

## Native Plants for the Southern Interior

Everyone can enhance the enjoyment of their garden by incorporating plants that provide food and shelter for wildlife. Native plants are particularly valuable because they help indigenous wildlife populations of birds, insects and mammals survive while also saving water and maintenance time. The secret to successful gardening is putting the right plant in the right place according to your site sunlight and soil conditions.

If a native plant species you wish to acquire is not readily available it can often be obtained with advance notice from nurseries or seed suppliers either locally or within other regions. Many nurseries provide mail order catalogues of the plants they stock. When buying native plants from commercial sources, it is important to inquire about sources of the plants to ensure that they are nursery propagated from seeds or cuttings and not collected from the wild.

Native plants should not be transplanted from the wild unless they are being salvaged from an area slated for destruction, e.g. road building or building sites. It does not make sense to disturb one natural area just to create a natural area somewhere else. Furthermore, the success rate for nursery-raised native plants is much higher than for plants taken from the wild.

**To learn more about creating wildlife habitat in your backyard call Naturescape British Columbia at 1-800-387-9853 (ext. 5) for a copy of the Naturescape BC kit with three guidebooks (retail for \$21) or visit [www.hctf.ca/nature.htm](http://www.hctf.ca/nature.htm).**

### Native Perennials

Common Name	Latin Name	Sun	Soil	Height	Features
Yarrow	<i>Achillea millefolium</i>	Full	Dry, well drained	50 cm	Small fragrant white or pink flowers, good bank stabilizer.
Fireweed	<i>Epilobium angustifolium</i>	Full	Needs some moisture	1-3 m	Spike of pink-purple flowers. Attracts bees, butterflies, and hummingbirds. Spring food for deer.
Nodding onion	<i>Allium cernuum</i>	Full	Dry, well drained	To 50 cm	Pink flowers in nodding, umbrella-shaped cluster. Attracts bees, butterflies & hummingbirds.
Arrow-leafed balsamroot	<i>Balsamorhiza sagittata</i>	Full	Dry, well drained	75 cm	Striking large yellow sunflowers in spring. Attracts bees & butterflies.
Red columbine	<i>Aquilegia formosa</i>	Part sun	Needs some moisture	70 cm	Spurred red and yellow flowers. Attracts bees, butterflies, and hummingbirds.
Tiger lily	<i>Lilium columbianum</i>	Shade or part sun	Needs some moisture	50-90 cm	Showy orange flowers with curled petals.
False Solomon's-seal	<i>Smilacina racemosa</i>	Shade	Needs some moisture	30-100 cm	Spike of creamy white flowers followed by red berries.
Stream violet	<i>Viola glabella</i>	Shade	Moist to wet	5-30 cm	Yellow flowers. Larval host of some butterflies.

## Native Shrubs

Common Name	Latin Name	Sun	Soil	Height	Features
Red-osier dogwood	<i>Cornus stolonifera</i>	Part or full sun	Moist to wet	4 m	Bright red stems, clusters of white flowers and white berries. Attracts birds, butterflies & bees. Provides food and cover for wildlife, deer browse.
Tall Oregon-grape	<i>Mahonia aquifolium</i>	Part or full sun	Dry	Up to 1 m	Holly-like leaves, yellow flowers and blue berries. Winter food and cover for birds.
Shrubby cinquefoil	<i>Potentilla fruticosa</i>	Full sun	Needs some moisture	1 m	Many yellow flowers through summer.
Beaked hazelnut	<i>Corylus cornuta</i>	Shade or part shade	Moist to wet	4 m	Food for birds and small mammals.

## Native Trees

Common Name	Latin Name	Sun	Soil	Height	Features
White spruce	<i>Picea glauca</i>	Part sun	Prefers very wet. Generally grows in moist soils along rivers and lakes at lower elevations.	35 m	Evergreen. Scaly bark, dense needles. Provides food and cover for wildlife.
Lodgepole pine	<i>Pinus contorta</i>	Full sun	Needs some moisture. Will grow in a variety of soils and moisture.	20 m	Evergreen. Twisted needles in bundles of two. Provides food and cover for wildlife.
Douglas-fir	<i>Pseudotsuga menziesii</i>	Full sun	Dry	35 m	Evergreen, hardy, well adapted to local conditions. Develops deep furrowed bark with age. Provides food and cover for wildlife.
Western redcedar	<i>Thuja plicata</i>	Part sun	Needs some moisture	40 m or can be pruned as hedge	Evergreen. Provides food and cover for wildlife.
Paper birch	<i>Betula papyrifera</i>	Full sun	Moist to wet	30 m	White, papery bark, leaves turn bright yellow in fall. Provides food and cover for wildlife.