

Evergreen Huckleberry

Vaccinium ovatum



Ericaceae
(Heath/Heather)



- Evergreen shrub growing up to 4 m tall with egg-shaped & sharp toothed leaves and edible purplish-black berries
- Found in coniferous forests, especially in edge habitats, at low elevations - often close to tidewater
- Berries ripen in autumn & remain on the plant thru winter

Low Oregon Grape

Mahonia nervosa



Berberidaceae
(Barberry)



- Short (up to 60 cm) evergreen shrub in dry to moist open or shaded forests at low to middle elevations from Oregon to WA
- Yellow flowers in spring result in blue berries in spring
- Bright yellow interior bark due to alkaloid "berberine"

Sword Fern

Polystichum munium



Dryopteridaceae
(Wood Fern)



- Large (up to 1.5 m tall) evergreen fern found from southern Oregon to British Columbia, forms in a circular "crown"
- Each frond has leaflets with "sori" - spores of the fern
- "*Pala-pala plant*" - a game played by native children with goal to pull off as many leaflets in one breath while saying "*pala-pala*"

Trailing Blackberry

Rubus ursinus



Rosaceae
(Rose)



- Vining, low-lying shrub with 3 leaflets per branch on main vine
- Common in disturbed sites, thickets, and dry, open forests from low to mid elevations
- White or pink flowers turn into small blackberries, edible
- Our own native blackberry - not to be mistaken for the larger invasive varieties of Himalayan and Evergreen blackberry

Beaked Hazelnut

Corylus cornuta var. *californica*



Betulaceae

(Birch)



- Tall shrub growing 1 - 4 m tall in moist but well-drained sites at low to mid elevations from southern OR to north Washington
- Open forest, shady openings, thickets, clearings
- Nuts were favored by Coast Salish peoples

Honeysuckle

Lonicera ciliosa



Caprifoliaceae (Honeysuckle)



- Climbing, branching vine with hollow twigs
- Whorled orange flowers above disc leaf
- Found in woods & thickets from sea level to mid-elevation from southern Oregon to northern Washington
- Used by native peoples for weaving & binding
- Known as "ghost's swing" or "owl's swing" by many Coast Salish

Nootka Rose

Rosa nutkana



Rosaceae

(Rose)



- Medium sized hedging shrub growing up to 3 m tall
- Found in open habitats - meadows, shorelines, thickets, streamsides, roadsides, clearings
- Produces pink blossoms in spring that turn to red hips in autumn
- Skin of the "hip" is high in vitamin C

Oceanspray

Holodiscus discolor

 Rosaceae (Rose)



- Tall woody shrub, often mistaken for small tree, growing up to 4 m tall often with "arching" stems
- Produces white to cream flowers that are "lilac-like"
- Used to make digging sticks by Coast Salish - "ironwood"

Red Flowering Currant

Ribes sanguineum



Grossulariaceae



- Woody shrub growing from 1 - 3 m tall in low to mid elevation dry open woods, rock slopes, and disturbed sites in Washington
- "Sanguineum" means "blood-red" or "blood" referring to the flowers - a favorite of gardeners and hummingbirds alike
- Berries are edible, though not palatable

Salmonberry

Rubus spectabilis



Rosaceae
(Rose)



- Large (up to 4 m tall) shrub grows in moist to wet areas at low to mid elevations from southern Oregon into southern Alaska
- Sprouts & orangeish-red berries edible
- Salmonberry patches were "owned" by Nuu-chah-nulth owner and could only be harvested by others once enough boxes were collected by the owner to hold a feast

Serviceberry

Amelanchier alnifolia



- Shrub to small tree 1-5 m tall with deciduous, thin oval leaves regularly toothed
- Found at low to mid elevations in habitats like rocky shorelines, bluffs, forest edges, thickets, and meadows, and open forests
- Dull-red at first berries become purple to nearly black, edible

Snowberry

Symphoricarpos albus



Caprifoliaceae
(Honeysuckle)



- **Woody hedging shrub found at low elevations from OR to BC**
- **Produces white berries that are poisonous ("corpse berry")**
- **Found in dry to moist open forests, thickets, ravines, and by beaches**

Tall Oregon Grape

Mahonia aquifolium



Berberidaceae
(Barberry)



- Medium shrub with evergreen leaves in 5-9 leaflets growing up to 15 ft
- Found in drier, rockier open sites than Low Oregon Grape
- Produces yellow flower that grows into blue berry - edible
- Found at low elevations from central Oregon to southern British Columbia

Thimbleberry

Rubus parviflorus



Rosaceae (Rose)



- Forms dense thickets in open sites in low elevations from southern Oregon to northern British Columbia
- Leaves palmate, soft - known to hikers as "nature's toilet paper"
- White blossoms which turn to red thimble-sized berries in early summer - edible and eaten fresh or dried by Coast Salish peoples

Vine Maple

Acer circinatum



Sapindaceae
(Soapberry)



- Deciduous shrub or scraggly tree up to 7 m tall with sprawling branches often rooting and forming new "colonies"
- Found in moist to wet places, generally under larger trees where some reaches the forest floor - low to mid elevations OR to WA
- You can spell "V-I-N-E-M-A-P-L-E" by counting the lobes of one leaf

Bigleaf Maple

Acer macrophyllum



Sapindaceae
(Soapberry)



- Deciduous tree, large, often multi-stemmed up to 35 m tall
- Found on sites often disturbed by fire, clearing or logging, dry to moist, low to mid elevations from southern Oregon to Washington
- Well known for its canopy roots that house moss/licorice fern

Bitter Cherry

Prunus emarginata

 Rosaceae (Rose)



- Shrub or small tree up to 2-15 m tall with reddish-brown bark with horizontal-raised pores
- Produces bright red cherries
- Found in moist forests at low to mid elevations OR to BC

Douglas Fir

Pseudotsuga menziesii ssp. *menziesii*



Pinaceae

(Pine)



- Coniferous tree up to 70 m tall with pyramidal crown
- Found from Oregon to British Columbia at low elevation sites, from dry to moist
- Bark is very thick and can withstand wildfire
- Needles arranged in a "whorl" around the stem and cone seeds look like mouse feet

Grand Fir

Abies grandis



Pinaceae (Pine)



- Coniferous tree up to 80 m tall with grey-brown bark, usually with white mottles that are smooth & contain resin blisters when young
- Needles are flat and cones apart high in the crown & drop in autumn
- A "true fir" found in rain shadow areas from low to mid elevations
- Present from southern Oregon to northern Washington, often in same area as Douglas Fir trees

Red Alder

Alnus rubra

 Betulaceae
(Birch)



- Deciduous tree growing up to 25 m tall with thin, grey bark found in low elevation from Oregon to British Columbia
- Found in moist woods, along streams, & in recently cleared land
- Short-lived - usually up to 60 years
- Was prized by Coastal peoples for its antibiotic properties

Red Madrone

Arbutus menziesii

 Ericaceae
(Heath/Heather)



- Evergreen broadleaf tree up to 30 m tall in low to mid elevations, specifically associated with Douglas Fir & Garry oak along shorelines & rocky, sunny, dry slopes
- Lance-shaped leaves, red berries in large drooping clusters
- Named after Spanish strawberry tree "madrono"

Western Red Cedar

Thuja plicata



Cupressaceae
(Cypress)



- Large coniferous tree growing up to 60 m tall in moist to wet soils in shaded forests, low to mid elevations from southern Oregon to British Columbia
- Regarded as the "tree of life" to Coast Salish peoples, as it provided multiple uses for shelter, clothing, tools, and transportation
- Scale-like leaves with tiny, egg-shaped seed cones

Black Cottonwood

Populus balsamifera spp. *trichocarpa*



Salicaceae
(Willow)



- Fastest growing native tree in Pacific NW - large (up to 50 m tall), deciduous
- Found in low to medium elevation in moist to wet sites, such as floodplains along major rivers or on disturbed upland sites
- Several indigenous groups ate cambium in spring, boiled leave buds (Balm of Gilead) in deer fat for salve

Foamflower

Tiarella trifoliata



Saxifragaceae

(Saxifrage)



- Perennial with slender, short rhizomes, 15 - 60 cm tall
- Found in moist, shady coniferous forests, seepage areas, streambanks, and clearings and low to mid & sometimes subalpine elevations
- Called foamflowers because flowers appear as "specks of foam"

Common / Field Horsetail

Equisetum arvense



Equisetaceae
(Horsetail)



- Found along lake edges, marshes, fens, bogs, ditches & other wet sites in low to moderate elevations
- Forms "colonies" in shallow water
- Stems unbranched or with sporadic branches in numerous whorls
- Soft annual stems collapse easily when pressed
- Have an affinity for gold in solution & concentrate it very well

Indian Plum

Oemleria cerasiformis



Rosaceae
(Rose)



- Shrub or small tree, up to 1.5 - 5 m tall, found in dry to moist, open woods, stream banks, and low areas at low elevation
- Berries were eaten in small quantities fresh, cooked or dried with oolichan grease at family meals and feasts
- One of the first spring flowers

Lady Fern

Athyrium filix-femina



Woodsiaceae
(Wood Fern)



- Deciduous fern that features lacy-cut, erect or ascending, 2 to 3-pinnate or pinnatifid, finely-divided, lanceolate, light green fronds, up to 2 - 3 ft. tall
- Genus name comes from Greek athyros meaning doorless in reference to the slowly opening hinged indusia (spore covers)
- Used to cover or dry berries by laying out on ground & in pits

Licorice Fern

Polypodium glycyrrhiza

 Pteridaceae
(Fern)



- Ferns in this genus have evergreen, relatively little-divided (for a fern) leaves
- Found on wet, mossy ground, logs, and rocks, or epiphytic on tree trunks and branches
- Sweet licorice-flavored rhizomes were chewed for flavor & were an important medicine for colds and flus by indigenous peoples

Pacific Starflower

Trientalis latifolia

Primulaceae
(Primrose)



- Perennial from slender rhizomes, up to 10 - 30 cm tall
- Found in open forests, thickets, meadows at low to mid-elevation BC to OR - often grows in "clumps" around the bases of trees
- Whorled, egg-shaped to elliptic leaves
- Known as "starflowers" because flower stalks are thin, making it look like a hanging woodland star

Red Elderberry

Sambucus racemosa



Caprifoliaceae
(Honeysuckle)



- Shrub to small tree, up to 6 m tall - soft pithy twigs
- Found in streambanks, swampy thickets, moist clearings and open forests, sea level to middle elevations
- Bright red berry-like drupes, each with 3 - 5 smooth seeds, not palatable when raw - should always be cooked

Salal

Gaultheria shallon



Ericaceae
(Heather)



- Among the most common understory shrub in the Pacific NW
- Found in coniferous forests, rocky bluffs to the seashore, low to mid elevations
- Dark, juicy berries were an important fruit for indigenous peoples
- Young leaves were chewed as a hunger suppressant

Spiny Wood Fern

Dryopteris expansa



Dryopteridaceae
(Wood Fern)



- Broadly triangular to egg-shaped to broadly oblong fern
- Found in moist forests & openings in low to subalpine - OR to BC
- The pineapple-like rootstocks of some forms of spiny wood fern were an important starchy food to indigenous peoples of the area
- Sori - rounded
- Fronds - clustered, erect and spreading, up to 1 m tall

Twinflower

Linnaea borealis



**Caprifoliacea
(Honeysuckle)**



- **Trailing, slender, semi-woody, evergreen, short, up to 10 cm tall**
- **Pink, trumpet-like flowers, nodding**
- **Found in open or dense forest, shrub thickets, shorelines, at various elevations up to timberline**
- **Twin flowers produce one of most fragrant perfumes in Pacific NW**