchera micrantha***

**Small-flowered Alumroot**

Grows from rhizomes with one to many flower stems that are reddish and covered with fine hairs and topped with delicate panicles of tiny white flowers.

Height: Up to 2 feet (60 cm). Leaves deciduous.



***Hordeum brachyantherum***

**Meadow Barley**

Grass with erect stems that are bent at the base and sometimes hairy on the leaf sheaths.

Height: Up to 3 feet (90 cm). Leaves deciduous.





***Juncus acuminatus***

**Tapertip Rush**

Tufted perennial grass-like plant.

Height: Up to 32 inches (80 cm). Leaves deciduous.



***Juncus ensifolius***

**Daggerleaf Rush**

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



***Kalmia microphylla ssp. occidentalis***

**Bog Laurel**

Small, slender-branched shrub with dark green waxy leaves and clusters of bright pink flowers.

Height: Up to 3 feet (1 meter). Leaves deciduous.



***Ledum groenlandicum***

**Labrador Tea**

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

Height: Up to 5 feet (1.5 meters). Leaves deciduous.



***Linnaea borealis***

**Twinflower**

Trailing, slender, semi-woody, with short erect leafy stems and dainty bell-shaped flowers.

Height: 4 inches (10 cm). Leaves evergreen.



***Lonicera involucrata***

**Twinberry**

Tall shrub with opposite leaves and pairs of small yellow flowers in leaf axils.

Height: Up to 10 feet (3 meters tall). Leaves deciduous.



***Lupinus polyphyllus***

**Large-leaved Lupine**

A large perennial native forb with spikes of blue flowers from one to many hairy stems.

Height: 3-6 feet (1-2 meters). Leaves deciduous.



***Lysichiton americanum***

**Skunk Cabbage**

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

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



***Malus fusca***

**Pacific Crabapple**

Small tree, slender in form, appears thorny; bushy in the open.  
Height: 16.5-40 feet (5-12 meters). Leaves deciduous.



***Mentha arvensis***

**Field Mint**

A wild mint with small groups of light purple flowers in the leaf axils.  
Leaves deciduous.



***Mimulus guttatus***

**Yellow Monkey-flower**

Large yellow tubular flowers top this deciduous-leaved wetland perennial.  
Leaves deciduous.



***Mimulus lewisii***

**Pink Monkey-flower**

A clump forming perennial with large pinkish-red flowers.  
Leaves deciduous.



***Myrica californica***

**Pacific Wax Myrtle**

Tall shrub with small evergreen leaves.  
Height: Up to 15 feet (5 meters) tall. Leaves evergreen.



***Oemleria cerasiformis***

**Indian Plum, Osoberry**

Deciduous shrub producing clusters of white flowers in very early spring. One of the earliest plants to bloom.  
Height: 16.5 feet (5 meters). Leaves deciduous.



***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.  
Height: Up to 40 inches (1 meter). Leaves deciduous.



***Oplopanax horridus***

**Devil's Club**

An erect to sprawling shrub with thick, spiny, crooked stems and very large leaves.  
Height: Up to 10 feet (3 meters). Leaves deciduous.





***Penstemon serrulatus***

**Coast Penstemon**

Perennial, sprawling sub-shrub from a woody stem base, with large purple tubular flowers at stem tips.

Height: 8-28 inches (20-70 cm). Leaves deciduous.



***Petasites palmatus***

**Palmate Coltsfoot**

Many-stemmed perennial with umbrella-like leaves from creeping rhizomes.

Height: Up to 30 inches (80 cm). Leaves deciduous.



***Physocarpus capitatus***

**Pacific Ninebark**

Erect to spreading shrub up to 4 meters tall with clusters of white flowers.

Height: Up to 13 feet (4 meters). Leaves deciduous.



***Picea sitchensis***

**Sitka spruce**

Large tree with horizontal branches and drooping branchlets

Height: Up to 200 feet (60 meters) tall. Leaves evergreen.



***Pinus contorta***

**Shore Pine**

Short pine tree, often with crooked trunk and bushy habit.

Height: Up to 100 feet (30 meters). Leaves evergreen.



***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). Leaves deciduous.



***Populus balsamifera***

**Black Cottonwood**

Leaves deciduous.



***Potentilla anserina ssp. pacifica***

**Silverweed**

Low growing hairy herb with runners and solitary yellow flowers.

Height: Up to 16 inches (40 cm). Leaves deciduous.



***Potentilla gracilis***  
**Graceful Cinquefoil**

Light green herb with toothed palmate leaves and diffuse panicles of yellow, saucer-shaped flowers.

Height: Up to 32 inches (80 cm). Leaves deciduous.



***Potentilla palustris***  
**Marsh Cinquefoil**

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

Height: Up to 3 feet (1 meter). Leaves deciduous.



***Prunus emarginata var. mollis***  
**Bitter Cherry**

Shrub or small tree with white flowers and small red cherries.

Height: Up to 50 feet (15 meters). Leaves deciduous.



***Pteridium aquilinum***  
**Bracken Fern**

Rhizomous perennial fern with large, much-divided solitary fronds,

Height: Usually 3-6 feet (1-2 meters) tall, sometimes taller. Leaves deciduous.



***Rhamnus purshiana***  
**Cascara**

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

Height: Up to 33 feet (10 meters). Leaves deciduous.



***Ribes lacustre***  
**Black Gooseberry**

Erect to spreading shrub with spiny stems.

Height: Up to 6.5 feet (2 meters). Leaves deciduous.



***Rorippa palustris***  
**Bog Yellowcress**

Leaves deciduous.



***Rosa nutkana***  
**Nootka Rose**

Spindly shrub with a pair of prickles at the base of each leaf and large pink rose flowers.

Height: Up to 10 feet (3 meters). Leaves deciduous.



***Rosa pisocarpa***

**Swamp Rose**

Thicket forming shrub with spiny stems and clusters of pink rose flowers.  
Leaves deciduous.



***Rubus spectabilis***

**Salmonberry**

Erect and branching shrub with early spring pink flowers and reddish-orange raspberry-like fruits.  
Height: Up to 13 feet (4 meters). Leaves deciduous.



***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). Leaves deciduous.



***Salix lucida***

**Pacific Willow**

Leaves deciduous.



***Salix piperi***

**Piper's Willow**

Leaves deciduous.



***Salix sitchensis***

**Sitka Willow**

Leaves deciduous.



***Sambucus racemosa***

**Red Elderberry**

Shrub to small tree with clusters of small white flowers and red berries.  
Height: 20 feet (6 meters). Leaves deciduous.



***Schoenoplectus tabernaemontani***

**Softstem Bulrush**

Leaves deciduous.



***Scirpus maritimus***  
**Seacoast Bulrush**  
Leaves deciduous.



***Scirpus microcarpus***  
**Small-flowered Bulrush**  
Leaves deciduous.



***Sisyrinchium californicum***  
**Golden-eyed Grass**  
A small iris-like plant with yellow flowers.  
Height: 16 inches (40 cm). Leaves deciduous.



***Sisyrinchium idahoense***  
**Blue-eyed Grass**  
A small clump-forming iris-like plant with small blue flowers.  
Height: 28 inches (40 cm). Leaves deciduous.



***Sium suave***  
**Water-parsnip**  
Leaves deciduous.



***Spiraea douglasii***  
**Douglas' Spirea**  
Leaves deciduous.



***Stachys cooleyae***  
**Cooley's Hedge Nettle**  
Perennial from rhizomes.  
Height: Up to 5 feet (1.5 meters). Leaves deciduous.



***Streptopus amplexifolius***  
**Claspig Twisted Stalk**  
Perennial herb with a branched zigzagging stem and dangling white flowers.  
Height: 3 feet (1 meter). Leaves deciduous.



***Symphoricarpos albus***

**Snowberry**

Erect shrub with attractive white berries that persist through the winter.

Height: Up to 6.5 feet (2 meters). Leaves deciduous.



***Tellima grandiflora***

**Fringecup**

Leaves deciduous.



***Thuja plicata***

**Western Red Cedar**

Large conifer with branches that droop and then turn back up (J-shaped), broad crowns.

Height: 100-230 feet (30-70 meters). Leaves evergreen.



***Tiarella trifoliata***

**Foamflower**

Herb with erect or ascending stems and spikes of dainty white flowers.

Height: 2 feet (60 cm). Leaves deciduous.



***Trillium ovatum***

**Western Trillium**

Short stout stems topped with a whorl of three leaves and a single large white flower.

Height: 12-18 inches (30-45 cm). Leaves deciduous.



***Tsuga mertensiana***

**Mountain Hemlock**

Slow growing evergreen conifer.

Height: Up to 40 meters (130 ft) tall, but often shorter. Leaves evergreen.



***Typha latifolia***

**Broad-leaved Cattail**

A tall wetland plant with long, erect sword-like leaves and dense brown flower spikes.

Leaves deciduous.



***Viburnum edule***

**High Bush Cranberry**

Shrub with bright red berries and brilliant fall foliage.

Height: 3-9 feet (1-3 meters) tall. Leaves deciduous.