

Native Plants for Dry Areas



Abies grandis

Grand Fir

Abies grandis is a tall, straight tree with short, dense branches.

Preferred moisture levels: moist, dry.

Height: 130-260 feet (40-80 meters).



Acer macrophyllum

Big-leaf Maple

A tree with a large, often multi-stemmed trunk and a loose, broad crown of large leaves.

Preferred moisture levels: moist, dry.

Height: 65-100 feet (20-30 meters) tall with trunk 3-5 feet (1-1.5 meters) diameter.



Achillea millefolium

Yarrow

Aromatic herb with delicate fern-like leaves and flat-topped clusters of white flowers.

Preferred moisture levels: moist, dry.

Height: 4 inches to 3 feet (10-100 cm).



Allium acuminatum

Taper-Tip Onion

This native wild onion has grass-like basal leaves overtopped by umbels of purple flowers, and egg-shaped bulbs containing a fibrous network on the surface.

Preferred moisture levels: moist, dry.

Height: Up to 12 inches (30 cm).



Allium cernuum

Nodding Onion

Clusters of long grass-like leaves overtopped by nodding umbels of pink flowers.

Preferred moisture levels: dry.

Height: Up to 20 inches (50 cm).



Amelanchier alnifolia

Serviceberry, Saskatoon

Medium-sized shrub producing fragrant white flowers in late spring.

Preferred moisture levels: moist, dry.

Height: Up to 15 feet (4.5 meters).



Anaphalis margaritacea

Pearly Everlasting

Clump forming, perennial herb with small withering basal leaves and papery white flower clusters.

Preferred moisture levels: dry.

Height: Up to 40 inches (100 cm).



Arbutus menziesii

Madrone

An attractive broadleaf evergreen with a twisting reddish trunk and irregular branches with an overall rounded outline.

Prefers drier, shallow soils.

Height: Up to 100 feet (30 meters).



Arctostaphylos uva-ursi

Kinnikinnick, Bearberry

A mat-forming evergreen shrub producing lovely pink flowers that later turn into red berries.

Preferred moisture levels: dry.

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



Brodiaea congesta

Harvest Lily

Long slender stems to 3 feet (1 meter) in length topped by a dense cluster of deep purple flowers.

Prefers drier soils.

Height: Up to 3 feet (1 meter) tall.



Camassia leitchlinii

Great Camas

Stately perennial from a deep bulb, producing spikes of large blue flowers in early spring.

Needs moist soil in winter and spring, then dry in summer.

Height: Up to 28 inches (70 cm).



Ceanothus velutinus

Snowbrush

A tall shrub with glossy leaves and clusters of white flowers.

Preferred moisture levels: moist, dry.

Height: Up to 10 feet (3 meters).



Cerastium arvense

Field Chickweed

Preferred moisture levels: moist, dry.



Chamerion angustifolium

Fireweed

Tall perennial from rhizome like roots with unbranched stem and terminal spikes of large red to pink flowers.

Preferred moisture levels: moist, dry.

Height: Up to 10 feet (3 meters), but usually shorter than 6 feet (2 meters).



Clarkia amoena

Farewell to Spring

A taprooted annual with large showy, usually pink flowers; often grown horticulturally.

Preferred moisture levels: dry.

Height: 4 inches to 3 feet (10-100 cm).



Elymus glaucus

Blue Wild-rye

Tufted perennial grass usually forming small clumps, 0.5 to 1.5 m tall.

Preferred moisture levels: moist, dry.

Height: 20-40 inches (0.5-1 meter).



Epilobium brachycarpum

Tall Annual Willowherb

Taprooted annual of dry, gravelly or disturbed sites.

Preferred moisture levels: moist, dry.

Height: 1-4 feet (30-120 cm) tall.



Erigeron philadelphicus

Philadelphia Fleabane

Short-lived perennial with erect stem-base and taproot or fibrous roots.

Preferred moisture levels: moist, dry.

Height: Up to 2.25 feet (70 cm).



Eriophyllum lanatum

Woolly Sunflower

Woolly leafy perennial with yellow daisy-like flowers.

Preferred moisture levels: dry.

Height: Up to 2 feet (60 cm).



Fragaria chiloensis

Coastal Strawberry

Spreads low across ground with runners. White flowers and small red strawberries.

Never found far from the sea.

Height: Up to 10 inches (25 cm).



Galium aparine

Cleavers, Bedstraw

Preferred moisture levels: moist, dry.



Gaultheria shallon

Salal

Creeping to erect shrub with hairy branching stems and dark leathery leaves.

Preferred moisture levels: moist, dry.

Height: Up to 16 feet (5 meters) in exceptional cases but typically 3-7 feet (1-2 m) tall.



Gilia capitata

Globe Gilia

Upright taprooted annual with large ball-like heads of blue flowers.

Preferred moisture levels: moist, dry.

Height: Up to 3 feet (1 meter).



Goodyera oblongifolia

Rattlesnake Plantain

Evergreen orchid from short rhizomes with an unusual mottled leaf pattern.

Preferred moisture levels: moist, dry.

Height: Up to 1.5 feet (45 cm).



Holodiscus discolor

Oceanspray

Multi-stemmed upright shrub with ridged young stems and arching older stems with peeling bark.

White flowers.

Common in dry and moist habitats.

Height: Up to 13 feet (4 meters).



Iris tenax

Oregon Iris

Clumped, perennial iris with large purple flowers.

Prefers areas that are wet in spring and dry in summer.

Height: Up to 16 inches (40 cm).



Larix occidentalis

Western Larch

Preferred moisture levels: moist, dry.



Lithophragma parviflorum

Small-flowered Woodland Star

Delicate herb from slender rhizomes with numerous small bulblets; white star-shaped flowers. Flowers and seeds while soil is moist (spring).

Height: 2-16 inches (10-40 cm).



Lomatium utriculatum

Spring Gold

Perennial herb with finely lacy foliage and flat-topped umbels of bright yellow flowers.

Preferred moisture levels: moist, dry.



Lonicera hispidula

Hairy Honeysuckle

Clambering vine with clusters of light purple tubular flowers.

Preferred moisture levels: dry.

Height: Up to 33 feet (10 meters) in trees.



Luetkea pectinata

Partridgefoot

Low-growing ground cover with spikes of small white flowers.

Preferred moisture levels: moist, dry.

Height: Up to 6 inches (3 cm) tall.



Mahonia aquifolium

Tall Oregon Grape

Erect, stiff-branched shrub with holly-like leaves and clusters of yellow flowers.

More tolerant of drier sites than *Mahonia nervosa*.

Height: 2.5 - 6.5 feet (0.8 meters - 2 meters).



Mahonia nervosa

Dull Oregon Grape

Low-growing creeping shrub with dark green holly-like leaves and slender spikes of yellow flowers.

Preferred moisture levels: moist, dry.

Height: Up to 2 feet (60 cm) tall.



Mimulus lewisii

Pink Monkey-flower

A clump forming perennial with large pinkish-red flowers.

Preferred moisture levels: moist, dry.



Nothochelone nemorosa

Woodland Penstemon

Preferred moisture levels: dry.



Oemleria cerasiformis

Indian Plum, Osoberry

Deciduous shrub producing clusters of white flowers in very early spring. One of the earliest plants to bloom.

Tolerant of fluctuating water tables.

Height: 16.5 feet (5 meters).



Olsynium douglasii

Satin Flower, Grass Widow

Showy tufted perennial resembling a miniature iris topped with large pink to purple flowers.

Preferred moisture levels: dry.

Height: Up to 12 inches (30 cm).



Oxalis oregana

Wood Sorrel

A delicate herb with clover-like leaves and white to pink flowers, forming carpets in forested areas.

Preferred moisture levels: moist, dry.



Penstemon davidsonii

Davidson's Penstemon

Low mat-forming perennial with small evergreen leaves and large blue-purple tubular flowers.

Preferred moisture levels: moist, dry.

Height: 2-4 inches (5-10 cm) tall.



Penstemon fruticosus

Lowbush Penstemon

Spreading shrub with numerous tubular purple flowers.

Preferred moisture levels: dry.

Height: Up to 40 cm (1.5 ft) tall.



Penstemon serrulatus

Coast Penstemon

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

Preferred moisture levels: moist, dry.

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



Philadelphus lewisii

Mock Orange

Erect, loosely branched shrub with large fragrant white flowers.

Preferred moisture levels: moist, dry.

Height: Up to 10 feet (3 meters).



Phlox diffusa

Spreading Phlox

Mat forming perennial with showy white to pink flowers.

Preferred moisture levels: moist, dry.

Height: Up to 4 inches (10 cm).



Pinus contorta

Shore Pine

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

Tolerant of salt spray.

Height: Up to 100 feet (30 meters).



Plectritis congesta

Sea Blush

Delicate annual herb with large dense clusters of small pink flowers.

Preferred moisture levels: moist, dry.

Height: Up to 2 feet (60 cm).



Polemonium pulcherrimum

Showy Jacob's-ladder

Taprooted perennial with mostly basal leaves and blue bell-shaped flowers.

Preferred moisture levels: dry.

Height: Up to 14 inches (35 cm).



Polystichum munitum

Sword Fern

A large attractive fern with erect evergreen fronds forming a circular crown.

Preferred moisture levels: moist, dry.

Height: 3-5 feet (1-1.5 meters).



Populus tremuloides

Quaking Aspen

Deciduous thicket-forming tree with smooth white bark and leaves that "quake" in the wind.

Can tolerate a wide range of moisture levels.



Pseudotsuga menziesii

Douglas fir

Large coniferous tree with thick, fluted bark.

Preferred moisture levels: moist, dry.

Height: Up to 300 feet (90 meters).



Quercus garryana

Garry Oak

Beautiful, deciduous, heavy limbed oak tree.

Preferred moisture levels: dry.

Height: Up to 82 feet (25 meters).



Rhamnus purshiana

Cascara

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

FAC-

Height: Up to 33 feet (10 meters).



Rhododendron macrophyllum

Pacific Rhododendron

Showy shrub that can grow very large, with clusters of large pink flowers.

Preferred moisture levels: moist, dry.

Height: Up to 26 feet (8 meters) if grown in shade; shorter and bushier in sunlight.



Ribes sanguineum

Red Flowering Currant

Erect, multi-stemmed shrub with showy clusters of deep pink flowers in early spring.

Preferred moisture levels: dry.

Height: 3-10 feet (1-3 meters).



Rosa gymnocarpa

Baldhip Rose

Spindly shrub with brittle weak straight spines and small pink rose flowers.

Common in moist and dry habitats.

Height: Up to 5 feet (1.5 meters).



Rosa nutkana

Nootka Rose

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

Preferred moisture levels: moist, dry.

Height: Up to 10 feet (3 meters).



Rubus parviflorus

Thimbleberry

Unarmed spreading shrub with large white flowers. Usually forms dense thickets.

Preferred moisture levels: dry.

Height: Up to 10 feet (3 meters).



Rubus ursinus

Trailing Blackberry

Trailing prickly vine producing small blackberries in late summer.

Preferred moisture levels: moist, dry.

Height: 20 inches (50 cm).



Sedum lanceolatum

Lance-leaved Stonecrop

Preferred moisture levels: dry.



Sedum oreganum

Oregon Stonecrop

Preferred moisture levels: dry.



Sedum spathulifolium

Broad-leaved Stonecrop

Preferred moisture levels: dry.



Solidago canadensis

Canada Goldenrod

Forms patches from long creeping rhizomes. Stems leafy and hairy near the top, with a dense cluster of small yellow flowers.

Common in dry and moist habitats.

Height: Up to 5 feet (1.5 meters).



Sorbus sitchensis

Sitka-Mountain Ash

Preferred moisture levels: moist, dry.



Symphoricarpos albus

Snowberry

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

Can tolerate fluctuating water tables.
Height: Up to 6.5 feet (2 meters).



Trientalis latifolia

Broad-leaved Starflower

A small delicate herb with a single whorl of leaves topped by several small, pink, star-shaped flowers.

Preferred moisture levels: moist, dry.



Tsuga heterophylla

Western hemlock

Preferred moisture levels: moist, dry.



Vaccinium ovatum

Evergreen huckleberry

Bushy shrub with small shiny green evergreen leaves and small clusters of pink bell-shaped flowers.

Preferred moisture levels: moist, dry.

Height: Up to 4 meters (13 ft) tall.



Viola adunca

Early-blue Violet

A blue flowered violet that grows from slender rhizomes and is stemless in the early season, later grow upright stem.

Common in dry and moist habitats.

Height: Up to 4 inches (10 cm).



Viola sempervirens

Evergreen Violet

A creeping violet with evergreen leaves and yellow flowers.

Preferred moisture levels: dry.



Xerophyllum tenax

Beargrass

Forms a tall grass-like clump of tough leaves topped by a large dense cluster of white flowers.

Preferred moisture levels: moist, dry.

Height: 3-5 feet (1-1.5 meters).