

Volume 3, Issue 2, 2005

February 2005

Northwest Native Plant Journal

A Monthly Web Magazine (formerly NW Native Plant Newsletter)



!New Native Plant Photos!

NW Native Dogwoods
by Marci Degman

Update: Landscape Makeover

Native Plant Resources on the Web

Published by The Wild Garden: Hansen's Northwest Native Plant Database

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A Monthly Web Magazine

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Jennifer Rehm, Editor, author, webmaster for
The Wild Garden: Hansen's Northwest Native Plant Database
website: www.nwplants.com; e-Mail: chillipepper6@comcast.net

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About this Web Magazine

This Journal was created under the direction of Wally Hansen – a dedicated Grower, Aficionado and Passionate Lover of Northwest Native Plants.

This Journal is not 'commercial.' Our goals are:

- A — To generate interest, even passion, concerning the magnificent Native Plants of the Pacific Northwest.
- B — To help you create your own Native Plant Gardens, large or small, for home or work.
- C — To help you propagate and “grow on” those species that interest you the most.
- D — To inform both Home Gardeners and interested Professionals of many disciplines concerning trends and news items from my little corner of the world.
- E — To help the reader enjoy native plants more by understanding the historical and cultural role of native plants (i.e.–use by Native Americans, Pioneers, Early Botanists, etc.).



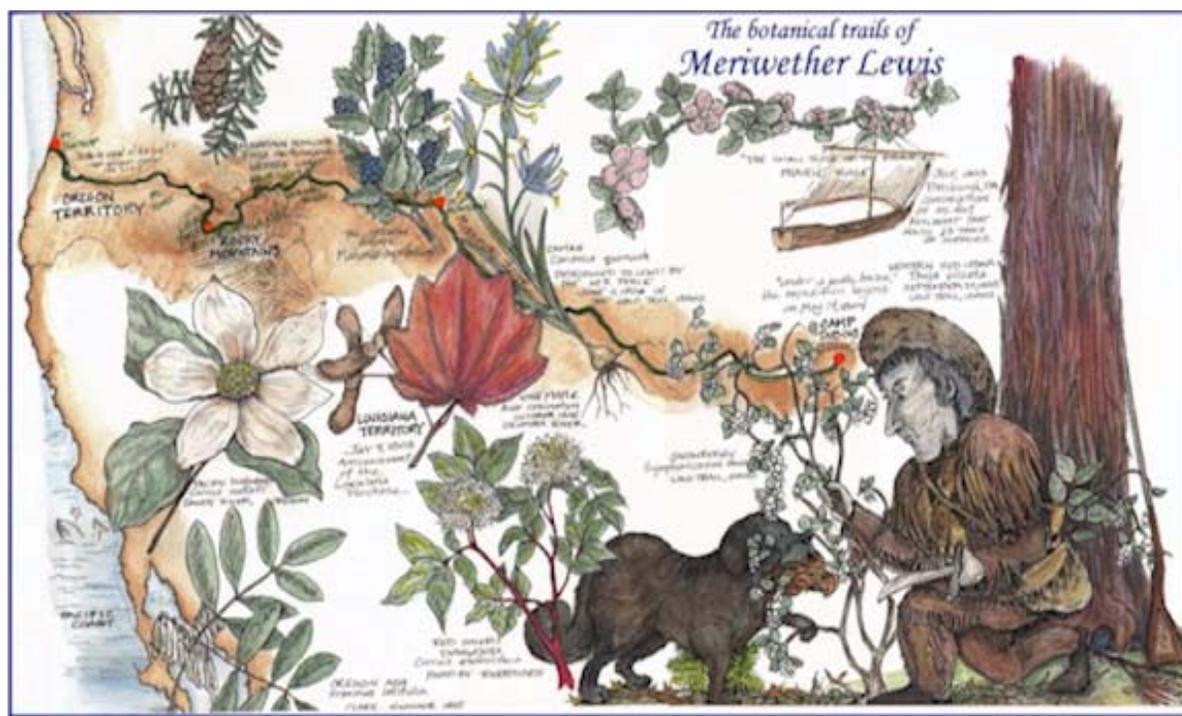
Hairy Manzanita (*Arctostaphylos columbiana*)
Watercolor © Heidi D. Hansen



An Education in Northwest Native Plants

A Word to Parents, Teachers and Other Caring Adults

Native plants have played a major role in the lives of people across the globe. As far back as we can go in history, people have used native plants for food, clothing, shelter, and medicine.



Bring your children for a visit to the nursery. Take them to public gardens and parks where NW Native plants are featured. Encourage your school to go on field trips to see how these plants grow and how they have been used throughout the centuries. Discuss how the Original People relied on native plants for their survival. Teach them about the Lewis and Clark Corps of Discovery and their journey through North America. You can see, smell and touch the very same plants the pioneers found.

There is excitement and mystery in learning about native plants. Not to mention the pure delight of tasting the honey in the tips of a Columbine flower and the tartness of an Oregon Grape.

Educating youngsters in the value of native plants is an integral part of teaching the sprouts of the next generation about living green.

Botanical Trails of Meriwether Lewis, Watercolor Painting © Heidi D. Hansen



On the Cover

Pacific Dogwood (*Cornus nuttallii*)

Wally's daughter, Heidi Hansen, painted this beautiful watercolor of one of our favorite Northwest Native trees, *Cornus nuttallii* (Pacific Dogwood). The flowers are really the little yellow/green buttons surrounded by white bracts, but we generally think of the whole assemblage as the flower.

This particular painting sings to me, asking to be put on a wall as a mural or produced on fabric for an exquisite drapery or even a skirt--somewhere to be shared and enjoyed. Perhaps I should simply plant the tree and see it bloom afresh each spring.



Watercolor © Heidi D. Hansen



Rare plant puzzle

Name this plant!



Photo © Donald C. Eastman

Our mystery plant this month is one you may have seen. Take a close look at Don Eastman's photo and see if you can correctly identify it.

Here's a clue:

*Sometimes mistaken for another, I am
a treat to find on lazy summer days.*

Send me an email with the correct botanical name of this plant before this contest expires on February 28. I'll send you a beautiful treat!

Good luck!
Wally

Answer to last month's puzzle:

Hall's Isopyrum (*Isopyrum hallii*)

Congratulations to all who correctly answered!



To Do List

Caring for your NW Native Plant Garden: Pruning

Pruning seems to be on everyone's mind these early spring days. To be sure, many plants can use a nip or a snip for their health or to please the gardener's eye. Branches that cross and rub against one another can cause both to be damaged. Broken branches should be removed so the wound will heal cleanly and the welcome mat for disease put away.

Pruning is best done by a professional but with proper tools and education, much of it can be done by the home gardener. Books and articles abound that teach everything you need to know. A quick search for "pruning" on the internet turned up 1,350,000 results.

Oregon State University offers classes for everything from caring for a golf course to using a greenhouse. There are seminars offered at many colleges, public gardens, through extension services.

Proper pruning is not noticeable. If it's done well the tree or shrub looks perfectly natural. But if you see a bad pruning job, it's truly an eyesore.

One of the most controversial pruning techniques is topping. Old school gardeners topped trees, especially those bearing fruit, so the crop would be reachable. Although it did make the fruit easier to reach, it ultimately killed the trees. This was believed to yield more fruit or flowers



Fit for firewood only

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To Do List--Pruning, continued



which it did for a time. Plants in stress naturally try to reproduce themselves, the basic purpose of those blooms that turn into seed-bearing fruit of some sort. But causing a continuously stressful environment is as counter productive to plant life as it is to people.

Topping was also a popular method of keeping leaves out of gutters and off roofs, and allowing more sunlight into the area below. How many times have you seen someone buy an older home with mature landscaping and “clean it up” by butchering the fully grown trees and shrubs.

Observe the trees planted beneath utility lines and you’ll see some often dreadful examples of pruning for “safety.” Sometimes a big tree will have all the growth on one side chopped off to make way for power or phone lines. Sooner or later the tree will fall over, to the consternation of buildings in its path. This kind of pruning is strictly utilitarian and not for esthetics.

A common (real) underlying problem that causes all this chopping and topping is simple: the tree has become too large for the space it occupies. Decades ago when those trees were planted, there were no wires to contend with and thought was not given to the day when the tree would be larger than the home beside which it was planted.

The solution? Remove the tree and plant something more suitable. It is much kinder to give a venerable old oak a decent demise than to hack away at it for years creating an uglier site each time, eventually killing the tree.

Pruning in itself is not a bad thing. It’s often necessary or desirable and if done well, it promotes healthy trees and shrubs. If your Rhodie grows a branch that scratches against your window, cut it back. If the kids use your Blueblossom to tie up their imaginary pony and break some stems, prune

[Example of topping](#)

[⇒More⇒](#)

To Do List--Pruning, continued

them off. When snow falls or icicles snap off a section of your Giant Arborvitae (*Thuja plicata*) hedge, take care of it as soon as possible using the best pruning techniques. Arborists who are real artists are in huge demand because of their skill. If you have a big job and are not able to do it yourself, hire a professional and licensed arborist to do it. This is not a task for beginners.



Utility pruning and other unhealthy techniques. The old house above was once shaded by these oaks.

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To Do List--Pruning, continued

Here are a few of the websites we found with excellent information about pruning.

U.S. Forest Service brochure, How to Prune Trees,

http://www.na.fs.fed.us/spfo/pubs/howtos/ht_prune/prun001.htm

University of Minnesota Extension Service,

<http://www.extension.umn.edu/distribution/horticulture/DG0628.html>

Cornell Cooperative Extension of Suffolk County,

<http://www.cce.cornell.edu/suffolk/grownet/tree-shrub-maintenance/pruntree.html>

Richard Jauron of the Iowa State University Department of Horticulture,

<http://www.ipm.iastate.edu/ipm/hortnews/1993/3-24-1993/prune.html>

National Arbor Day Foundation, 9 Things You Should Know about Trees,

<http://www.arborday.org/trees/NineNum2.cfm>

Plant Amnesty Pruning Guide,

http://www.plantamnesty.org/pruning_guides/pg_northwest_pacific_maritime.htm

Plant Amnesty 5 Reasons to Stop Topping,

<http://www.plantamnesty.org/stoptopping/5reasonstostoptopping.htm>

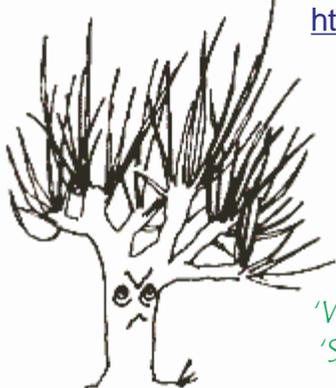
Colorado State University Cooperative Extension, J.R. Feucht, Pruning Evergreens,

<http://www.ext.colostate.edu/pubs/garden/07205.html>

Oregon Department of Forestry, An Oregon Homeowner's Guide to Tree Care,

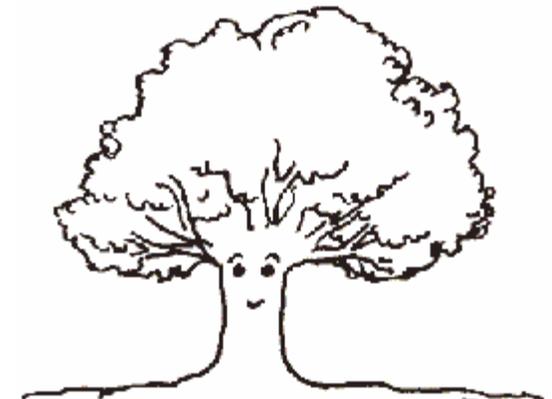
http://www.oregon.gov/ODF/URBAN_FORESTS/homeguide.shtml

Oh no!
My leaves are gone!



'Watersprout' or
'Sucker' growth

Drawings from Plant Amnesty
5 Reasons to Stop Topping



A happy tree



Sparky's Corner

A special message from our frisky contributor

Sunshine and clear skies--what a great time to run through the trees! Today was especially beautiful and the birds treated us to a concert in the garden. Wally and the crew have been digging and moving plants around and all my bird friends were celebrating in style. I think they're starting to build nests too. They were pecking around and flying off with every little string and bit of fluff they could find. That's great. My squirrel friends and I like the little birds. They're so cute when they are chirping and it makes everybody happy.

There's a Hazelnut tree not far from the nursery that was blooming and you know what that means: lots of nuts! Woohoo!

I heard there are some kids coming out to the nursery for a field trip. That's going to be fun. I talked to my friends and we're going to give them a show. I don't know if they speak squirrel or not but at least they'll enjoy our dances through the trees. Don't worry, we'll save some energy for your next visit.

Sparky



Cornus: Northwest Native Dogwoods

By Marci Degman

I discovered the value of *Cornus nuttallii* when we purchased our first home 20 years ago. It was immediately brought to my attention by our adjoining neighbors that the single Pacific Flowering Dogwood between us was indeed on their property. Their concern was understandable—this tree could be seen from the road and from each of our homes and they wanted to ensure its longevity.

When it bloomed it glowed amidst the backdrop of mature Western Red Cedars growing behind it. Just enough filtered sunlight was allowed in to electrify the white bracts in springtime. The rest of the year it was almost indistinguishable among all the other native greenery, but when it bloomed it was a gorgeous sight.

The scientific name *Cornus nuttallii* is said to be derived from the word 'cornu' meaning 'horn' which indicates hardness and definitely describes the wood of this tree. This is why it was used early on in the making of bows and arrows. The brown to black bark



Painting © Heidi D. Hansen

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Northwest Native Dogwoods, Continued

made a fine dye and was made into an elixir for various maladies of the body. Today we are perfectly content to enjoy this trees presence without asking any more of it.

'Nuttallii' is reminiscent of Thomas Nuttall who first recognized that the Pacific Flowering Dogwood was a species all its own. Ten years earlier David Douglas had mistaken it for the Eastern Flowering Dogwood, (*Cornus florida*). However, it was Nuttall's fellow botanist John James Audubon who dubbed the tree *Cornus nuttallii* in honor of his colleague.

Pacific Flowering Dogwood is rarely found in groves but scattered about the edge of coniferous forests at lower elevations. The native habitat range for *Cornus nuttallii* is west of the Cascade Mountains in Washington, Oregon and California. It is also found in British Columbia Canada.

As with many plants, there are several common names for this tree: Pacific Flowering Dogwood, Western Flowering Dogwood and Mountain Dogwood.

The Pacific Northwest is also home to three other dogwoods. One form is a multi-stemmed shrub listed as *Cornus sericea* or *Cornus stolonifera*, which is commonly known as the Red Twig or Red-Osier Dogwood. This is a valuable wetland plant and has ornamental red winter twigs.

A lesser known but similar native shrub is *Cornus sericea occidentalis*, which carries the same attributes.

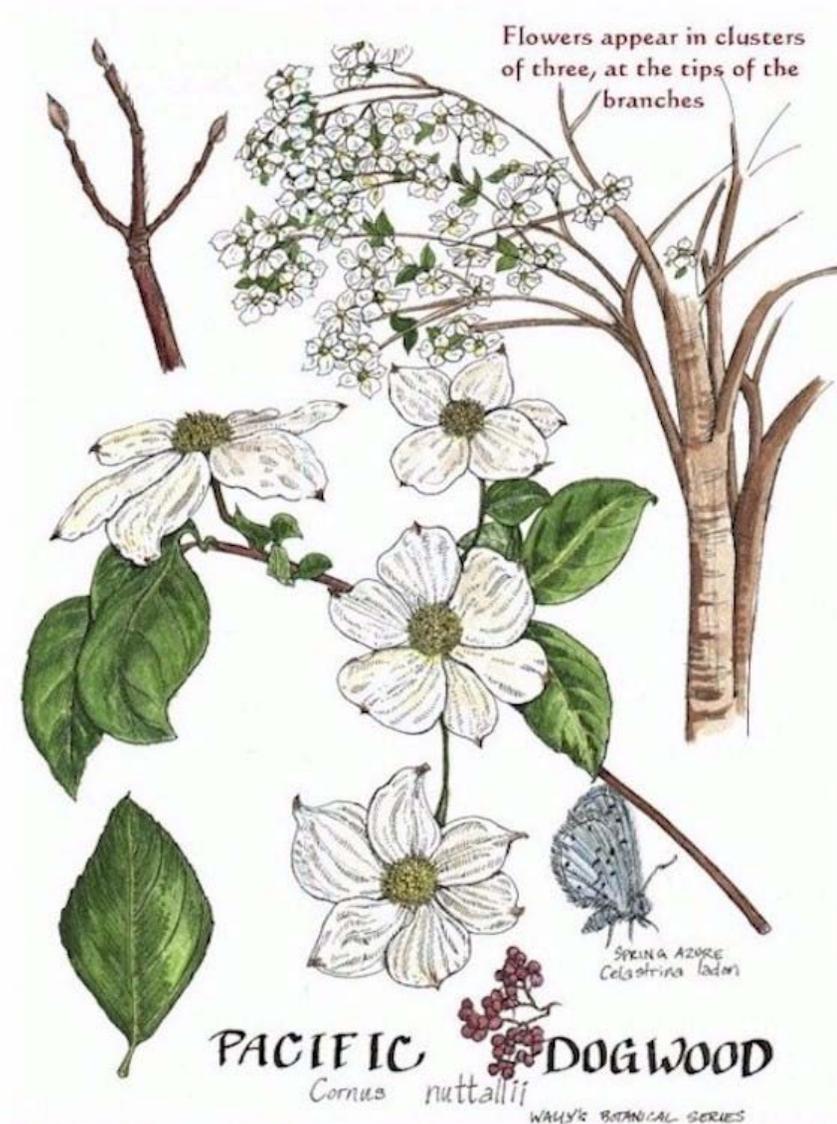
Cornus nuttallii (Pacific Dogwood)
Drawing © Heidi D. Hansen



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Northwest Native Dogwoods, Continued

Cornus nuttallii
(Pacific Dogwood)
Painting © Heidi D. Hansen



There is also a groundcover dogwood, *Cornus canadensis* or Bunchberry, which has the familiar dogwood flower and red summer berries.

Cornus nuttallii is the only native species of dogwood that can grow into a single stemmed upright tree. This tree can be found growing as a multi-stemmed clump which can be desirable, but if a single tree is preferred purchase one with a single trunk.

Over time in optimum native conditions, *Cornus nuttallii* can reach heights of 50-100 feet. However, it is more reasonable to expect it to reach 20 feet tall with an equal width in landscape situations. This is beneficial because its pyramidal form and small stature will allow it to fit into most gardens.

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Northwest Native Dogwoods, Continued



Cornus canadensis (Bunchberry)
Painting © Heidi D. Hansen

Pacific Dogwood does not take well to rigorous pruning. Allow it adequate space and let it grow into its natural form.

There are some important cultural requirements that need to be followed to keep your tree healthy. Dogwoods can be susceptible to the fungal disease anthracnose. Remember that a healthy plant given the proper culture and growing environment will less likely succumb to disease and infestation. The key to avoiding fungal diseases is good air circulation, especially during warm moist springs.

The tender bark of young trees can suffer burn in the hot afternoon sun. The best way to avoid this is to plant your tree close enough to larger trees so they may cast a protective afternoon shadow, but not so close that the trees will become crowded.

Pacific Flowering Dogwood is a native with low water requirements. Once established, it is not necessary to give this dogwood any supplemental water. Since turf grass requires watering, do not plant your dogwood near turf or beds where regular water will be added.

The tender roots are best left undisturbed, so avoid planting anything directly under your dogwood, a nice mulch will do. [Note from Wally: if you desire an underplanting for your dogwood, we suggest you plant low growing groundcover or perennials that appreciate little watering. These companions will not detract from the winter beauty of your dogwood's bark but will give added interest and in fact will form a complementary vignette. Be sure to plant them at the time you plant the dogwood. This will prevent disturbing those tender dogwood roots.]

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Northwest Native Dogwoods, Continued

I learned the hard way not to transplant a larger established dogwood. I wanted to move a single 4 foot tree from a lower portion of my property to a higher location where all could see and enjoy it instead of buying another tree for this new spot. My thriftiness led to having no dogwood at all because it did not survive the onslaught of being dug and replanted. Unless you have small seedlings popping up that you wish to move around it is best to leave these trees in place. The best choice is to purchase nursery grown stock in containers which have developed a good root system before planting. This will give your dogwood an excellent start, and by caring for your tree properly you will be rewarded with a much happier tree. I have since purchased a small containerized tree and planted it with good results.

I live in an area where Pacific Dogwood can be found in the wild and to my delight I have also found a few volunteers (likely dropped by visiting birds who feast on nearby fruit). It may take a couple of years to enjoy the blooms but my chances are very good since these small trees are adapting well. My volunteer trees reside among Western Red Cedar, Douglas Fir and a variety of deciduous native trees and shrubs which should develop into a nice mixed woodland garden.

Dogwood blooms appear on bare wood in late spring. What are often mistaken for white flower petals are really the outer bracts which house the small inconspicuous flowers. The spring blooms will give way to deeply veined bright green curved leaves which will provide summer shade. It is not at all uncommon to witness a second bloom in late summer or early fall when the leaves are present.



Cornus canadensis (Bunchberry)
Drawing © Heidi D. Hansen

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Northwest Native Dogwoods, Continued

Only the birds will appreciate eating the clusters of mealy red berries, but they are a cheery sight next to the pink, red and yellow fall leaf color that appears around the same time.

Cornus nuttallii's beauty does not waver in winter and provides an interesting silhouette against the bare sky with its unique branching pattern. As the tree matures the dark colored bark will change from smooth and shiny to an interesting rough texture.

Pacific Flowering Dogwood is a wonderful uncommon addition to the native woodland garden that will reward the gardener many times over with its year round beauty.

Autumn Bloom, Photo © Rory



Spring Bloom, Photo © Jennifer



Winter Inspiration

Winter in Oregon's Willamette Valley is an interesting time in the garden. The deciduous trees and shrubs have dropped their leaves, allowing us to view their structures. Many have beautiful bark color, striations or texture. Some retain fruit for months, even until the new leaves emerge in the spring.

The variety of these combinations pleases the eye. Watching birds dart from branch to branch, pecking at bugs and flitting about and cheerfully singing, is a favorite pastime when the air is cold. Because the leaves are gone, the winter skies are seen more clearly and our days are brightened.

As early as January while most perennials are still slumbering, the deciduous Northwest Natives begin to awaken. The Hazelnuts (*Corylus cornutta*) bloom their pendulous catkins. Quickly following, the Indian Plum's pale yellow flowers assure us that spring is on the way. The first of the perennials begins emerging from the earth. Calypso Orchids and Trillium are soon blooming. What a wondrous world in which we live!

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I love this painting of Heidi's!

© Heidi D. Hansen



Winter Inspiration, continued

This and the pages which follow contain photographs by local artist JoAnn Onstott. All were taken during a visit to Wally's nursery in late January, 2005. The images JoAnn captured have a mystic quality, a true artist's view of everyday plants, Northwest Natives all.

The romance JoAnn sees through the lens of her camera is truly inspiring.



Modoc Cypress (*Cupressus bakeri*), Photo © 2005 JoAnn Onstott

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Winter Inspiration, continued



Alaska Cedar (*Chamaecyparis nootkatensis*), Photo © 2005 JoAnn Onstott

⇒More⇒

Winter Inspiration, continued



Shore Pine (*Pinus contorta* [*contorta*]), Photo © 2005 JoAnn Onstott

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Winter Inspiration, continued

Evergreen Huckleberry
(*Vaccinium ovatum*)

Photo © 2005 JoAnn Onstott



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Winter Inspiration, continued



Ponderosa Pine, Eastside (*Pinus ponderosa*) Photo © 2005 JoAnn Onstott

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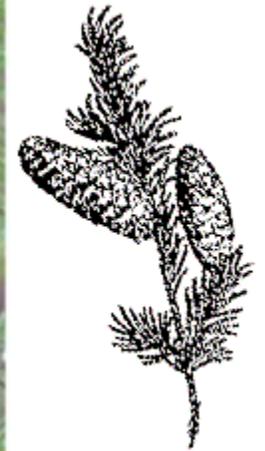
Winter Inspiration, continued



Pacific Wax Myrtle (*Myrica californica*), Photo © 2005 JoAnn Onstott

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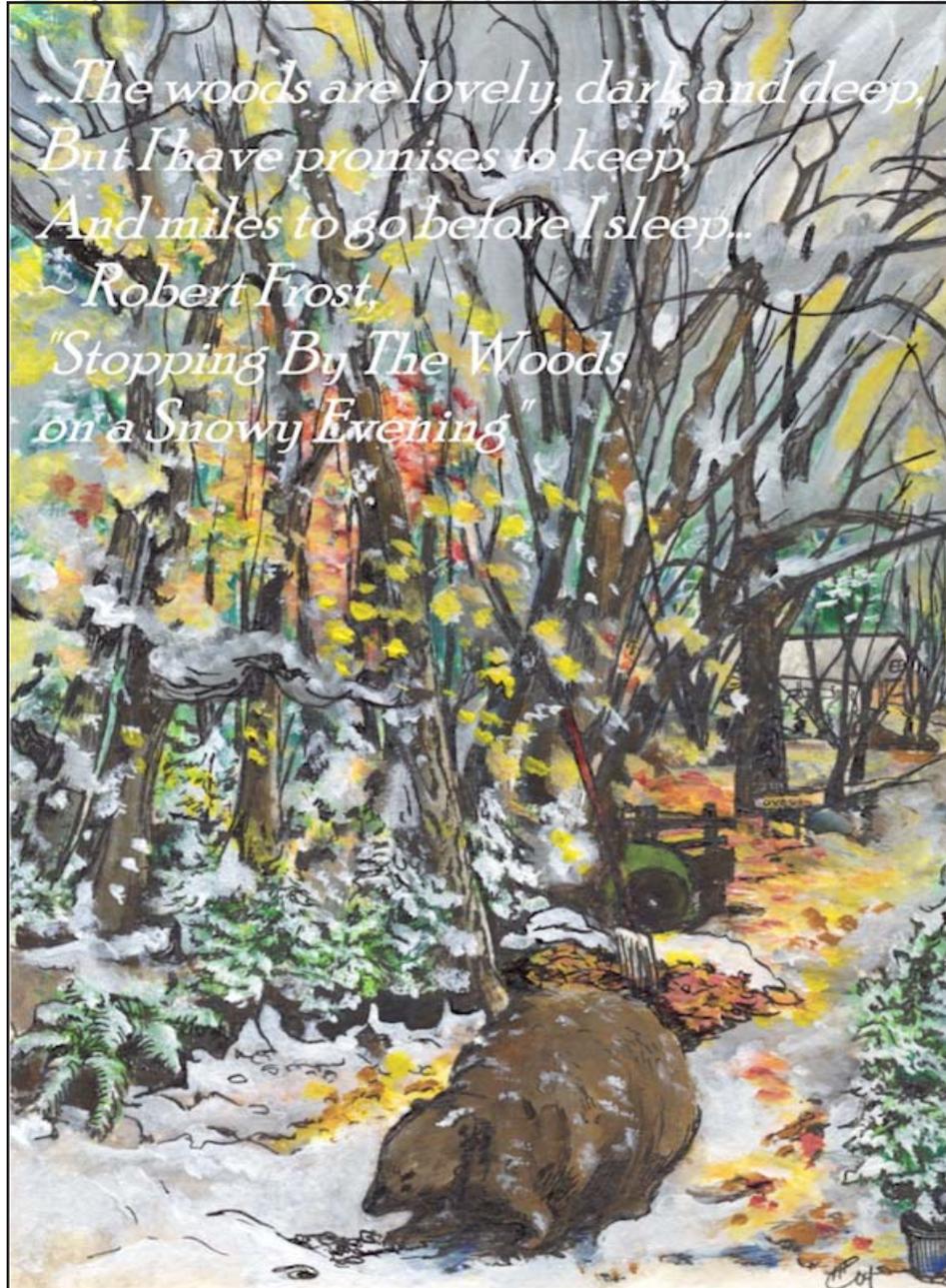
Winter Inspiration, continued



Western Hemlock (*Tsuga heterophylla*)
Photo © 2005 JoAnn Onstott

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*The woods are lovely, dark and deep,
But I have promises to keep,
And miles to go before I sleep..*
~ Robert Frost,
"Stopping By The Woods
on a Snowy Evening"



Painting © Heidi Hansen



Propagation by Live Stakes



Live stakes are long hardwood cutting that are planted outdoors with rooting hormone. Live stakes can be used only if the soil is fairly wet at the time of planting, and the stakes need to be long enough to reach the moisture. As with other hardwood cuttings, cut the lower end of the stake at an angle, and the upper end flat across.

- Live stakes can be planted in late fall through early spring. If they are going to be stored before planting, bundle them in groups 50-100 and place in plastic bags. They can be left outdoors - normal freezing should not harm them. However, if the stakes have been sitting around for a while and have developed roots, they need to be kept just above freezing, since freezing will kill the roots.

- Live stakes can be driven into the ground with a mallet, and should be placed in a random fashion (not in rows). Spacing should take into account how large the plants will eventually become and the fact that some of them will probably die. Leave the top two nodes above ground. To make sure no one trips over them, paint the tops of the cuttings a bright color or fence off the area.

- Water the cuttings occasionally through at least the first growing season, and cut back any encroaching vegetation.

Twinberry (*Lonicera involucrata*)

Photo © 2004 Jennifer Rehm

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Propagation by Live Stakes, continued

NATIVE PLANTS THAT PROPAGATE WELL FROM LIVE STAKES:

- Cornus sericea (red-osier dogwood)
- Lonicera involucrata (black twinberry)
- Physocarpus capitatus (Pacific ninebark)
- Populus trichocarpa (black cottonwood)
- Rosa nutkana (Nootka rose)
- Rubus spectabilis (salmonberry)
- Salix species (willows)
- Sambucus species (elderberries)

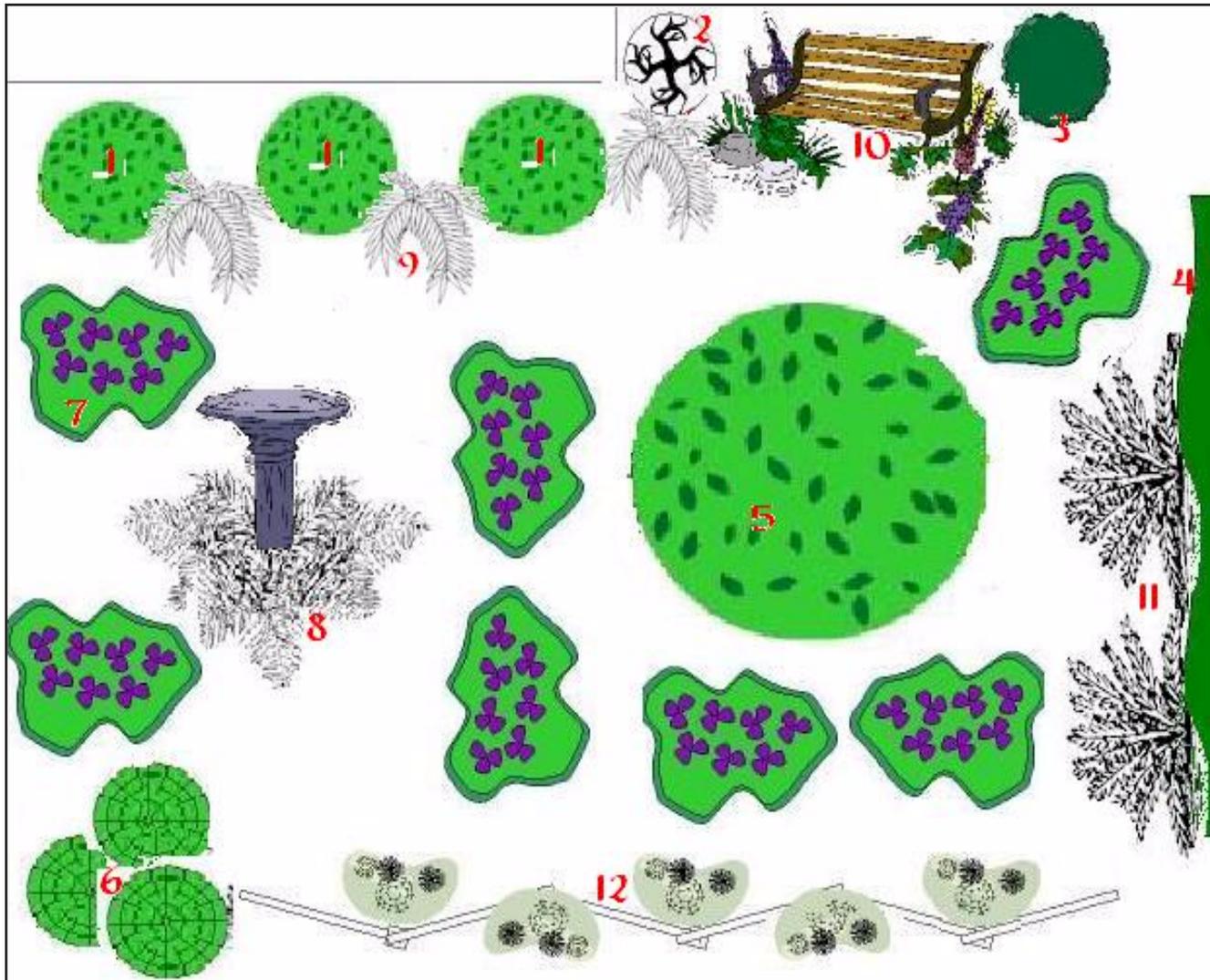
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Salmonberry (*Rubus spectabilis*)
Drawing © Heidi D. Hansen



The Transformation of a Garden

By Jennifer Rehm



Once a common landscape in Salem, Oregon, a determined woman transforms her yard to a NW Native masterpiece (I hope).

The third plan for our suburban home landscape combines elements from the first two plans plus a couple of hardscape additions: a birdbath and a bench.

Keeping all but the crabapple tree, this plan has attraction for wildlife, a quiet space for watching the birds frolic in their bath that affords an element of privacy without sacrificing the view. These are nice aspects for a neighborhood front yard.

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The Transformation of a Garden, continued

The plants used in this Asian style design are simple: NW native ferns! Here's the numbered list corresponding to the red numbers on the plan:

1 & 9. Existing Rhodies underplanted with Maidenhair and Deer Fern (*Adiantum pedatum* and *Blechnum spicant*) and Wild Ginger (*Asarum caudatum*)

2, 10 & 3. Existing Vine Maple (*Acer circinatum*) with Bunchberry (*Cornus canadensis*) underplanting as ground cover. Bench with Maidenhair Fern behind and some Bleeding Heart (*Dicentra formosa*) under the Vine Maple. Existing Yew

4 & II. Existing Giant Arborvitae (*Thuja plicata*) hedge with Lady and Deer Ferns (*Athyrium filix-femina* and *Blechnum spicant*) in front

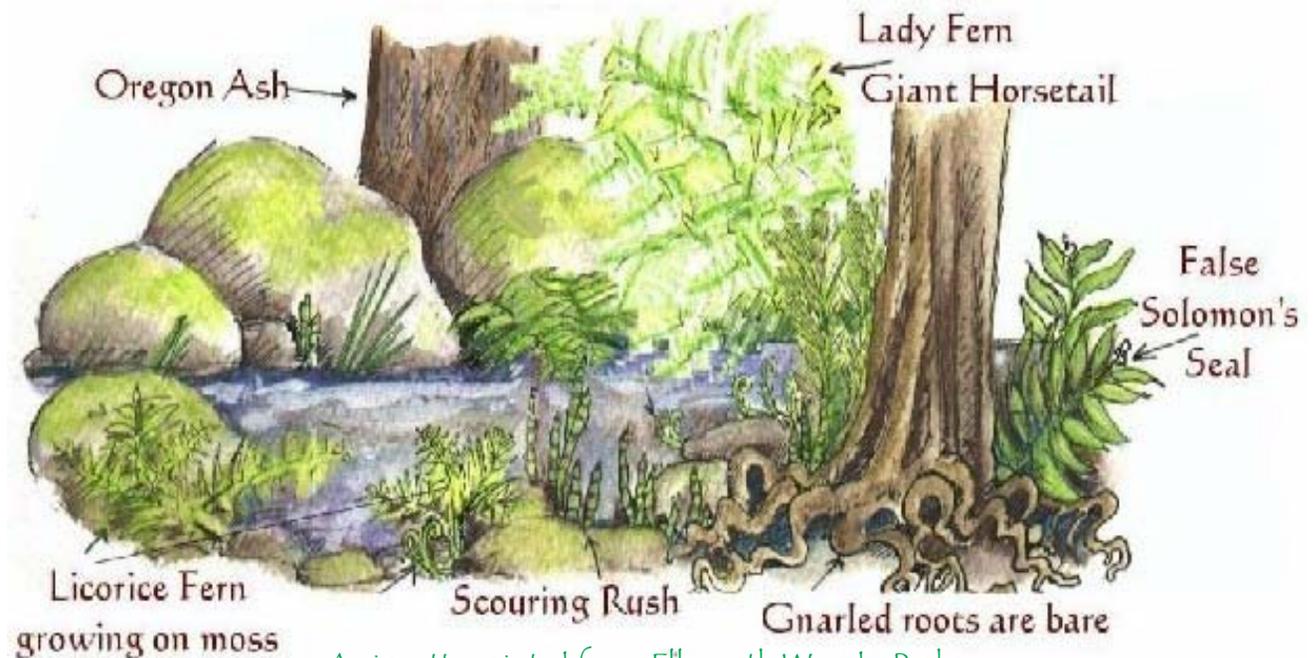
5. Existing Douglas Maple (*Acer glabrum*)

6. Existing box shrub trimmed into clouds

7. Woodland Strawberry (*Fragaria vesca*) and Kinnikinnik (*Arctostaphylos uva-ursi*) ground covers

8. Sword and Deer Ferns (*Polystichum munitum* and *Blechnum spicant*) surrounding the birdbath

12. Twig fence with Wild Roses and Snowberries (*Sumphocarpos albus*), perhaps a few Coastal Shield Fern (*Dryopteris arguta*) tucked in between.



A vignette painted from Ellsworth Woods. Perhaps some of this scene would work for my project.

Watercolor © Heidi D. Hansen

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The Transformation of a Garden, continued

What will be the final decision? There are some “must haves” for this garden:

- Year-round interest
- Food and shelter for wildlife, especially little birds
- Flowers and greenery for cutting
- Easy to care for, no watering after the first year
- Privacy to enjoy the garden



Let's see, have I forgotten anything? Oh yes, and it must be attractive and a little unusual. I think all three plans fit the bill. Now for the decision. Over the next few weeks I've got some serious meditating to do. But what a delicious quandry! Imagine if you will, a life-long gardener with an entirely fresh pallette on which to paint.

Next issue you'll see what I decide and the planting will begin. Of course, all gardeners know the garden is never “done” but we'll call it the first course.

Wild Ginger (*Asarum canadense*), Photo © 2004 Jennifer Rehm

How much did it cost?

Here's the itemized price list for everything so far.

Materials:

Black plastic, 250 x 20 ft roll	\$35.00
Fasteners	\$12.50
Organic compost, 2 yards @ \$18 per yard	\$36.00
Mint compost, 5 yards @ \$16 per yard plus distance fee for delivery	\$98.00

Total Materials **\$181.50**

Labor:

Initial laying of plastic	\$10.00
Spreading compost	Trade 4 hours of computer work

Total Labor **\$10.00**

Grand Total **\$191.50**



Useful Plant Databases on the Web

Here is a good collection of web data bases that will be useful to professional growers and all native plant gardeners. This list is from a larger list compiled by Lawyer Nursery in 2002 and published in one of their flyers. I wish to thank them for this public service.

Wally

American Bonsai Society

http://www.absbonsai.org/abs_home.html

Bonsai web

<http://www.bonsaiweb.com>

Portal of links to educate about the art of bonsai.

CalPhotos

<http://elib.cs.berkeley.edu/photos/>

Over 33,000 plant images from the University of California, Berkley

Cornell University online grafting course

<http://instruct1.cit.cornell.edu/courses/hort494/graftage/hort494.index.html>

Fire effects on plant species

<http://www.fs.fed.us/database/feis/>

USDA, Forest Service site.

Flora of North America Web Site

<http://hua.huh.harvard.edu/FNA/>

Taxonomic relationships, distributions, and morphological characteristics of all plants native and naturalized found in North America.



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Useful Plant Databases on the Web, Continued

Bonsai web

<http://www.bonsaiweb.com>

Portal of links to educate about the art of bonsai.

Fire effects on plant species

<http://www.fs.fed.us/database/feis/>

USDA, Forest Service site.

Forest Types of the United States

<http://forestry.about.com/library/tree/bltypdex.htm>

Maps of the most common forest types.

Forestry index

<http://forestryindex.net/>

Links to news & info on the forestry industry.

Cornell University online grafting course

<http://instruct1.cit.cornell.edu/courses/hort494/graftage/hort494.index.html>

Growit.com Rooting Database

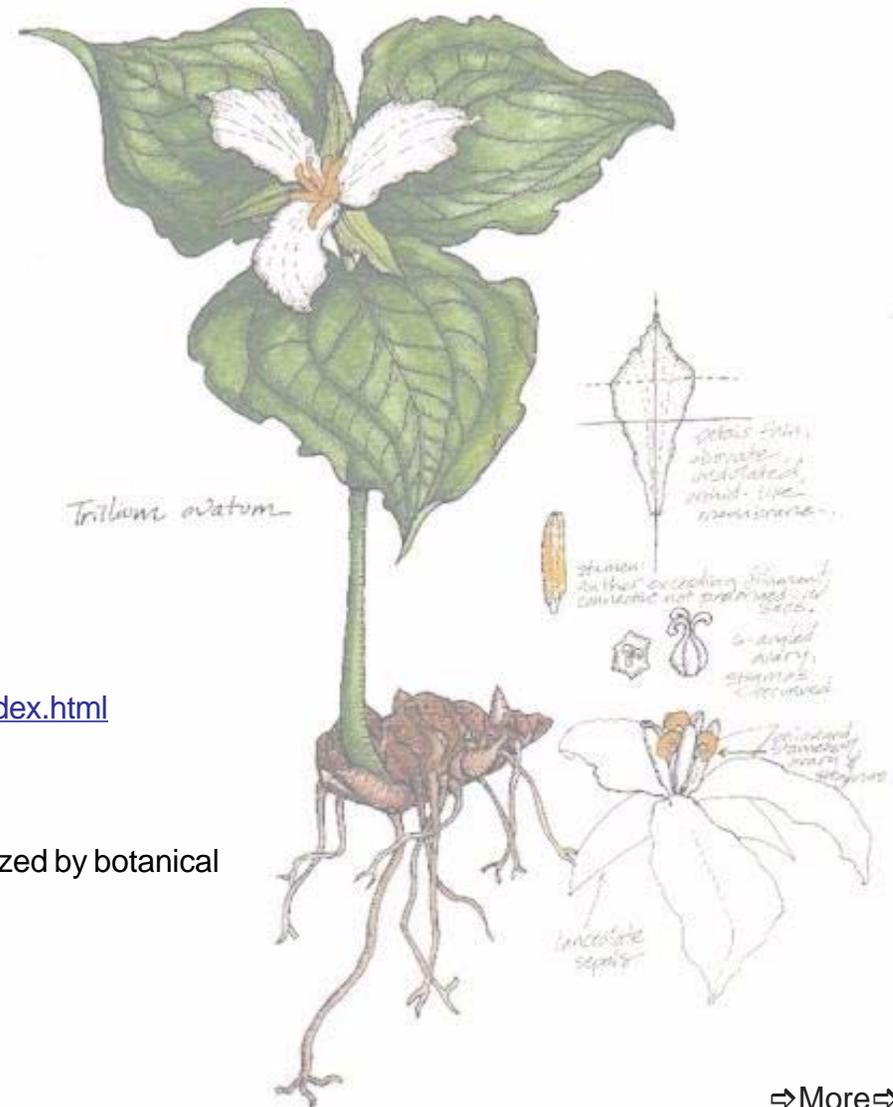
<http://www.growit.com/Know/Rooting.htm>

“Extensive information on rooting cuttings of woody plants, organized by botanical name. Developed for commercial growers.”

The Native Plant Network

<http://nativeplants.for.uidaho.edu/network/>

Information on how to propagate native plants of North America.



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Useful Plant Databases on the Web, Continued

Woody Plant Seed Manual

<http://www.wpsm.net/>

Manual by the US Forest Service covering seed biology, genetic Improvement of forest trees, seed testing, certification of tree seeds and other woody plant materials, and nursery practices.

River Corridor and Wetland Restoration

<http://www.epa.gov/owow/wetlands/restore/>

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) site

Soils

<http://homepages.which.net/~fred.moor/soil/links/10102.htm>

A website about soil fertility, chemistry, and pH with many interesting links.

Soil Science Society of America

<http://www.soils.org/>

Website for soil science professionals. Offers information and links.

Trillium Kurabayashi



Coming next issue:

March Journal--time to plant!

-  Create a quiet spot in your garden where you can go for a peaceful moment every morning or evening.
-  Plant a tree to commemorate a special person or event.
-  Take cuttings to bring a little springtime freshness indoors.



Above, Western Redbud (*Cercus occidentalis*)
Left, Spring Queen (*Synthyris reniformis*)
Photos © 2004 Jennifer Rehm



Personal notes from Wally

Early, Early Spring!

February 5



Indian Plum (*Oemleria erasiformis*)

Photo © 2004 Jennifer Rehm

Furies of the North are starting to slink homeward again – hints of Spring to Come are timidly appearing in my Gardens. Again the earth spins into another glorious season! There is a time for everything – a time to plant and a time to reap, a time to put down and a time to pick up – a time for joy and a time for mourning.

We do not really understand this amazing life in which we find ourselves – part of a magnificent creative process everywhere with its eternal cycles. I puzzle often about all this, struggling to understand – finding comfort in my own beliefs and limited understanding – peering through a dark glass.

And always, turning to my Gardens – to the miracles of all forms of life – of the knowledge that Spring always follows Winter. Even now the Trilliums are poking up and the Indian Plum, the early northwest tree, is budding out!

Keep the faith, you plant lovers – you have something going for you that many do not .

Wally



NOTICE: NURSERY IS CLOSED

**In November 2010,
Wallace W Hansen Northwest Native Plants
Native Plant Nursery and Gardens
closed permanently.**

Many thanks to all our gardening friends for your interest in the native plants of the Pacific northwest. It has been our pleasure to serve you.



www.nwplants.com

Our website, www.nwplants.com, is no longer commercial. Our goal is to continue Wally's legacy of generating interest, even passion, in the magnificent native plants of the Pacific Northwest through information and illustration.

Good luck! Good gardening!