These species pages has been valuable and loved for over a decade by WNPS members and the PNW plant community. Untouched since 2007, these pages have been archived for your reference. They contain valuable identifiable traits, landscaping information, and ethnobotanical uses. Species names and data will not be updated. To view updated taxonomical information, visit the UW Burke Herbarium Image Collection website at http://biology.burke.washington.edu/herbarium/imagecollection.php. For other useful plant information, visit the Native Plants Directory at www.wnps.org.

Compiled September 1, 2018
# Contents

- *Achillea millefolium* ................................................................. 4
  - Yarrow ....................................................................................... 4
- *Achlys triphylla* ........................................................................ 6
  - Vanilla Leaf .............................................................................. 6
- *Alisma plantago-aquatica* .......................................................... 7
  - Broadleaf Water-Plantain ......................................................... 7
- *Allium acuminatum* .................................................................... 8
  - Taper-Tip Onion ................................................................. 8
- *Allium cernuum* .......................................................................... 9
  - Nodding Onion ....................................................................... 9
- *Anaphalis margaritacea* .............................................................. 10
  - Pearly Everlasting ............................................................... 10
- *Aquilegia formosa* ...................................................................... 11
  - Red Columbine ........................................................................ 11
- *Armeria maritima* ....................................................................... 12
  - Sea-thrift ............................................................................... 12
- *Aruncus dioicus* .......................................................................... 13
  - Goat's Beard ............................................................................ 13
- *Asarum caudatum* ...................................................................... 14
  - Wild Ginger ............................................................................. 14
- *Aster chilensis* ........................................................................... 15
  - Common California Aster ....................................................... 15
- *Aster modestus* ........................................................................... 16
  - Great Northern Aster ............................................................ 16
- *Aster subspicatus* ....................................................................... 17
  - Douglas Aster .......................................................................... 17
- *Boykinia occidentalis* ................................................................. 18
  - Slender Boykinia ..................................................................... 18
- *Brodiaea congesta* ..................................................................... 19
  - Harvest Lily ............................................................................ 19
- *Brodiaea hyacinthina* ................................................................. 20
  - Fool's Onion, White Brodiaea ................................................. 20
- *Caltha biflora* ............................................................................ 21
  - Marsh Marigold ....................................................................... 21
- *Caltha palustris* ......................................................................... 22
Yellow Marsh Marigold ........................................................................................................... 22

**Camassia leitchlinii** ........................................................................................................... 23

Great Camas ......................................................................................................................... 23

**Camassia quamash** ........................................................................................................... 24

Common Camas ..................................................................................................................... 24

**Campanula rotundifolia** .................................................................................................... 25

Harebell .................................................................................................................................. 25

**Castilleja miniata** .............................................................................................................. 26

Red Paintbrush ....................................................................................................................... 26

**Cerastium arvense** ............................................................................................................ 27

Field Chickweed ...................................................................................................................... 27

**Chamerion angustifolium** ................................................................................................ 28

Fireweed ................................................................................................................................ 28

**Clarkia amoena** ................................................................................................................ 30

Farewell to Spring .................................................................................................................. 30

**Claytonia perfoliata** ........................................................................................................... 31

Miner's Lettuce ....................................................................................................................... 31

**Claytonia sibirica** ............................................................................................................. 32

Siberian Spring Beauty ........................................................................................................... 32

**Cornus unalaschkensis** ...................................................................................................... 33

Bunchberry ............................................................................................................................. 33

**References** ......................................................................................................................... 34

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**About Ann Lennartz**


Resources developed by Starflower Foundation included an array of educational materials, plant ID cards, project case studies, and this image herbarium. All resources contain Western Washington native plant information and images for use in education, restoration and landscaping projects. As mutually agreed upon with Starflower Foundation, Washington Native Plant Society has made Starflower's learning and education materials available on our website.
**Achillea millefolium**

**Yarrow**

![image](image)

At a Glance: Aromatic herb with delicate fern-like leaves and flat-topped clusters of white flowers.
- **Height:** 4 inches to 3 feet (10-100 cm).
- **Growth Form:** Herb.
- **Stems:** Each plant has a single stem that can grow up to 3 feet in height.
- **Leaves:** The alternate leaves are pinnately divided with divisions again dissected into narrow segments (Pojar), creating a soft fern-like texture. Leaves are green in color. Crushing the leaves gives off a pungent odor.
- **Flowers:** Flowers are arranged in flat-topped clusters 5-10 cm (2-4 in) across at stem tips. What appear to be single flowers within this cluster are actually tight heads of several tiny flowers, each head with 3-5 white ray flowers surrounding several yellow disk flowers; both ray and disk flowers produce seeds. The ray flowers are usually white but can also be pink or reddish. Flowers bloom later at higher elevations.
- **Flowering Period:** April, May, June, July, August, September, October.
- **Fruits:** The brown, flattened, oblong to ovate nut-like seed is small, dry and hairless. Size is about 2 mm long.

**Sun/Shade Tolerance**
Loves sun but is also tolerant of shade.

- Full sun > 80%
- Mostly sunny 60%-80%
- Partial sun and shade 40%-60%

**Hydrology**
- Moist
- Dry

**Wetland Indicator Status:**
FACU (facultative upland)

**Elevation Range**
Found at nearly all elevations but most common at lower elevations.

- Low elevation
- Mid elevation
- Sub-alpine
Achillea millefolium continued

Soil Preferences
Achillea millefolium is capable of enduring poor soil and dry conditions.

✔ sandy soils ✔ well drained soils ✔ nutrient poor soils
✔ gravelly soils

Habitat Preferences
Saltwater Areas:
✔ Coastal dunes or beaches

Rocky or Gravelly Areas:
✔ Rocky slopes
✔ Glacial outwash

Forests and Thickets:
✔ Open forests

Forest edges, openings, or clearings

Meadows and Fields:
✔ Pastures or fields
✔ Meadows or grassy areas

Disturbed Areas:
✔ Roadsides

Wildlife Value
✔ Berries
✔ Nectar for butterflies

Insects: The flat flower heads are excellent platforms for pollinating insects including butterflies and syrphid flies.
**Achlys triphylla**

**Vanilla Leaf**

At a Glance: Grows low to the ground, spreading by rhizomes to form dense ground cover in shady areas.

- Height: To 12 inches (30 cm) tall.
- Growth Form: Herb.
- Stems: Stems are straight, thin and wiry (Alden, Paulson).
- Leaves: Basal, long-stalked, the blade is divided into 3 horizontally-oriented leaflets. Each leaflet varies from finely and sharply toothed to bluntly lobed (Jacobson). Leaves have vanilla fragrance when dried; size: 4-8 cm (2-3 in) wide; color ranges from light green to green.
- Flowers: The flowers which lack sepals and petals have 8-20 long white stamens that form a showy white spike that is positioned above the center point of the leaves; spike size: 2-7 cm (.8-2.75 in) long by 1 cm thick.
- Flowering Period: March, April, May, June.
- Fruits: Fruits are small, dry, finely hairy and nutlike (achene). They have concave innersides with fleshy, leathery-thickened ridges. Size: 3-45.5 mm; color: dark grey-brown to reddish-purple.
- Landscape Uses: Can form a dense ground cover in shady gardens.

**Sun/Shade Tolerance**
- Prefers shady understory.
- mostly shady 60%-80%

**Hydrology**
- moist

**Elevation Range**
- Sea level to 1500 meters.
- low elevation
- mid elevation

**Soil Preferences**
- nutrient rich soils
- organic soils

**Habitat Preferences**

**Shorelines and Riparian:**
- Stream or river banks
- Riparian corridors

**Forests and Thickets:**
- Forests and woods
- Open forests
- Coniferous forests
- Forest edges, openings, or clearings
**Alisma plantago-aquatica**

**Broadleaf Water-Plantain**

At a Glance: 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).
- **Growth Form:** Herb.
- **Stems:** Flowering stems are long and leafless, growing up to 1 m (3 ft.) in height.
- **Leaves:** Leaves are basal and growing near the ground on flattened leaf stalks. Shape: oval; size: 10-30 cm (4-12 in) long, 3-15 cm (1-6 in) across; color: dark green.
- **Flowers:** Whorls of small white (rarely pink) flowers are arranged in an open, branched, terminal cluster that sticks up well beyond the leaves. Flowers only open in the afternoon and evening. Flower size: 5 mm long.
- **Flowering Period:** June, July, August, September.
- **Fruits:** The yellowish fruits are oblong and egg-shaped.

**Sun/Shade Tolerance**

- full sun > 80%

**Hydrology**

- wet
- moist

**Elevation Range**

- low elevation

**Habitat Preferences**

**Aquatic and Wetland:**

- Swales or wet ditches
- Seasonally inundated areas
- Marshes or swamps

**Shorelines and Riparian:**

- Lake shores
- Bog margins
- Stream or river banks
Allium acuminatum

Taper-Tip Onion

At a Glance: 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.

- Height: Up to 12 inches (30 cm).
- Growth Form: Herb.
- Leaves: The long, narrow and grass-like wither before flowers appear. Leaves are green when young then soon fade to brown.
- Flowers: In umbels at stem tips. Each umbel consists of 7-25 flowers that grow from stalks (pedicels) arising from a common point and spread out like the spokes of an umbrella. The flowers are primarily rose-colored but occasionally white. A distinguishing characteristic of this plant is that the tepals (petals) turn back at the tips. The umbel has two bracts underneath.
- Flowering Period: May, June, July, August.
- Fruits: Fruits are capsule-like each containing a black seed; color: Seeds are black.
- Food Uses: The small strong tasting onion bulbs were occasionally eaten by some northwest coast groups. Note that this is a relatively restricted species, however, and should not be harvested from the wild.

Habitat Preferences
Rocky or Gravelly Areas:
✅ Rocky slopes
Forests and Thickets:
✅ Open forests
Meadows and Fields:
✅ Meadows or grassy areas

Sun/Shade Tolerance
Usually in dry open rocky sites.

- full sun > 80%
- mostly sunny 60%-80%

Hydrology
- moist
- dry

Elevation Range
- low elevation

Soil Preferences
Can endure rocky, dry to moist open forest sites
**Allium cernuum**

**Nodding Onion**

At a Glance: Clusters of long grass-like leaves overtopped by nodding umbels of pink flowers.

- **Height:** Up to 20 inches (50 cm).
- **Growth Form:** Herb.
- **Leaves:** This plant has grass-like basal leaves that are strongly onion-scented and onion-flavored. The fresh leaves are only about 0.2 to 1.0 cm (0.05 to 0.4”) wide, but up to 20 cm (8”) long. (Richard Hebda).
- **Flowers:** The pink to rose-purple, bell-shaped flowers are in umbrella shaped clusters with bracts below the umbel. The name nodding onion comes from the fact that the flower umbels bend over at the top of the stem and points downward toward the ground.
- **Flowering Period:** May, June.
- **Fruits:** The mature papery seed capsule releases hard black seeds (Richard Hedba of BC Natural History Museum wrote an article for Coastal Grower magazine).

**Soil Preferences**
Prefers dry sandy to rocky soils.
- ✅ sandy soils
- ✅ gravelly soils
- ✅ well drained soils

**Habitat Preferences**
**Rocky or Gravelly Areas:**
- ✅ Coastal bluffs
- ✅ Outcrops
- ✅ Glacial outwash
**Forests and Thickets:**
- ✅ Forests and woods
- ✅ Open forests
- ✅ Forest edges, openings, or clearings
**Meadows and Fields:**
- ✅ Meadows or grassy areas

**Sun/Shade Tolerance**
- ✅ full sun > 80%
- ✅ mostly sunny 60%-80%

**Hydrology**
- ✅ dry

**Elevation Range**
- ✅ low elevation
- ✅ mid elevation
Anaphalis margaritacea

Pearly Everlasting

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

- Height: Up to 40 inches (100 cm).
- Growth Form: Herb.
- Stems: Leafy stems are usually unbranched and appear as if they are covered in white wool.
- Leaves: Alternate narrowly lance-shaped leaves are green above and white wooly below with a conspicuous midvein. Margins are frequently rolled under; size: 5-15 cm (2-6 in) long.
- Flowers: Flowers are very small with yellowish disk flowers surrounded by dry pearly white involucral bracts with dark triangular bases. The flowers which can be male or female appear in late summer. Flowers are in dense flat-topped clusters 15 cm (6 in) across.
- Flowering Period: June, July, August, September.
- Fruits: Roughened fruits are small with achenes that range from hairless to sparsely hairy. Pappus hairs are white; color: seeds are black.

Elevation Range
- Low elevation
- Mid elevation
- Sub-alpine

Wildlife Value
- Nectar for butterflies
- Host for insect larvae
Insects: The flowers attract pollinators including syrphid flies, small wasps, and skipper and mylitta crescent butterflies. Painted lady butterfly larvae feed on the foliage.

Habitat Preferences
- Rocky or Gravelly Areas:
  - Rocky slopes
- Forests and Thickets:
  - Open forests
  - Forest edges, openings, or clearings
- Meadows and Fields:
  - Pastures or fields
  - Meadows or grassy areas
- Disturbed Areas:
  - Roadsides
  - Burned areas
  - Disturbed sites

Sun/Shade Tolerance
- Full sun > 80%
- Mostly sunny 60%-80%

Hydrology
- Dry
**Aquilegia formosa**

**Red Columbine**

At a Glance: 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.
- **Growth Form:** Herb.
- **Stems:** Stems are mostly unbranched and erect.
- **Leaves:** The leaves, mostly basal, are many-times divided into small leaflets. More specifically they are twice divided into segments of three. Leaf blades are hairless to hairy; shape: compound ternate and triangularly-shaped; leaflet size: 8-35 mm across; color: green above and paler to glaucus below.
- **Flowers:** Flowers have 5 long, straight red spurs with bulbous, glandular tips. Stamens and styles protrude from a central tuft. Each plant usually has 2-5 drooping flowers; primary color: red with yellow tinge.
- **Flowering Period:** May, June, July, August.
- **Fruits:** Each flower produces approximately 5 erect follicles with hairy, spreading tips and numerous black, wrinkled seeds (Pojar, 180).

**Elevation Range**
- ✔ low elevation
- ✔ mid elevation
- ✔ sub-alpine

**Wildlife Value**
- ✔ Nectar for hummingbirds

Birds: The flowers are often visited by hummingbirds. The seeds are eaten by sparrows, juncos, and finches.

**Habitat Preferences**
- ✔ Shorelines and Riparian: Stream or river banks
- ✔ Saltwater Areas: Seashores
- ✔ Coastal dunes or beaches
- ✔ Rocky or Gravelly Areas: Rocky slopes
- ✔ Forests and Thickets: Open forests
- ✔ Coniferous forests
- ✔ Mixed forests
- ✔ Forest edges, openings, or clearings
- ✔ Meadows and Fields: Meadows or grassy areas
- ✔ Disturbed Areas: Roadsides

**Sun/Shade Tolerance**
- ✔ full sun > 80%
- ✔ mostly sunny 60%-80%
- ✔ partial sun and shade 40%-60%

**Hydrology**
- ✔ moist
**Armeria maritima**

**Sea-thrift**

![Pink Flowers Full Sun]

At a Glance: Round balls of pink flowers held on slender leafless stems above a cluster of grass-like leaves.

- Height: Up to 18 inches (45 cm).
- Growth Form: Herb.
- Stems: Branching stem-base; stiff, leafless flowering stems.
- Leaves: All basal, densely tufted, linear leaves; leaf surface is hairless to sparsely long-hairy; size: 5-10 cm (2-4 in) long; color: green.
- Flowers: Sepals fused at base; petals fused at base with 5 long delicate lobes; in dense head-like clusters with papery bracts.
- Primary color: pink to lavender; size: 4-7 mm long.
- Flowering Period: April.
- Fruits: Small nut-like bladders, often enclosed in the sepals, 1 chambered and 1 seeded.

**Wildlife Value**

- Thickets and shelter

Insects: The flowers attract painted lady butterflies. The mat-like vegetation provides shelter for many invertebrates such as the slug-eating ground beetle.

Mammals: Deer browse the foliage.

**Sun/Shade Tolerance**

- full sun > 80%

**Elevation Range**

- Coastal, below 200 meters elevation.
- Low elevation

**Habitat Preferences**

**Aquatic and Wetland:**

- Stream or river banks
- Riparian corridors
- River bars

**Saltwater Areas:**

- Coastal dunes or beaches

**Rocky or Gravelly Areas:**

- Coastal bluffs
- Cliffs

**Meadows and Fields:**

- Meadows or grassy areas
**Aruncus dioicus**

**Goat's Beard**

At a Glance: 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.
- **Growth Form:** Herb.
- **Stems:** Stems are ribbed.
- **Leaves:** Leaves are dark green and hairless above while hairy and paler below. Lower leaves are 3 times compounded with leaflets sharply toothed and pointed; upper leaves are smaller and less compounded. Leaflets range from 3-15 cm (1-6 in) long.
- **Flowers:** Male and female flowers occur on separate plants. Flowers are densely packed in elongated terminal feathery clusters. Flower branchlets are spike-like. Each saucer-shaped flower is white to cream with petals to about 1 mm long.
- **Flowering Period:** May, June, July.
- **Fruits:** Light brown cylindrical straw-colored follicles 3-5 mm long.
- **Landscape Uses:** Male plants have the showiest flowers.

### Wildlife Value
- Nectar for hummingbirds

Insects: The flowers attract hummingbirds, mourning cloak butterflies, and native wasp and bees.

Mammals: The foliage is browsed by deer and elk.

### Habitat Preferences

**Shorelines and Riparian:**
- Stream or river banks
- Riparian corridors

**Forests and Thickets:**
- Coniferous forests
- Mixed forests
- Forest edges, openings, or clearings

**Disturbed Areas:**
- Roadsides
- Trailsides

### Sun/Shade Tolerance
- Partial sun and shade 40\%-60%

### Hydrology
- Moist

### Elevation Range
- Low elevation
- Mid elevation
**Asarum caudatum**

**Wild Ginger**

At a Glance: Low-growing evergreen perennial that smells strongly of lemon-ginger when crushed.

- Height: Can grow up to 8 inches (20 cm) tall.
- Growth Form: Herb.
- Stems: Stems are finely hairy, root freely and are trailing.
- Leaves: Leaves are heart-shaped and a net-like vein structure, surfaces are shiny with fine hairs. Leaves emerge in pairs along the rhizome on hairy leaf stalks 5-30 cm long (Cooke, 89). Size: 4-10 cm (1.5-4 in) long, 15 cm (6 in) wide; color: dark green.
- Flowers: The solitary purplish-brown to greenish-yellow flowers occur on 1-3 cm long stalks near ground level and have 3 flaring sepal-like lobes that taper to long points and are fused at the base. **Note**: flowers are often concealed by leaves. Size: up to 5 cm across; shape: bell-shaped.
- Flowering Period: April, May, June.
- Fruits: Fruits are fleshy, 6-chambered capsules (Cooke, 89) with several seeds and a prominent fleshy appendage; shape: egg-shaped.

**Sun/Shade Tolerance**

- Prefers deeply shaded forests.
- **✓** mostly shady 60%-80%
- **✓** full shade > 80%

**Hydrology**

- **✓** wet
- **✓** moist

**Wetland Indicator Status:**
FACU (facultative upland)

**Elevation Range**

- **✓** low elevation
- **✓** mid elevation

**Soil Preferences**

- Prefers rich soils.
- **✓** nutrient rich soils
- **✓** organic soils

**Habitat Preferences**

**Shorelines and Riparian:**

- **✓** Stream or river banks
- **✓** Riparian corridors
- **✓** Bottomlands

**Forests and Thickets:**

- **✓** Forests and woods
- **✓** Coniferous forests
- **✓** Old growth forests
- **✓** Mixed forests
**Aster chilensis**

**Common California Aster**

At a Glance: A slender, sprawling perennial that produces light purple flowers.

- **Height:** Can grow up to 3 ft. (100 cm.)
- **Growth Form:** Herb.
- **Stems:** Stem is greenish to purplish and leafy, ascending to erect and hairy above.
- **Leaves:** Leaves are stalkless and hairless or sparsely hairy. Most leaves appear to be attached directly to the stem without stalks (subsessile) (Guard, 134). Shape: lower leaves are lance-shaped, middle and upper leaves are linear to narrowly oblong. Leaf size ranges from 2-10 cm (0.8-4 in) long. Color: green.
- **Flowers:** Each flower has 15-40 lavender to white ray flowers that range from 5-15 mm long with numerous small yellow disk flowers in the center. Each composite flower head is cupped by a green involucral of bracts that are 5-7 mm high and mostly blunt at the tip. The ray flowers of this plant are often mistaken for petals. The center of the flower contains tiny, tubular disk flowers.
- **Flowering Period:** August, September.
- **Fruits:** Seeds have several veined achenes that are sparsely hairy with a pappus of bristles.

**Habitat Preferences**

**Aquatic and Wetland:**
- Swales or wet ditches
- Marshes or swamps
- Forested wetlands

**Shorelines and Riparian:**
- Stream or river banks
- Riparian corridors
- River bars

**Wildlife Value:**
- Nectar for butterflies

**Sun/Shade Tolerance**
- partial sun and shade 40%- 60%

**Hydrology**
- wet
- moist

**Wetland Indicator Status:**
- FACW (facultative wetland)

**Elevation Range**
- low elevation
- mid elevation

**Forests and Thickets:**
- Forest edges, openings, or clearings

**Meadows and Fields:**
- Meadows or grassy areas

**Insects:** The flowers attract painted lady, red admiral, spring azure, orange sulphur, and woodland skipper butterflies.
**Aster modestus**

**Great Northern Aster**

At a Glance: A tall, much-branched perennial with numerous heads of purplish flowers.

- Height: Grows up to 40 inches (100 cm).
- Growth Form: Herb.
- Stems: Hairy single stems are simple or branched and glandular on the upper portions near flowers.
- Leaves: Basal leaves are somewhat smaller than the upper leaves and are usually withered by flowering time. Stem leaves are lance shaped, stalkless and hairy above with smooth or slightly toothed margins. Color: green.
- Flowers: Each flowerhead contains 20-45 very narrow ray flowers surrounding a center of numerous disk flowers. Ray flowers are violet or purple; disk flowers are yellow to greenish. Beneath the flowers are the involucres - narrowly lance-shaped, spotted bracts that range between 7-11 mm high. Note: The bracts have small glands.
- Flowering Period: July, August.
- Fruits: Seeds have sparsely hairy achenes with whitish or yellowish pappus hairs. Color: brown.

**Sun/Shade Tolerance**
- Mostly sunny 60%-80%

**Hydrology**
- Wet
- Moist

**Elevation Range**
- Low elevation
- Mid elevation

**Habitat Preferences**

**Aquatic and Wetland:**
- Marshes or swamps
- Scrub-shrub wetlands
- Forested wetlands

**Shorelines and Riparian:**
- Bog margins
- Streams or rivers
- Stream or river banks
- Riparian corridors

**Forests and Thickets:**
- Forest edges, openings, or clearings
**Aster subspicatus**

**Douglas Aster**

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

- Height: Grows up to 32 inches (80 cm).
- Growth Form: Herb.
- Stems: Stems are leafy with hairs on the upper portion and are most often unbranched.
- Leaves: Leaves are alternate. Leaf shape differs depending on the location of the leaf on the plant; lower leaves are lance-shaped and usually stalked while middle leaves are lanced shaped to oblong, stalkless and usually toothed, hairless above and beneath. Size: 1-2 cm wide. Color: green.
- Flowers: Ray flowers are blue to purple and disk flowers are yellow. Size: ray flowers are 1-2 cm long. A distinguishing characteristic of Douglas aster is its thick overlapping bracts beneath each flower head. Also, outer margins of the bracts have a thin, transparent (waxy/papery) look.
- Flowering Period: July, August, September, October.
- Fruits: Seeds have several ribbed achenes that are often hairy. Pappus hairs are usually reddish or purplish brown at maturity.

**Habitat Preferences**

Aquatic and Wetland: 
- Scrub-shrub wetlands
- Forested wetlands

Shorelines and Riparian: 
- Stream or river banks
- Riparian corridors

**Saltwater Areas:**
- Tidal areas
- Seashores
- Coastal dunes or beaches

**Forests and Thickets:**
- Forest edges, openings, or clearings

**Meadows and Fields:**
- Meadows or grassy areas

**Wildlife Value**

Insects: The flowers attract painted lady, red admiral, spring azure, orange sulphur, and woodland skipper butterflies.

**Hydrology**

- wet
- moist

**Wetland Indicator Status:**
- FACW (facultative wetland)

**Elevation Range**

- low elevation
- mid elevation

**Soil Preferences**

- well drained soils
**Boykinia occidentalis**

**Slender Boykinia**

At a Glance: A slender herb with open panicles of small white flowers.

- **Height:** Up to 24 inches (60 cm).
- **Growth Form:** Herb.
- **Stems:** Leafy stems with scattered brownish to reddish glandular hairs.
- **Leaves:** Lower leaves are long-stalked, becoming stalkless further up stem. Each heart- or kidney-shaped leaf has 5-7 clefts with multiple teeth. Size: 2-8 cm (.8-3 in) wide; color: green. The stipules (2-4 mm long) have a wing and several brown bristles.
- **Flowers:** Numerous flowers in a much-branched inflorescence. Each flower is densely glandular and reddish, with five white, oblong to oval petals.
- **Flowering Period:** June.
- **Fruits:** Beaked capsules with numerous, minutely spiny black seeds.

**Sun/Shade Tolerance**
- ✔️ mostly shady 60%-80%

**Hydrology**
- ✔️ moist

**Elevation Range**
- ✔️ low elevation
- ✔️ mid elevation

**Habitat Preferences**

**Aquatic and Wetland:**
- ✔️ Forested wetlands

**Shorelines and Riparian:**
- ✔️ Stream or river banks
- ✔️ Riparian corridors
- ✔️ Floodplains

**Forests and Thickets:**
- ✔️ Coniferous forests
- ✔️ Deciduous forests
- ✔️ Mixed forests

**Meadows and Fields:**
- ✔️ Pastures or fields
- ✔️ Meadows or grassy areas
- ✔️ Mossy areas
**Brodiaea congesta**

**Harvest Lily**

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

- **Height:** Up to 3 feet (1 meter) tall.
- **Growth Form:** Herb.
- **Leaves:** Slender-grass-like leaves at base of stem.
- **Flowers:** Flowers appearing tight clusters at stem tips after the leaves have withered. Primary color is deep purple; **Size:** 4 cm (1.5 in).
- **Flowering Period:** May, June.

**Sun/Shade Tolerance**
- partial sun and shade 40% - 60%
- mostly shady 60% - 80%

**Hydrology**
- Prefers drier soils.
- dry

**Elevation Range**
- Restricted to low elevations.
- low elevation

**Soil Preferences**
- gravelly soils

**Habitat Preferences**

- **Rocky or Gravelly Areas:**
  - Cliffs
  - Rocky slopes
  - Outcrops

- **Forests and Thickets:**
  - Forest edges, openings, or clearings
  - Thickets

- **Meadows and Fields:**
  - Meadows or grassy areas

**Ethnobotanical Uses and Other Facts**

- **Food Uses:** Bulbs were eaten.
- **Name Info:** Native American name was *Ookow.*
**Brodiaea hyacinthina**

**Fool's Onion, White Brodiaea**

At a Glance: Onion-like plant from an underground corm, with large clusters of white flowers at tip of stems.

- Height: 10-30 inches (25-70 cm).
- Growth Form: Herb.
- Leaves: 1-2 grass-like leaves at plant base; wither after flowering; Size: 40 cm (16 in) long, 1 cm wide; color: green.
- Flowers: In large umbel at top of a slender stalk 25-70 cm (10-28 in) tall and surpassing leaves. 3-5 bracts below umbel are small and papery. Each broadly bell-shaped flower is white to light blue, with blue or green veins; Size: 1-1.5 cm long.
- Flowering Period: May, June, August.
- Fruits: Stalked capsules.
- Name Info: Known as *Hyacinth Brodiaea* because the flowers somewhat resemble hyacinths, which are typically purplish-blue. Hyacinth was either Homer's name for a flower that sprang from the blood of Hyakinthose, or from an earlier (Thraco-pelagian) word for the blue color of water. The plant somewhat resembles an onion, but it has no onion flavor or smell.

**Soil Preferences**
Also found in sagebrush deserts east of Cascades.
✓gravelly soils

**Sun/Shade Tolerance**
✓full sun > 80%
✓mostly sunny 60%-80%

**Hydrology**
Can occur in wetlands that dry out by late summer.
✓moist

**Elevation Range**
0-2000 m; prefers uplands, but wet prairies also.
✓low elevation
✓mid elevation

**Habitat Preferences**

**Meadows and Fields:**
✓Meadows or grassy areas
**Caltha biflora**

**Marsh Marigold**

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

- Height: 16 inches (40 cm).
- Growth Form: Herb.
- Leaves: The kidney-shaped leaves have bluntly toothed margins and a prominent palmate vein structure. Leaves are almost as broad as they are long. Size: 4-10 cm (1.5-4 in) long by 5-12 cm (2-4.75 in) across.
- Flowers: 1-2 flowers emerging from a stem with one leaf. Flowers lack true petals but have 5-7 bright white sepals and many stamens. Size: 1.5-4 cm (.6-1.5 in) across.
- Flowering Period: June, July, August.
- Fruits: A cluster of dry brownish follicles.

**Sun/Shade Tolerance**

- full sun > 80%
- mostly sunny 60%-80%
- partial sun and shade 40%-60%

**Hydrology**

- wet
- moist

Wetland Indicator Status: OBL (obligate wetland)

**Elevation Range**

900-3300 meters elevation.

- low elevation
- mid elevation
- sub-alpine

**Soil Preferences**

- clay soils
- muddy soils

**Habitat Preferences**

Aquatic and Wetland:

- Forested wetlands
- Bogs, fens
- Seeps, springs

Shorelines and Riparian:

- Bog margins
- Stream or river banks

Sub-alpine and Alpine:

- Tundra
**Caltha palustris**

**Yellow Marsh Marigold**

At a Glance: Large yellow flowers top this creeping, perennial, semi-aquatic herb.

- **Height:** Up to 16 inches (40 cm).
- **Growth Form:** Herb.
- **Stems:** Arching to creeping stems distinguish it from *caltha biflora*.
- **Leaves:** Mostly basal. Leaves are kidney-shaped, somewhat fleshy, glabrous; margins are regularly blunt toothed. Size: 4-10 cm (1.5-4 in) long.
- **Flowers:** Usually two flowers per stem; each flower has 5-12 yellow sepals and numerous stamens. Flower Size: 1.5-4 cm (0.6-2 in) wide.
- **Flowering Period:** May, June, July.
- **Fruits:** 5-10 clusters of distinctly stalked follicles (follicle: a dry fruit composed of a single carpel).

**Sun/Shade Tolerance**
- ✔️ mostly sunny 60%-80%

**Hydrology**
- ✔️ wet

**Wetland Indicator Status:**
- OBL (obligate wetland)

**Elevation Range**
- ✔️ low elevation

**Soil Preferences**
- ✔️ clay soils
- ✔️ muddy soils
- ✔️ peaty soils

**Habitat Preferences**

**Aquatic and Wetland:**
- ✔️ Shallow pools
- ✔️ Sloughs
- ✔️ Swales or wet ditches
- ✔️ Marshes or swamps
- ✔️ Bogs, fens

**Shorelines and Riparian:**
- ✔️ Lake shores
- ✔️ Bog margins
**Camassia leitchlinii**

**Great Camas**

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

- **Height:** Up to 28 inches (70 cm).
- **Growth Form:** Herb.
- **Leaves:** Numerous basal, grass-like leaves; leaves are green but often covered with fine, waxy powder; **Size:** 2 cm (.8 in) wide by 50 cm (20 in) long.
- **Flowers:** 5 or more deep blue (rarely white) flowers in a long terminal spike; the tepals (petals) of the great camas eventually twist together to cover and protect the fruit which distinguishes it from the common camas; anthers are dull yellow/violet; **Size:** 3.5 cm (1.4 in) long.
- **Flowering Period:** April, May.
- **Fruits:** Egg-shaped capsules; stalk curved in towards stem; **Size:** 2.5 cm (1 in) long.

**Elevation Range**
- ✔️ low elevation
- ✔️ mid elevation

**Soil Preferences**
Does best in heavy soils.

**Habitat Preferences**

**Shorelines and Riparian:**
- ✔️ Bog margins

**Rocky or Gravelly Areas:**
- ✔️ Coastal bluffs
- ✔️ Outcrops
- ✔️ Glacial outwash

**Forests and Thickets:**
- ✔️ Forest edges, openings, or clearings

**Meadows and Fields:**
- ✔️ Pastures or fields
- ✔️ Meadows or grassy areas

**Sun/Shade Tolerance**
Prefers sunny areas.
- ✔️ full sun > 80%
- ✔️ mostly sunny 60%-80%

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

- ✔️ moist
- ✔️ dry

**Wetland Indicator Status:**
FACW (facultative wetland)
**Camassia quamash**

**Common Camas**

At a Glance: Bulbous perennial producing a spike of large blue flowers.

- Height: Up to 28 inches (70 cm).
- Growth Form: Herb.
- Leaves: Numerous basal, grass-like leaves that are dull above and dark and semi-glossy beneath. Up to 2 cm (.8 in) wide by 50 cm (20 in) long.
- Flowers: 5 or more pale to deep blue (rarely white) flowers in terminal spike, the common camas has five tepals curved upwards and the 6th curved downward; anthers are bright yellow. Size: 3.5 cm (1.4 in) across.
- Flowering Period: April, May.
- Fruits: Egg-shaped capsules; stalk curves in towards stem; Size: 2.5 cm (1 in) long.

**Sun/Shade Tolerance**
- ✓ full sun > 80%
- ✓ mostly sunny 60%-80%

**Hydrology**
- ✓ wet
- ✓ moist

Wetland Indicator Status:
- FACW (facultative wetland)

**Elevation Range**
- ✓ low elevation
- ✓ mid elevation

**Habitat Preferences**
- Aquatic and Wetland:
  - ✓ Seasonally inundated areas
- Rocky or Gravelly Areas:
  - ✓ Coastal bluffs
- Forests and Thickets:
  - ✓ Forest edges, openings, or clearings
- Meadows and Fields:
  - ✓ Pastures or fields
  - ✓ Meadows or grassy areas
Campanula rotundifolia

Harebell

At a Glance: Delicate stems topped by large, nodding bell-shaped blue flowers.

- Height: 4-32 inches (10-80 cm).
- Growth Form: Herb.
- Stems: 1 to several stems, leafy, ascending or erect, more or less hairless; plant height varies greatly with elevation.
- Leaves: Basal leaves are heart-shaped, stalked, coarsely toothed, usually withering before flowers appear. Stem leaves are alternate, linear to narrowly lance-shaped, 1.5-8 cm long, margins can be saw-toothed.
- Flowers: Large, nodding bell-shaped blue or purplish-blue flowers (rarely white); sepals hairy at fused base with awl-shaped lobes; 5 fused petals. Flowers single several on thin, wiry stalks atop stem. Size: 1.5-3 cm (.6-1 in) long.
- Flowering Period: July, August.
- Fruits: Cylindrical to reverse-cone-shaped capsules, opening by pores; numerous flattened seeds.

Wildlife Value
- Nectar for hummingbirds
- Nectar for butterflies

Birds: Hummingbirds visit the campanula flowers.
Insects: Bumblebees and swallowtail butterflies visit the campanula flowers.

Sun/Shade Tolerance
- full sun > 80%
- mostly sunny 60%-80%

Elevation Range
- low elevation
- mid elevation
- sub-alpine

Habitat Preferences
Rocky or Gravelly Areas:
- Cliffs
- Rocky slopes
- Outcrops
- Crevices
- Gullies

Sub-alpine and Alpine:
- Tundra

Forests and Thickets:
- Forest edges, openings, or clearings

Meadows and Fields:
- Meadows or grassy areas
**Castilleja miniata**

**Red Paintbrush**

At a Glance: An attractive wildflower with red brush-like flower clusters.

- **Height:** 8-32 inches (20-80 cm).
- **Growth Form:** Herb.
- **Stems:** Stems few, erect or ascending from a woody base, hairless or somewhat sticky hairy.
- **Leaves:** Narrow; sharp pointed; usually entire but sometimes upper leaves have 3 shallow lobes, with or without fine hairs. Seaves are alternate and have three major veins.
- **Flowers:** Inconspicuous greenish flowers are concealed by several, showy bright red/scarlet bracts; bracts are sharp pointed, toothed, and hairy; calyx lobes are sharp pointed. Flower shape: tubular.
- **Flowering Period:** May, June, July.
- **Fruits:** 2-celled capsules.

**Sun/Shade Tolerance**

Prefer open habitats.

- ✔️ mostly sunny 60%-80%

**Hydrology**

- ✔️ moist

**Elevation Range**

Can be found from low to high elevations, but most common in the subalpine.

- ✔️ low elevation
- ✔️ mid elevation
- ✔️ sub-alpine
- ✔️ high elevation

**Habitat Preferences**

**Aquatic and Wetland:**

- ✔️ Marshes or swamps

**Shorelines and Riparian:**

- ✔️ River bars

**Saltwater Areas:**

- ✔️ Tidal areas

**Rocky or Gravelly Areas:**

- ✔️ Coastal bluffs
- ✔️ Cliffs
- ✔️ Rocky slopes

**Sub-alpine and Alpine:**

- ✔️ Tundra

**Forests and Thickets:**

- ✔️ Open forests
- ✔️ Forest edges, openings, or clearings
- ✔️ Thickets

**Meadows and Fields:**

- ✔️ Meadows or grassy areas

**Disturbed Areas:**

- ✔️ Roadsides

**Wildlife Value**

- ✔️ Nectar for hummingbirds

Birds: Flowers provide nectar for hummingbirds.
**Cerastium arvense**

**Field Chickweed**

- Growth Form: Herb.
- Flowering Period: April, May, June, July.

**Sun/Shade Tolerance**
- Full sun > 80%
- Mostly sunny 60%-80%

**Hydrology**
- Moist
- Dry

**Elevation Range**
- Low elevation
- Mid elevation
- Sub-alpine

**Habitat Preferences**

**Saltwater Areas:**
- Seashores
- Coastal dunes or beaches

**Rocky or Gravelly Areas:**
- Coastal bluffs
- Cliffs
- Rocky slopes
- Glacial outwash

**Meadows and Fields:**
- Meadows or grassy areas
**Chamerion angustifolium**

**Fireweed**

At a Glance: 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).
- **Growth Form:** Herb.
- **Stems:** Unbranched, red to green.
- **Leaves:** Alternate, lance-shaped, stalkless, 5-20 cm long, green and often short-hairy above, paler, hairless and distinctly veined below, smooth-marginated; **Size:** 5-20 cm (2-8 in) long.
- **Flowers:** Stalked, sepals 4, petals 4, stigma 4 lobed; several to many (15+) in long cluster atop stem; primary color: pink to red/purple; **Size:** 2-4 cm (0.8-1.5 in) wide.
- **Flowering Period:** May, June.
- **Fruits:** Pod-like capsules, long and narrow, green to red, 4 chambered, splitting open to disgorge hundreds of fluffy white seeds; **Size:** 4-9 cm (1.5-3.5 in) long.

**Sun/Shade Tolerance**
- ☑️ Full sun > 80%
- ☑️ Mostly sunny 60%-80%

**Hydrology**
- ☑️ Moist
- ☑️ Dry

**Elevation Range**
- ☑️ Low elevation
- ☑️ Mid elevation

**Wildlife Value**
- ☑️ Nectar for hummingbirds
- ☑️ Nectar for butterflies
- **Birds:** Attracts hummingbirds.
- **Insects:** Attracts butterflies and bees.

- **Name Info:** Commonly grows on sites of fires, hence the common name.
- **Interesting Facts:** National flower of Russia.
- **Ecological Importance:** Often the first plant to appear in burned areas, playing an important role in the re-colonization of those areas.
Chamerion angustifolium continued

Habitat Preferences

Shorelines and Riparian:
- River bars

Rocky or Gravelly Areas:
- Slide areas

Sub-alpine and Alpine:
- Avalanche tracks

Forests and Thickets:
- Forest edges, openings, or clearings
- Thickets

Meadows and Fields:
- Meadows or grassy areas

Disturbed Areas:
- Burned areas
- Disturbed sites

Ethnobotanical Uses and Other Facts

Material Uses: The Haida used the outer stem fibers to make cord. The Coast Salish used the seed fluff in weaving and padding. The Saanich and other Vancouver Island groups along with the Squamish and Puget Sound groups added the seed fluff to dog hair or mountain goat wool and wove the mixture into clothing or blankets. The Saanich used seed fluff with duck feathers to stuff mattresses. The Quinault and Skokomish used fluff with duck feathers to make blankets.

Medicinal Uses: Leaves rich in vitamin C can be used to make tea.

Food Uses: The Haida, Nisgaa, Gitksan and some other peoples ate the central pith of the fireweed stems in the early spring. Used as a green potherb by French Canadian explorers. Flowers produce ample nectar, which can be used to make honey.
**Clarkia amoena**

**Farewell to Spring**

At a Glance: A taprooted annual with large showy, usually pink flowers; often grown horticulturally.

- Height: 4 inches to 3 feet (10-100 cm).
- Growth Form: Herb.
- Stems: Stems are spreading to upright; simple to freely branched; leafy.
- Leaves: Alternate arrangement. Leaf blade is linear to lance-shaped, 2-7 cm (.8-2.75 in) long, with smooth edges.
- Flowers: Few to many flowers in loose, leafy-bracted clusters. Each flower has four petals, dark spotted in the center, 1-4 cm long, and 8 stamens. Primary color: pink to rose-purple; Size: 6 cm (2.5 in) across.
- Flowering Period: May, June.
- Fruits: Straight to curved capsules, pod-like, long, narrow, 8-ribbed, 4-chambered; numerous seeds, angled, hairless; Size: 1-4.5 cm (0.4-1.75 in) long.

**Hydrology**

- dry

**Elevation Range**

- Low elevation

**Habitat Preferences**

**Rocky or Gravelly Areas:**

- Coastal bluffs
- Rocky slopes
- Outcrops

**Forests and Thickets:**

- Forest edges, openings, or clearings

**Meadows and Fields:**

- Meadows or grassy areas
Claytonia perfoliata

Miner's Lettuce

At a Glance: Low-growing, mat-like herbaceous annual with succulent round leaves.

- Height: 12 inches (30 cm).
- Growth Form: Herb.
- Leaves: Numerous egg-shaped basal leaves on stalks 2-10 cm (0.8-4 in) long. The two steam leaves are are fused and form a disk around stem just beneath the flowers.
- Flowers: Small white to pinkish flowers with 2 sepals and 5 petals, in small clusters just above the stem leaves. Size: 3-7 mm long.
- Flowering Period: March, April.
- Fruits: Fruit capsules, opening into three segments with three black seeds per fruit.

Sun/Shade Tolerance
Prefers open to shady forest.
☑ partial sun and shade 40%- 60%

Elevation Range
☑ low elevation
☑ mid elevation

Hydrology
☑ moist

Soil Preferences
☑ sandy soils

Habitat Preferences
Forests and Thickets:
☑ Forests and woods
☑ Open forests
☑ Mixed forests
☑ Forest edges, openings, or clearings

Meadows and Fields:
☑ Meadows or grassy areas
Claytonia sibirica

Siberian Spring Beauty

At a Glance: Low-growing delicate herb.

- Height: Up to 16 inches (40 cm).
- Growth Form: Herb.
- Stems: Several stems, spreading to erect, leafy, succulent and weak.
- Leaves: Basal Leaves: 1-6 cm (.4-2.5 in) long, lance-shaped to elliptic, on stalks 3-30 cm (1-12 in) long. Stem Leaves: 7 cm (2.75 in) long, opposite, stalkless, egg to lance shaped.
- Flowers: Flowers are in 1 to several many-flowered raceme clusters just above the stem leaves. Each flower has 2 sepals and 5 notched-tipped white to pink petals 6-12 mm long. The flowers are pink when growing in shade, but are more white when growing in sun.
- Flowering Period: April, May.
- Fruits: Capsules, opening into 3 segments; 1-3 seeds per fruit, black lustrous.

Sun/Shade Tolerance
Prefers shady understory, can tolerate direct sun.
☑ mostly shady 60%-80%

Hydrology
☑ moist

Elevation Range
☑ low elevation
☑ mid elevation

Soil Preferences
☑ nutrient rich soils

Habitat Preferences

Shorelines and Riparian:
☑ Stream or river banks
☑ Riparian corridors

Meadows and Fields:
☑ Meadows or grassy areas

Forests and Thickets:
☑ Forests and woods
☑ Forest edges, openings, or clearings
☑ Thickets

Disturbed Areas:
☑ Roadsides
**Cornus unalaschakensis**

**Bunchberry**

At a Glance: Low, trailing, rhizomatous perennial with white flowers.

- Height: Up to 10 inches (25 cm).
- Growth Form: Herb.
- Stems: Erect stems, minutely hairy.
- Leaves: 4-7 leaves in a single terminal whorl above 1-2 pairs of leafy bracts; leaves are green above and whitish beneath; parallel veins; Size: 2-8 cm (0.8-3.15 in) long.
- Flowers: What looks like a single large flower is actually four white bracts with a small cluster of greenish-white flowers in the center. Each flower has 4 sepals, 4 stamens, 4 petals. May bloom twice (late spring and again in late summer). Size: 2.5 cm (1 in) across (including bracts).
- Flowering Period: May, June.
- Fruits: Clusters of bright red, fleshy, berry-like drupes, pithy; Size: 5-9 mm wide.
- Landscape Uses: Semi-evergreen groundcover. Work rotting bark, wood, etc. into the soil when planting.

**Sun/Shade Tolerance**
- partial sun and shade 40%- 60%
- mostly shady 60%-80%
- full shade > 80%

**Hydrology**
- moist

**Habitat Preferences**

Aquatic and Wetland:
- Bogs, fens

Forests and Thickets:
- Open forests
- Coniferous forests
- Mixed forests
- Forest edges, openings, or clearings

Meadows and Fields:
- Meadows or grassy areas

**Elevation Range**
- 0-1500 meters.

**Soil Preferences**
- Can tolerate nitrogen-poor soils.
- nutrient rich soils
- nutrient poor soils
- organic soils
References

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**Asarum caudatum** Suggested References


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**Aster subspicatus** Suggested References

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**Brodiaea hyacinthina** Suggested References


**Caltha biflora** Suggested References


**Caltha palustris** Suggested References


**Camassia leitchlinii** Suggested References


**Camassia quamash** Suggested References

Campanula rotundifolia Suggested References


Castilleja miniata Suggested References


Chamerion angustifolium Suggested References


Clarkia amoena Suggested References


Claytonia perfoliata Suggested References


Claytonia sibirica Suggested References

Cornus unalaschkensis Suggested References