

## Ferns

### HIGHLY SUITABLE

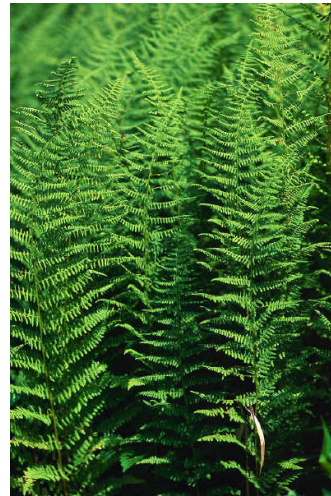
**Maidenhair fern** (*Adiantum pedatum*)  
Generally found at low to middle elevations in moist, shady, humus-rich areas; black-stemmed; delicate; palmately branched

**Lady fern** (*Athyrium felix-femina*)  
Occurs at various elevations in forests, thickets, swamps, and clearings; spreading, erect fronds

**Deer fern** (*Blechnum spicant*)  
Found in lowlands and at middle to subalpine elevations; important source of winter food for deer and elk; deer rub their antler stubs on leaves after their antlers fall off

**Sword fern** (*Polystichum munitum*)  
Generally found in moist forests at low to middle elevations; becomes quite large with erect to spreading fronds

**Bracken fern** (*Pteridium aquilinum*)  
Occurs at low to subalpine elevations; large, solitary, erect fronds; young fiddleheads eaten by deer; due to health implications, humans should not eat these ferns



### MODERATELY SUITABLE

**Spiny wood fern** (*Dryopteris expansa*)  
Occurs at low to subalpine elevations; broadly triangular fronds are clustered and erect to spreading

**Licorice fern** (*Polypodium glycyrrhiza*)  
Occurs on mossy logs and wet ground at low elevations; also epiphytic on bigleaf maples, where it dies back during summer months



Adopted by District of Central Saanich Council on December 18, 2000.

Revised November 2013

## Central Saanich



# Suitable Native Plantings for Residential Applications

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### Ground Cover

#### HIGHLY SUITABLE

**Kinnikinnick** (*Arctostaphylos uva-ursi*)  
Occurs at low to alpine elevations; pinkish-white flowers in small clusters; bright red berries are eaten by grouse and other birds, and are a favourite of bears.

**Bunchberry** (*Cornus Canadensis*)  
Found at low to subalpine elevations; small greenish-white to yellowish-purple flowers surrounded by four large white bracts bloom in May through June; bright red, fleshy berries; year-round browse for deer

**Twinflower** (*Linnaea borealis*)  
Occurs at low to subalpine elevations; dry nutlets with sticky hairs that catch on fur of mammals and feathers of birds; pink, trumpet-like flowers in pairs appear in June and July; source of nectar for hummingbirds

**Tall Oregon grape** (*Mahonia aquifolium*)  
Occurs in low to middle elevations; bright yellow flowers in large clusters appear in late spring; clusters of blue berries ripen during summer

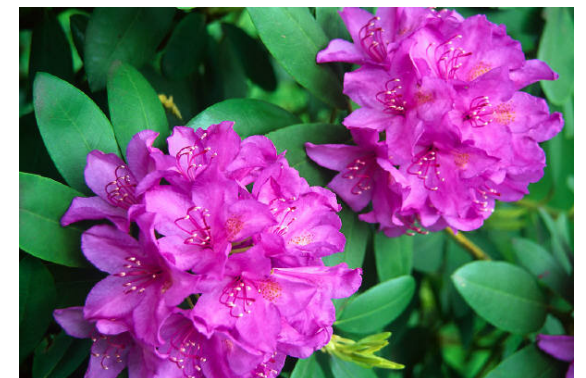
**Dull Oregon grape** (*Mahonia nervosa*)  
Found at low to middle elevations; large clusters of bright yellow flowers occur in May and June; blue berries in clusters; year-round, but preferred winter, browse for elk

### Ground Cover

#### MODERATELY SUITABLE

**Coastal strawberry** (*Fragaria chiloensis*)  
Occurs at low elevations in sandy, rocky areas near the sea; large white flowers; small hairy strawberries

**Fringecup** (*Tellima grandiflora*)  
Common at low to middle elevations; fragrant greenish-white to reddish flowers loosely clustered on flower stems from mid-April through May



## Perennials

### HIGHLY SUITABLE

#### **Yarrow** (*Achillea millefolium*)

Occurs at all elevations; white to pinkish or reddish flowers bloom June to July; aromatic herb; thrives on poor sandy or gravelly soils

#### **Pearly everlasting** (*Anaphalis margaritacea*)

Widespread from low to subalpine elevations; heads of small yellow disk flowers; dry, pearly white bracts; mid-summer (July and August) blooms last well into fall; tolerant to unfavourable conditions; preferred summer browse for deer

#### **Goat's beard** (*ArunCUS Sylvester*)

Occurs at low to middle elevations in various edge habitat; tiny white flowers on branching, elongate clusters in late May and June

#### **Wild ginger** (*Asarum caudatum*)

Common at low to middle elevations; purplish-brown to greenish-yellow flowers; deliciously scented

#### **Siberian miner's lettuce** (*Claytonia sibirica*) (*Montia sibirica*)

Occurs at low to middle elevations; tiny white to pink flowers in clusters appear from April through May

#### **Queen's cup** (*Clintonia uniflora*)

Occurs in moist forest and forest openings at low to subalpine elevations; large white flowers, each on a long stalk, occur through May and June; dark blue berries follow the flowers

#### **Pacific bleeding heart** (*Dicentra Formosa*)

Common at low to middle elevations; pinkish-purple, heart-shaped flowers in May and early June attract hummingbirds; produces pod-like seed capsules; seeds are spread by ants

#### **Hooker's fairybell** (*Disporum hookeri*)

In moist coniferous and mixed forests at low elevations; creamy-white, bell-shaped flowers; orange-red berries with seeds

#### **Chocolate lily** (*Fritillaria lanceolata*)

Found from sea level to nearly subalpine; bell-shaped dark purple flowers with greenish-yellow mottling appear April through May

#### **Rattlesnake plantain** (*Goodyera oblongifolia*)

Occurs at low to middle elevations; dull white to greenish flowers, clustered in a long spike, bloom during the summer

#### **Broad-leaved stonecrop** (*Sedum spathulifolium*)

Occurs at low to middle elevations in coarse soils and rocky areas; bright yellow flowers appear in May through June

#### **False Solomon's-seal** (*Smilacina racemosa*)

Occurs low to subalpine elevations; small, creamy-white flower clusters in May/early June; loose clusters of red berries after the flowers

#### **Star-flowered false Solomon's-seal** (*Smilacina stellata*)

Found in moist deciduous forests and clearings, from low elevation to treeline; creamy-white star-shaped flowers in clusters bloom in late April through May; ripened berries are dark blue to reddish-black

#### **Piggyback plant** (*Tolmeia menziesii*)

Occurs at low to middle elevations; brownish-purple flowers in long clusters; produces elongate seed capsules

## Trees

### MODERATELY SUITABLE

#### **Amabilis fir** (*Abies amabilis*)

Occurs in moist coniferous forests at middle to higher elevations; provides food in form of large, deep purple seed cones

#### **Grand fir** (*Abies grandis*)

Occurs in dry to moist coniferous forests, from low to middle elevations; forests containing grand fir provide habitat for bears, cougars, owls, woodpeckers, toads, frogs, and salamanders

#### **Bigleaf maple** (*Acer macrophyllum*)

Found at low to middle elevations; small greenish-yellow flowers in hanging clusters appear in April before the leaves; squirrels, grosbeaks, and mice eat the seeds; deer and elk eat the twigs

#### **Pacific crab apple** (*Malus fusca*)

Found at low to middle elevations; fragrant pinkish-white blossoms appear in April and May; clusters of small, yellow to red apples are a food source for birds, such as Purple Finch, from July through October

#### **Shore pine** (*Pinus contorta* var. *contorta*)

Found at low to middle elevations; highly adaptable; tolerates low nutrient conditions; small mammals, such as voles and squirrels, feed on the inner bark

#### **Western white pine** (*Pinus monticola*)

Occurs from near sea level to subalpine; provides food in form of seed cones for animal, such as Red and Douglas' Squirrels

#### **Trembling aspen** (*Populus tremuloides*)

Found at low elevations; hairy catkins produced in March and April with male and female flowers on separate trees; fruits are tufted seeds; trunks of aspen are relatively short-lived; rotten stems provide habitat for cavity-nesting birds; elk and deer browse on young aspen suckers; twigs, leaves, catkins, and bark are important food sources for several animals, including birds, throughout the year

#### **Bitter cherry** (*Prunus emarginata*)

Found at low to middle elevations; small white or pinkish flowers in loose clusters occurring in April through May; seeds contained in the bright red cherries eagerly harvested by Evening Grosbeaks in early autumn

#### **Douglas-fir** (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*, spp. *menziesii*)

Occurrence varies from dry, low elevation to moist, mountainous sites; squirrels, chipmunks, mice, shrews, Winter Wren, and crossbills eat the seeds; bears scrape off bark and eat the sap layer beneath; deer browse on young trees

#### **Garry oak** (*Quercus garryana*)

Occurs in open meadows; a diverse bird community makes its home in Garry oak meadows, as well as numerous mammals, insects and amphibians

#### **Western red cedar** (*Thuja plicata*)

Occurs at low to middle elevations; provides food in form of seed cones; seeds eaten by Pine Siskin, American Goldfinch, and Common Redpoll; deer browse on cedar in winter

#### **Western hemlock** (*Tsuga heterophylla*)

Grows well on humus and decaying wood; occurs at low to middle elevations; deer and elk browse on young hemlock shoots; also provides seed cones; seeds eaten by Pine Siskin, American Goldfinch, and Common Redpoll



## Trees

### HIGHLY SUITABLE

#### **Vine maple** (*Acer circinatum*)

Occurs at low to middle elevations; white flowers in clusters appear in May after the leaves; winged fruits provide source of seeds

#### **Douglas maple** (*Acer glabrum* var. *douglasii*)

Occurs at low to middle elevations; small, greenish-yellow flowers; provides source of food in form of wing-shaped seeds

#### **Red alder** (*Alnus rubra*)

Occurs at low elevations; elongate male and female catkins appear before the leaves; seed cones remain on over the winter; popular nesting tree for Great Blue Heron; attracts chickadees and Bushtit; deer browse on alder in fall

#### **Paper birch** (*Betula papyrifera*)

Generally occurs at low elevations; important winter source of food for deer, snowshoe hare, porcupine, and beaver; Pine Siskin and American Goldfinch eat the seeds; woodpeckers, sapsuckers, and vireos nest in this tree

#### **Pacific dogwood** (*Cornus nuttallii*)

Found at low elevations; flowers in spring; flowers occur in clusters, surrounded by 4 to 6 white to pinkish bracts; grosbeaks, Hermit Thrush, and waxwings eat the bright red berries, which occur in clusters; bears and beaver eat the fruit and foliage; deer eat the twigs

#### **Black hawthorn** (*Crataegus douglasii*)

Occurs at low to middle elevations; small white flowers in clusters in May; apple-like fruit forms in summer and provides food for birds through the winter; hawthorn thickets are good nesting and denning sites for small birds and mammals

#### **Cascara** (*Rhamnus purshiana*)

Found at low to middle elevations; small greenish-yellow flowers in clusters; provides dark bluish-black berries; birds, such as American Robin and Band-tailed Pigeon, eat berries



## Perennials

### MODERATELY SUITABLE

#### **Vanilla-leaf** (*Achlys triphylla*)

Occurs in forests and along forest edges at low to middle elevations; white flowers in spike

#### **Red columbine** (*Aquilegia Formosa*)

Common from low elevation to timberline in a variety of habitats; yellow to red flowers, appearing in May through June, attract hummingbirds and butterflies

#### **Great camas** (*Camassia leichtlinii*)

(Yellow List) Occurs at low to middle elevations; pale to deep blue flowers in terminal spikes; never more than 1 to 3 open flowers

#### **Common camas** (*Camassia quamash*)

(Yellow List) Found at low to middle elevations; pale to deep blue flowers in terminal spikes bloom from April through June

#### **Few-flowered shootingstar** (*Dodecatheon pulchellum*)

Occurs at low to alpine elevations; magenta to lavender flowers, with petals swept back, that bloom March through May; pollen can be dislodged by sound waves set up by buzzing of bumblebees

#### **Northern rice root** (*Fritillaria camshatcensis*)

Occurs at low to subalpine elevations; bell-shaped, bronze to purple-brown flowers; pollinated by flies attracted to the flowers by their color and smell of rotting meat

#### **False lily-of-the-valley** (*Maianthemum dilatatum*)

Occurs at low to middle elevations; small white flowers in cylindrical clusters bloom from May to June; fruits are small red berries

#### **Palmate coltsfoot** (*Petasites palmatus*)

Occurs at low to middle elevations in forests, thickets, swamps and clearings; creamy-white to pinkish flowers appear in late spring through early summer

#### **Western trillium** (*Trillium ovatum*)

Occurs at low elevations; white three-petaled flowers that bloom from April through May; each seed has tiny, oil-rich appendage attractive to ants, which haul them back to their nests, eat the appendage or feed it to their larvae, and then discard the seed, thereby contributing to seed dispersal

#### **Stream violet** (*Viola glabella*)

Found at all elevations in moist forests, clearings, and along streams; yellow flowers with purple lines

#### **Alaska violet** (*Viola langsdorfii*)

Common in low elevations coastal boggy areas; bluish-violet flowers with dark pencilled lower petals; pencilling serves as honey guide to lure bumblebees or butterflies

#### **Trailing yellow violet**

(*Viola sempervirens*)

Occurs at low to middle elevations; pale yellow flowers; some violet seeds have outgrowths called oil-bodies; ants carry away the seeds to eat the oil-bodies; thus dispersing the seeds



## Shrubs and Bushes

### HIGHLY SUITABLE

**Red osier dogwood** (*Comus stolonifera*)

Found at low to middle elevations; small white to greenish flowers in clusters appear in June; late summer fruits are white and berry-like; deer browse on dogwood year-round

**Salal** (*Gaultheria shallon*)

Generally at low to middle elevations; small white to pinkish flowers on stalks during May and June; reddish-blue to dark purple berry-like fruit appears in August; deer browse on new leaves and berries; used as winter browse by deer as well

**Oceanspray** (*Holodiscus discolor*)

Mostly found at low to middle elevations; white to cream flowers in lilac-like clusters appear in June and early July; very small, hairy seed pods

**Black twinberry** (*Lonicera involucrate*)

Ranges from low to subalpine elevations; yellow, tubular flowers are a source of nectar for hummingbirds in late April through May; shiny black berries occur in pairs in July and August

**Indian plum** (*Oemleria cerasiformis*)

Found at low elevations; greenish-white fragrant flowers in drooping clusters appears in March; bluish-black fruit, like tiny plums, are eaten by birds

**Mock orange** (*Philadelphus lewisii* var. *gordonianus*)

Occurs at low to middle elevations; white fragrant flowers in clusters appear in June; produces woody seed capsules

**Pacific ninebark** (*Physocarpus capitatus*)

Found in moist, partly open areas at low to middle elevations; small white flowers in rounded clusters bloom in June; year-round, but preferred winter, browse for elk

**White-flowered rhododendron** (*Rhododendron albiflorum*)

Occurs at subalpine elevations; white to creamy, large flowers in clusters

**Pacific rhododendron** (*Rhododendron macrophyllum*)

Found at low to middle elevations in coniferous and mixed forests; spectacular pink to rose-purple, bell-shaped flowers; blooms in late spring

**Red-flowering currant** (*Ribes sanguineum*)

Found in open, rocky, or disturbed sites at low to middle elevations; produces bluish-black round berries; reddish-pink flower clusters in April and May are a source of nectar for hummingbirds

**Nootka rose** (*Rosa nutkana*)

Occurs at low to middle elevations; large pink flowers from May through June attract bees; purplish-red, round rosehips last through the winter

**Blue elderberry** (*Sambucus caerulea*)

Found in dry to moist, fairly open areas at low elevations; flowers appear in early July and August; blue berry-like fruits with a whitish bloom are produced in August and September

**Red elderberry** (*Sambucus racemosa* ssp. *pubens* var. *arborescens*)

Occurs at low to middle elevations; white to creamy flowers in clusters appear in April through May and are a source of nectar for hummingbirds; clusters of red berries ripen in mid-June through July and attract Band-tailed Pigeons and other birds

## Shrubs and Bushes

**Common snowberry**

(*Symphoricarpos albus*)

Found at low to middle elevations; pink to white bell-shaped flowers occur in May and June; bees feed on nectar; clusters of white berries persist through the winter; American Robin may eat berries in winter

**Evergreen huckleberry**

(*Vaccinium ovatum*)

Found along edges of coniferous forests at low elevations; deep pink flower; shiny, purplish-black berries provide source of food for birds and bears

**Red huckleberry**

(*Vaccinium parvifolium*)

Occurs at low to middle elevations; flowers are pinkish and appear in May; bright red berries ripen in July and persist through the rest of summer; important source of food for deer; berries eaten by birds



### MODERATELY SUITABLE

**Saskatoon** (*Amelanchier alnifolia*)

Found at low to middle elevations; has showy large white flowers from April through May; provides winter browse for deer and elk; many bird species forage on purple-black berries that are present August to September

**Common juniper** (*Juniperus communis*)

Occurs at low to subalpine and even alpine elevations; male and female cones on separate plants; pale green, ripening to bluish-black, berry-like fruit, sometimes eaten by Rufous-sided Towhee

**Western trumpet honeysuckle** (*Lonicera ciliosa*)

Occurs at low to middle elevations in woods and thickets; fruits are orange-red, seed-filled berries; trumpet-shaped, orange-yellow flowers of this widely branching vine provide source of nectar for hummingbirds

**Thimbleberry** (*Rubus parviflorus*)

Ranges from low to subalpine elevations; large white flowers, in clusters, appear in May and June; followed by production of red raspberry-like fruit in July and August

**Salmonberry** (*Rubus spectabilis*)

Occurs at low to subalpine elevations; flowers are pink to reddish, large, and appear from April through May; early ripening of yellowish to reddish berries in May through June associated with song of Swainson's Thrush; berries persist through August; American Robins eat berries; bears also eat berries

**Hardhack**

(*Spiraea douglasii* ssp. *Douglasii*)

Occurs at low to middle elevations; pink to deep rose flowers in long, narrow clusters appear in June and July; attracts bees