

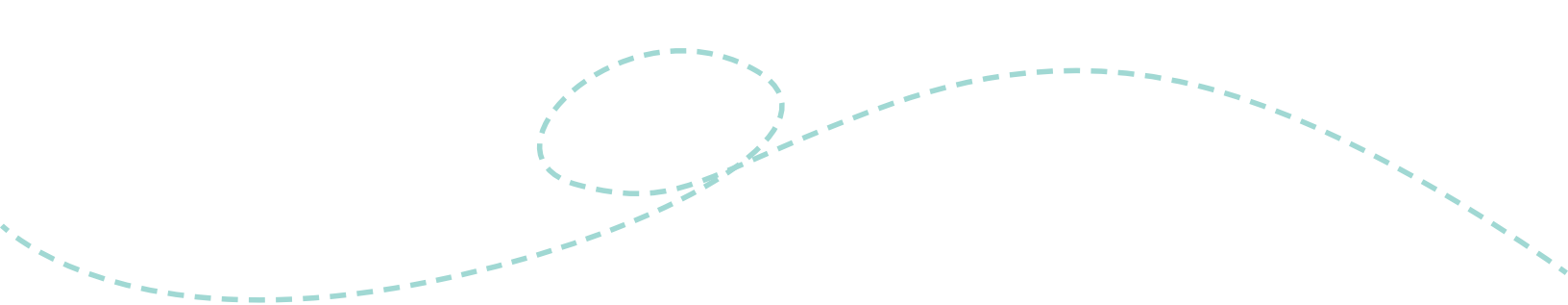


2020

Butterflyway plant list

12 pollinator-friendly plants for your garden





Information from Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Centre
(wildflower.org) and West Coast Seeds.

With special support from the Butterflyway Indigenous
Pollinator Plant Committee.

Common Camas

Camassia quamash

Perennial herb





TOM BENSON VIA FLICKR

 30–91 cm (1–3 ft) tall

 **Blossoms:** Blue

 Blooms April–June

 **Native distribution:**
BC to CA, AB, MT, WY & UT

 **Native habitat:**
Moist areas, often where
dry by late spring


GROWING CONDITIONS

 High water use


 Sun


 Moist soil

Soil description: Heavy;
winter & spring: moist


 Camas eventually goes dormant and should then have less water, but not fully dry soil. Considered among the easiest and showiest of native bulbs.


BENEFITS


 Elk, deer & moose reportedly graze the plant in early spring

 Bulb favoured by Indigenous Peoples for food

 Conspicuous flowers

 Attracts beneficial insects

 Special value to native bees

 Avoid white variety—death camas (*Zigadenus venenosus*)

Goldenrod

Solidago multiradiata

Rocky Mountain Goldenrod, Northern Goldenrod, Alpine Goldenrod. Asteraceae (Aster Family)



JANE S RICHARDSON VIA WIKIMEDIA


Perennial herb



 Up to 30 cm (1 ft) tall

 **Blossoms:** Yellow

 Blooms July–Sept.

 **Native habitat:**
Rocky, lowland & subalpine habitats

GROWING CONDITIONS


 Part shade


 Dry soil


Soil description:
Rocky, alkaline soils
(pH >7.2)

BENEFITS

 Attracts butterflies

 Attracts beneficial insects

 Special value to native bees & honeybees

 Larval Host: damoetas checkerspot (*Chlosyne damoetas*)

Pearly Everlasting

Anaphalis margaritacea


Perennial herb



 30–91 cm (1–3 ft) tall

 **Blossoms:**
White, yellow

 Blooms June–October

 **Native habitat:**
Dry prairies; open woods;
roadsides; waste places

GROWING CONDITIONS

 Medium water use


  Sun, part shade


 Dry soil


Soil description:
Sandy or gravelly soils


+ Propagation: Increase by division in the spring or sow fresh seeds in the fall.


BENEFITS

 The pure white flower is commonly used in dried flower arrangements

 In folk medicine, it is used as a salve for burns

 Attracts butterflies. Good food plant for painted lady butterflies.

 Larval host for skippers, painted lady

 It is a great host plant for the painted lady butterflies. They can lay their eggs anytime during the summer but egg-laying is most common in the spring.


Pacific Bleeding Heart

Dicentra formosa

Perennial herb



STEPHANIE FALZONE VIA FLICKR

 18 cm (7") tall or more




 **Blossoms:**
Pink, purple

 Blooms March–July

 **Native habitat:**
Cool, damp woods


GROWING CONDITIONS

 Low water use

   Sun, part shade, shade

 Moist soil

Soil description: Well-drained, humus-rich soil

 This plant can be propagated by seed; however it takes several years for seedlings to grow. Seeds are spread by ants.

BENEFITS

 Attracts hummingbirds and butterflies

 Conspicuous flowers

Nodding Onion

Allium cernuum

Perennial herb




 Up to 46cm (18") tall

 **Blossoms:**
White, pink

 Blooms June–August

 **Native distribution:**
BC to NY


 **Native habitat:**
Dry to moist prairies;
stream banks; moist areas
at high altitudes


GROWING CONDITIONS

  Sun, part shade


   Moist soil



Soil description: Humus-rich, neutral to alkaline



 Most effectively planted in small groups. Some allium species can become weedy in warmer climates. Plants benefit from being divided every third year or when 8–10 bulbs appear in the clump.

 Easily propagated by seed or bulb division. Plant seeds outdoors in fall. Seeds germinate best if scarified. Offset bulblets, which form around the base of the larger bulbs, can be divided in fall.

BENEFITS

 Bulbs are utilized by bears and ground squirrels. Elk and deer graze the early spring herbage.

 Conspicuous flowers
 Attracts hummingbirds and hairstreak butterfly

 Attracts beneficial insects
 Special value to native bees

Coastal Kinnikinnick


Arctostaphylos uva-ursi

Perennial shrub



FRANK FUJIMOTO (CREATIVE COMMONS)

 Evergreen

 15–30 cm (6–12") tall, spread up to 4.6 m (15 ft)




 **Blossoms:**
White, pink

 Blooms March–June

Flowers urn-shaped, waxy, white-tinged with pink.

GROWING CONDITIONS


 Low water use

   Sun, part shade, shade


 Cold, drought and heat-tolerant


 Dry or moist soil


Soil description: Rocky or sandy, acidic soils

 Soil should not be compacted around the plants and they should not be fertilized.


BENEFITS

 The fruit is edible but mealy and tasteless; it is much favoured by birds and other wildlife

 The Haida used it as a diuretic for kidney diseases and urinary tract infections

 The Okanagan-Colville cooked the berries with venison or salmon, or dried them into cakes eaten with salmon eggs. Various Indigenous groups in California prepared a cider-like beverage from the berries.

 Attracts hummingbirds and butterflies

 Larval host for hoary elfin (*Callophrys polia*), brown elfin (*C. augustinus*), freija fritillary (*Boloria freija*)

 Special value to native bees


Virginia Strawberry

Fragaria virginiana

Perennial herb




JOSHUA MAYER VIA FLICKR

 Up to about 20 cm (8") tall

 **Blossoms:** White

 Blooms March–May

 **Native habitat:**
Fields, prairies, woodland edges

GROWING CONDITIONS

  Sun, part shade

 Dry soil

Soil description:
Variable. Tolerant of moderately acid soil.


BENEFITS


 Edible fruit

 Berries attract wildlife

 Conspicuous flowers

 Attracts butterflies

 Larval host for gray hairstreak

 Special value to native bees


Western Yarrow

Achillea millefolium

Perennial herb




LAURA CAMP (CREATIVE COMMONS)

 Up to about 91 cm (3 ft) tall

 **Blossoms:**
White, pink, purple

 Blooms July–October

 **Native distribution:**
Most of temperate North America

 **Native habitat:**
Favours recently disturbed soil

GROWING CONDITIONS


 Medium water use

  Sun, part shade

 Drought-tolerant

 Dry soil

Soil description:
Loamy, well-drained soil
with a pH of 5.5–7.0

 Sow on the surface of the soil. Start indoors 8–10 weeks before transplanting outside (roughly mid-March on the coast). Transplant or direct sow in early spring or early autumn.

BENEFITS

 Attracts butterflies

 Special value to native bees

 Attracts beneficial insects


Douglas Aster


Aster subspicatus

Perennial herb




LINDA SEVERSON VIA FLICKR

 Up to about 1.2 m (4 ft) tall

 **Blossoms:**
Yellow, violet

 Blooms July–Sept.

 **Native distribution:**
BC, AB


 **Native habitat:**
Typically a coastal species found in moist lowland habitats such as seashores, salt and fresh marshes, ditches, meadows and clearings at low elevations.

GROWING CONDITIONS

  Sun, part shade

 Moist soil

Soil description:
Rich soil. Not drought-tolerant.

 Flowers create abundance of feathery seeds and will self seed freely once established.

BENEFITS

 Attracts butterflies

 Deer-resistant

Salal


Gaultheria shallon

Perennial shrub




MARSHALL DRUMMOND VIA FLICKR


 Evergreen


 30–91 cm (1–3 ft.) tall or more

 **Blossoms:**
White, pink

 Blooms April–July




 Purple, red, blue edible berries

 **Native distribution:**
Coastal areas from BC to California

 **Native habitat:**
Coastal woods or brushy places below 2,500 ft.


GROWING CONDITIONS


 High water use

   Sun, part shade, shade


 Dry or moist soil


Soil description: Peaty soil

 Must have summer fog or rain and shade. Direct summer sun causes scorch. This easy ground cover can become somewhat invasive.


 The tiny seeds germinate well. Best sown on milled sphagnum moss. Seedlings slow-growing. Propagation using cuttings of new wood taken in late summer is a faster method. Can also be propagated by layering.


BENEFITS

 The fruit is a source of food for many animals. Deer browse on new leaves and berries. Used as winter browse by deer as well.

 A staple food of NW coastal First Nations. Can be eaten fresh, cooked and dried. Berries make excellent jelly.

 Conspicuous flowers

 Attracts butterflies, hummingbirds

 Larval host for brown elfin butterfly


Hardhack

Spiraea douglasii

Perennial shrub




KATJA SCHULZ VIA FLICKR

 1.8–3.65 m (6–12 ft)
tall

 **Blossoms:** Pink

 Blooms June–Sept.


 Purple, red, blue edible
berries

GROWING CONDITIONS

 Low water use

 Part shade

 Moist soil

 Propagate by seed
or softwood cuttings.
Offshoots from the
creeping underground
stems can be readily
established.

BENEFITS

 Attracts butterflies

 Special value to native bees


Ocean Spray

Holodiscus discolor

Perennial shrub




JON D ANDERSON VIA FLICKR

 1.8–3.65 m (6–12 ft)
tall

 **Blossoms:** White

 Blooms May–August


GROWING CONDITIONS

 High water use


  Sun, part shade

 Dry or moist soil


Soil description: Gravelly
or rocky soils


 Semi-hardwood cuttings, suckers and seeds have been used with success. Seeds are produced in tiny, dry capsules. The tiny seeds require cold stratification at 5 C for up to 18 weeks.

BENEFITS

 Attracts butterflies (swallowtail, azure, and Lorquin's admiral butterflies)

 Conspicuous flowers

 Special value to native bees

 A colourful reclamer of open or disturbed lands.



david Suzuki.org/butterflyway