

Volume 3, Issue 6, 2005

October-November 2005

Northwest Native Plant Journal

A Bi-Monthly Web Magazine

(formerly NW Native Plant Newsletter)

Autumn color:
Nothing beats NW Natives

Native Garden in the City
No More Lawn!

...and more ➡

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

Northwest Native Plant Journal

A Bi-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

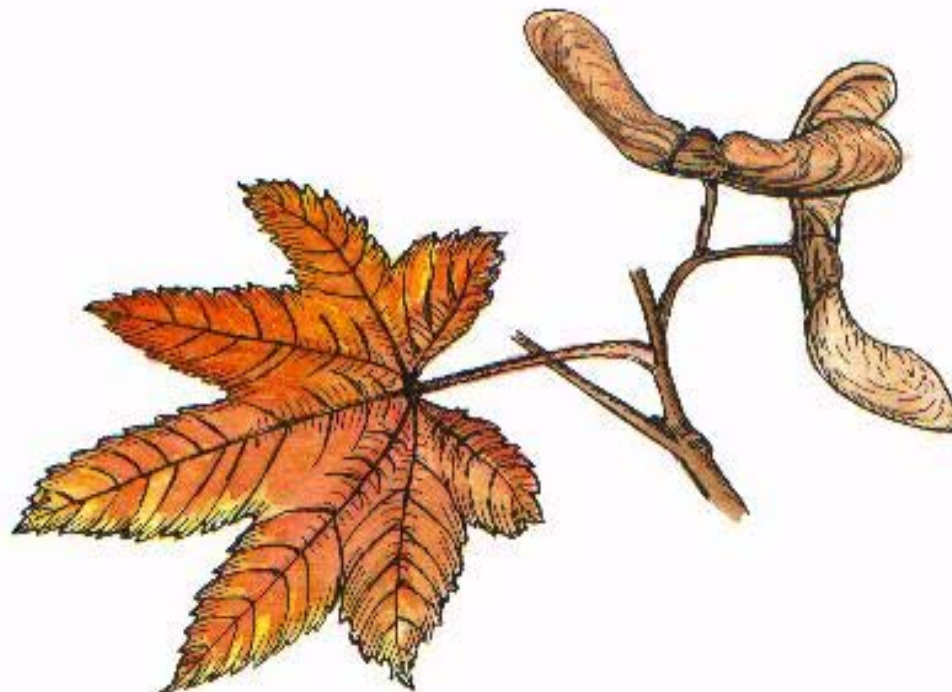
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About this Web Magazine

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.).



Vine Maple (*Acer circinatum*)
Painting © Heidi Hansen



On the Cover

Smooth Sumac (*Rhus glabra*)

This Northwest Native Shrub begins each year denuded of leaves, the twisted branches in pleasing contortions, overall wider than tall.

Spring brings leaves paired along stems which decorate the shrub in sprightly green.

In summer, Smooth Sumac forms large, erect seed pods similar to Indian Paintbrush gone gigantic. They look fuzzy from a distance and are a rich wine color.

But in fall, this shrub turns the most outstanding shades of gold and orange and red and those seed pods deepen in color to maroon.

Eventually the brilliantly shaded leaves fall to the ground leaving behind the seed pods to feed passing wildlife during the winter.

A First Nations favorite for centuries and fittingly admired by modern gardeners as well.



Photo by JoAnn Onstott



Rare plant puzzle



Photo © Donald C. Eastman

Name this plant!

A clue to help your on your quest for the correct answer:

"I like the high alpine meadows of the Cascade Mountains of Oregon. I am short but SO beautiful! If you find me, do not pick or collect and don't tell anyone!!"

FIND ME IF YOU CAN!

Send me an email with the correct botanical name of this plant . A small prize to those who correctly identify by November 11, 2005

Good luck!
Wally

Answer to last Journal's puzzle:

Castilleja levisecta
(Golden Paintbrush)

Congratulations to all who correctly answered!



To Do List

Caring for your NW Native Plant Garden

Check all your perennials while there are still some leaves. Many native perennials can be divided and Fall is a good time. If you can find separate stems with roots, you can divide off a new plant. Certainly plants such as Oxalis, False Lily-of-the-Valley, False Solomon Seal, Wild Strawberries. Red Columbine, etc, can be easily divided.

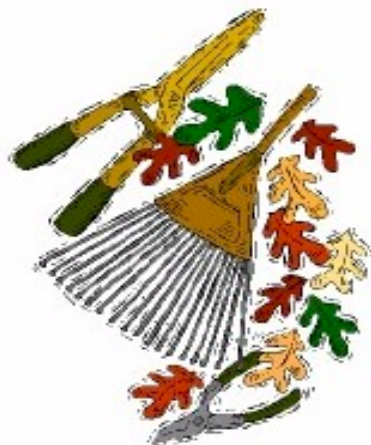
Mulch new plants now for root protection. Don't be caught by an early, hard freeze.

If some native deciduous shrubs grew too fast and are a bit leggy, you can prune back when the leaves are off. Shrubs should be pruned to force bushiness. If you are going to take winter cuttings from the trim, wait until December. (Be very cautious in pruning young native trees – only to correct some improper shape – never cut the leader!)

Get your native bulbs and rhizomes in now. Sometimes it is tricky to hold bulbs in refrigeration. This may break winter dormancy too early and the bulbs and rhizomes will “think” the winter is over and start sprouting!

For native plant gardens that are dense and newly planted, be safe from some diseases by raking leaves, pruning off dead branches and burning this trash. Diseases can winter over in damaged plant material. Better use sawdust (hardwood), bark dust, etc. as mulch.

Plant trees this fall and winter. You do not have to wait until Spring. Fall plants are great – plantings of bareroot native plans in Jan, Feb and March are OK as long as you can work the soil. Native Plant



This article first appeared in a previous publication, Wally's Newsletter, in October 2000.



Sparky's Corner

A special message from our frisky contributor



I've been so busy gathering nuts and putting them away for the winter I haven't had time to enjoy the fall season so I'm taking this afternoon off to sail through the trees and chase leaves.

What a beautiful day! The sun is shining and there's only a slight breeze, almost like summer. I think this is what they call Indian Summer maybe.

Why do they call it Indian Summer? I got to wondering about this so I asked the old Sequoia up the hill. He said this kind of weather has been called that even in his earliest memories. Once a visitor to the area from France wrote about it in a letter in 1778, a guy named St. John de Crevecoeur. He doesn't know who told Mr. St. John de Crevecoeur about it.

But my friends who are First Nation people say they always called it Indian Summer because it's their main hunting season and also big harvest, all to get ready for winter.

My grandma says it's really called Squirrel Summer and it's time when we get ready for winter, too.

Then I heard about a place called the Indian Ocean that ships used to visit when they carried supplies. They only could do it in the good weather so the sailors called this kind of season Indian Summer because they could cross the Indian Ocean easier then.

Sequoia says we're all silly to worry about names. Whether we say "Indian Summer" or "Squirrel Summer" or just "sunny fall day," it's all the same. It's just a beautiful time to stand on the hill and enjoy the earth. That Sequoia is one smart tree!

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Sparky's Corner, continued

What exactly is Indian Summer? In 1817, John Bradbury wrote , “The air is perfectly quiescent and all is stillness, as if Nature, after her exertions during the Summer, were now at rest.”

It can be defined as “any spell of warm, quiet, hazy weather that may occur in October or even early November.” Some say a frost has to happen before the warm spell.

But my friend Jennifer who is Cherokee says she thinks Indian Summer is any warm day in late fall when she can sit on the big rock in her backyard and soak up the sun. She says it warms her heart and she can remember it when winter time comes. I like that too.

So today is Indian Summer and I'm celebrating!

Sparky

P.S. Jennifer is going to keep the Hazelnut I planted in her yard last year! She doesn't know it was little old me that put it there but I remember how much she like them. Now she's going to move it into the new garden in her front yard! I am so glad--there'll be fresh filberts every year for everyone!



Best Northwest Native Plants for Fall Color

Nothing beats NW Natives for dependable autumn display!

This time of the year, we all are delighted at the annual free show of Nature – brilliant colors of Fall leaves.

Here are my recommendations, by leaf color, for Natives Plants for Fall Color (not in priority order).

Yellow Colors

Acer glabrum (Douglas Maple)
Betula papyrifera (Paper Birch)
Larix occidentalis (Western Larch)
Philadelphus lewisii (Mock Orange)
Populus tremuloides (Quaking Aspen)



Smooth Sumac (*Rhus glabra*)
Photo by JoAnn Onstott

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Best NW Native Plants for Fall Color, continued



Red-Osier Dogwood (*Cornus sericea*)
Photo by JoAnn Onstott

Purple, Red, Pink Colors

Cornus (Dogwoods)

Vaccinium (Huckleberries)

[⇒More⇒](#)

Best NW Native Plants for Fall Color, continued

Orange, Yellow, Red, Purple

Acer circinatum (Vine Maple)
Amelanchier alnifolia (Service Berry)
Crataegus douglasii (Black Hawthorne)
Prunus virginiana (Chokecherry)
Rhus glabra (Smooth Sumac)
Viburnum edule (Squashberry)
Viburnum trilobum (American
Cranberry Bush)



American Cranberry Bush (*Viburnum trilobum*)
Photo by JoAnn Onstott

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Best NW Native Plants for Fall Color, continued



Vine Maple (*Acer circinatum*)
Photo by JoAnn Onstott

Yellow-Orange

Acer macrophyllum (Big Leaf Maple)

⇒ More ⇒

Best NW Native Plants for Fall Color, continued

A grove of
Paper Birch
(*Betula
papyrifera*)
at the nursery

Photo by
JoAnn Onstott



Lewis and Clark: NW Native Plant Pioneers

The entire nation is celebrating the journey of the exploring party of the Corps of Discovery led by Captains William Clark and Meriwether Lewis. In the Northwest, that celebration centers around the Fort Clatsop National Memorial.

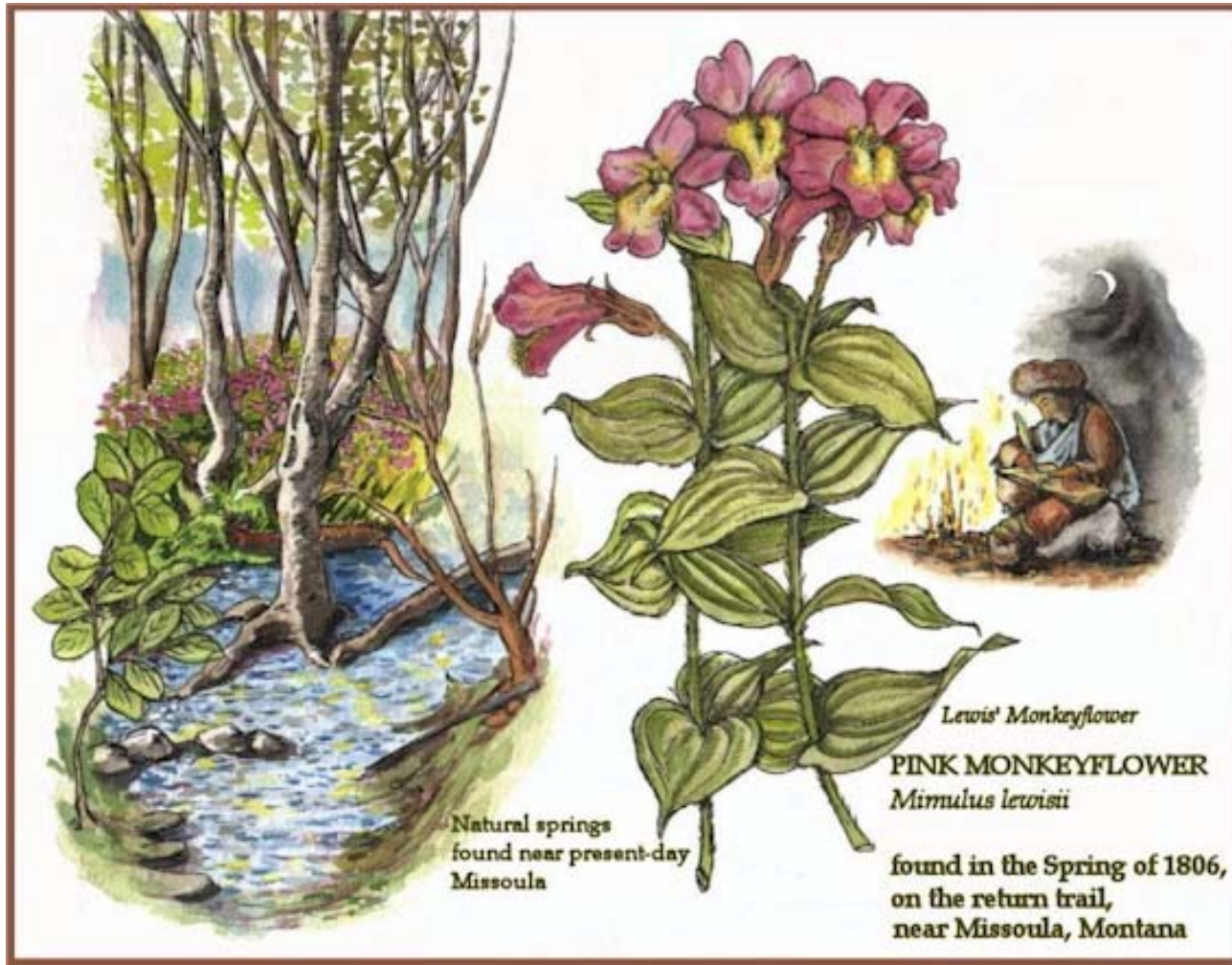
We bring you excerpts from the National Park Service website, www.nps.gov/focl/ and from www.destinationthepacific.com.

It's a sometimes well-kept secret that famed explorers Lewis and Clark and the Corps of Discovery had a two-fold mission in crossing the continent.

- They were looking for a waterway from the eastern seaboard to the west side.
- But they were also charged with finding flora and fauna along their way for education purposes and to locate species that would survive the eastern climate.

They were disappointed in the search for water connecting the two oceans but they were fantastically successful in cataloging plants. A large part of their specimens were lost along the journey but they did return to President Jackson with a list of approximately 200 vascular plants.

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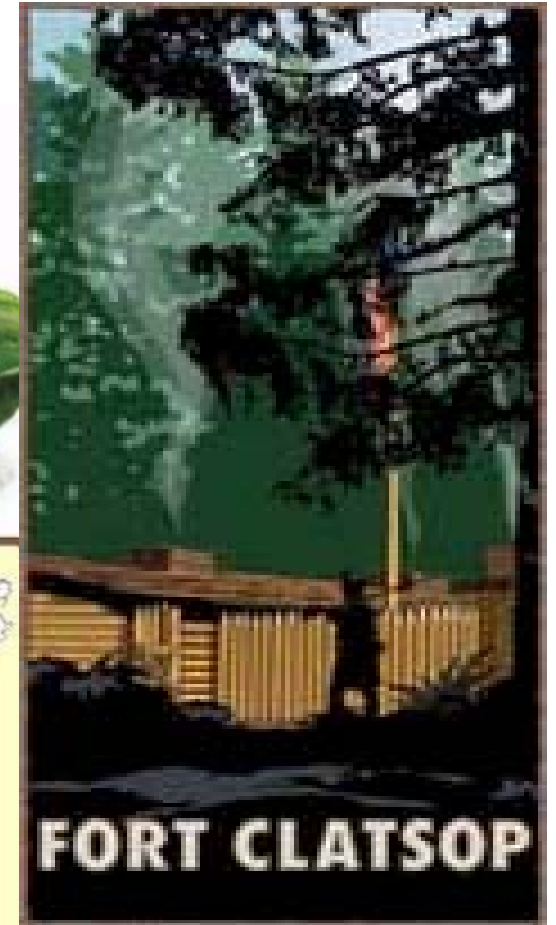
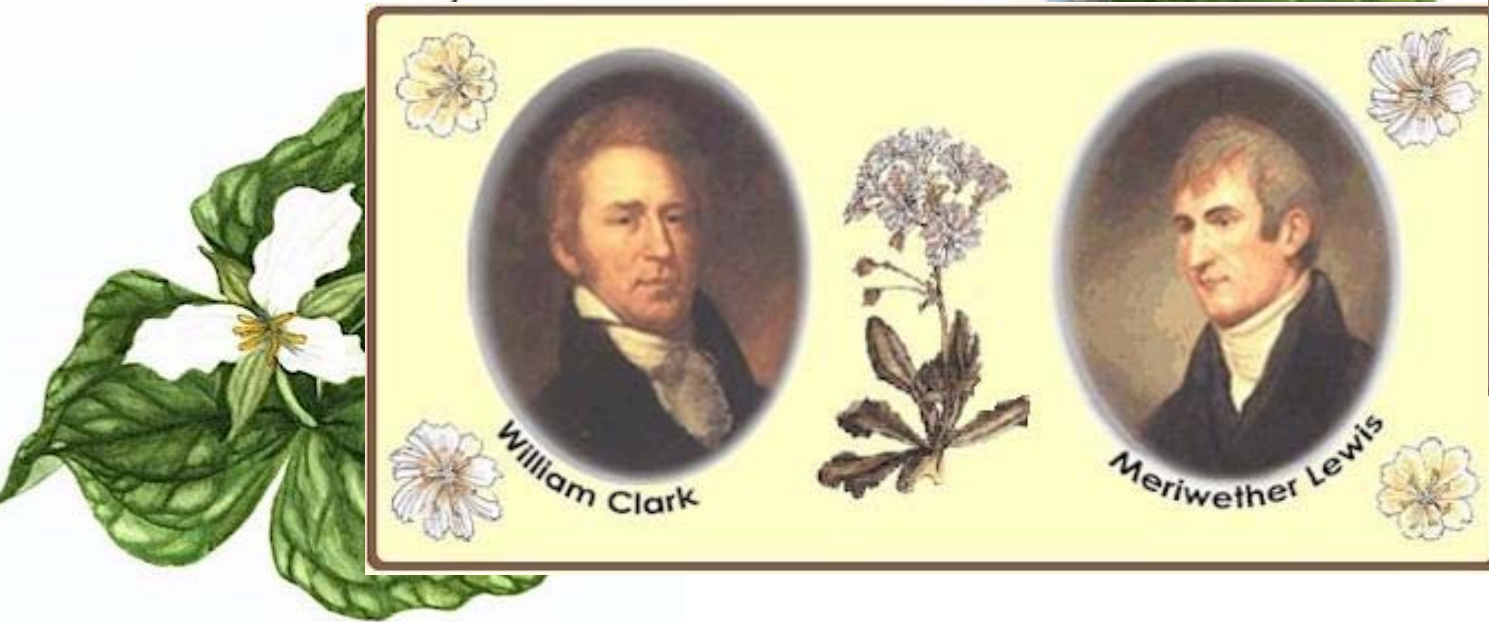
Painting courtesy of Heidi D. Hansen

Lewis & Clark: NW Native Plant Pioneers

The Fort Clatsop National Memorial Astoria, Oregon has a wonderful and well-documented collection of NW Native Plants. How fitting that this is the centerpiece of the bicentennial celebration of the travels of these great pioneers.

Fort Clatsop National Memorial Northwest Native Plant Collection

More than 250 vascular plants, 74 moss and liverwort species, and a large number of fungi can be found within Fort Clatsop National Memorial. The park's habitat diversity, ranging from coastal rainforest to riparian and estuarine marsh, shrub, and swamp wetlands, is responsible for its high diversity of plant and fungi species.



Trillium Paintings
Courtesy of Heidi D. Hansen

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Lewis & Clark: NW Native Plant, cont'd



The Sitka spruce vegetation zone forms a narrow band along the northwest coast from northern California to southeastern Alaska. The mild, wet maritime climate and rich soils create ideal growth conditions for conifers, resulting in climax spruce-hemlock forests of magnificent size and lush biodiversity. Sitka spruce (*Picea sitchensis*) is the dominant conifer in the park's forests. Western hemlock (*Tsuga heterophylla*), western redcedar (*Thuja plicata*), Douglas fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*), red alder (*Alnus rubra*), cascara (*Rhamnus purshiana*), red elderberry (*Sambucus racemosa*) and several willow species are the common subdominant trees. Salal (*Gaultheria shallon*), huckleberries (*Vaccinium* spp), seven fern species, and a large number of mosses, liverworts, and lichens share the forest understory. In November of 1805 explorer William Clark wrote of the coastal forests, "*Spruc Pine grow here to an emense Size & hight maney of them 7 & 8 feet through and upwards of 200 feet high ... I observed in maney places pine of 3 or 4 feet through growing on the bodies of large trees which had fallen down, and covered with moss.*" Logging removed most of the site's trees between 1850 and 1950. Regenerating forests presently cover 50 acres in the park, 20 of younger and 30 of older trees. Several spruce are between five and six feet in diameter and over 100 years old. The park's older forests are slowly redeveloping characteristics of forest ecosystem health: multilayered canopies of diverse species and age classes, forest openings, standing dead snags and large decaying logs.

The Memorial protects valuable estuarine resources within the nationally significant Columbia River estuary. The 1979 National Wetlands Inventory identified 10 types of wetlands within Fort Clatsop: seven palustrine, two estuarine and one riverine. Wetlands comprise approximately half of the park's acreage and include the tidally-influenced Lewis and Clark River, low-gradient brackish sloughs, freshwater ponds and several freshwater streams

"Walker in the Woods" Painting courtesy of Heidi D. Hansen

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Lewis & Clark: NW Native Plant, cont'd

and springs. In February of 1806 Meriwether Lewis described the wetlands near Fort Clatsop, writing, “The grasses of this neighbourhood are generally coarse harsh and sedge-like, growing in large tufts ... the salt marshes also produce a coarse grass, Bull rushes and the Cattail flagg.” During the 19th and early 20th centuries the river shore was extensively diked and tidegated, converting former floodplains to agricultural lands. Removal of a section of dike within the park in 1961 restored former pastureland to a functional high tidal marsh populated by a diversity of estuarine plants including Lyngbye’s sedge (*Carex lyngbyei*) and the uncommon narrowleaf cattail (*Typha angustifolia*). Two rare estuarine species, flowering-quillwort (*Lilaea scilloides*) and water-pimpernel (*Samolus parviflorus*), grow on the river’s tidal mudflats and slough banks. The park also has several acres of willow shrub wetlands, a habitat type that has largely disappeared from the Columbia estuary during the last century. Species and hybrids of two beautiful



native impatiens, jewelweed (*Impatiens capensis*) and spurless touchmenot (*I. ecalcarata*), occur in this habitat, the westernmost extent of a linear hybridization zone that extends for 30 miles along the lower Columbia River.



Painting courtesy of Heidi D. Hansen

One third of the park’s vascular plant species are nonnative, due to the site’s extensive agricultural and residential use history. Invasive species control projects target a number of these exotics, including Scotch broom, English ivy, English holly, and yellow iris.

A permit is required in order to collect plants within the Memorial.

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Lewis & Clark: NW Native Plant, cont'd

DESTINATION: THE PACIFIC

Schedule of Signature Event Programs

For your copy of our souvenir edition of the Commemorative Guide email
director@destinationthepacific.com

SPECIAL NOTICE Monday, October 24, 2005, 2005

We are deeply saddened by the news that the Fort Clatsop replica burned Monday, October 3. For news coverage of the event, you can go to [The Daily Astorian](#) website, or listen to local radio station KAST 1370 AM. In the meantime, the **Fort Clatsop Visitors Center is open** to the public during its regular hours.

Plans are underway to rebuild Fort Clatsop. The removal of the debris from the fire has been completed and trails leading to the site are again open. Archeological work will begin soon and will be taking place throughout **Destination: The Pacific**, November 11 - 15.

All Destination: The Pacific events will proceed as planned.

OPENING CEREMONY

Veteran's Day, Friday, November 11, 10 AM

Fort Stevens State Park, Historic Area Parade Grounds, Hammond, Oregon

Sponsored by Oregon & Washington National Guard

Tribal participation sponsored by the Circle of Tribal Advisors, a member of the National Council for the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial

An impressive pageantry of tribal flags from along the Lewis and Clark Trail set against the dramatic backdrop of Fort Stevens State Park, a civil war fort built on an ancient Clatsop Indian Village site, are at the heart of the Opening Ceremony. A Native American Veterans' honor dance, the National Anthem sung by Katie Harman, Miss America 2002, and comments by the Oregon and Washington governors and Adjutant Generals are all part of this special Veteran's Day commemoration.

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BearBerry or Kinnikinnik (*Arctostaphyos uva-ursi*) Photo by JoAnn Onstott

Lewis & Clark: NW Native Plant, cont'd

A traditional tribal welcome by Clatsop-Nehalem Confederated Tribes Chairman Joe Scovell and a tribal blessing by Dick Basch, a direct descendent of Chief Coboway on whose ancient village we will be standing, help join the past with the present.

The program concludes with a 21-gun salute with guns fired from both Oregon and Washington and a helicopter fly over with Chinooks, Blackhawks and an F-15.

Following the Ceremony, participants are invited to go to the top of the battlement to listen to park rangers interpret what Lewis and Clark would have seen when they reached the Pacific Ocean.

There will be covered seating for elderly and handicapped.

FESTIVAL OF THE PACIFIC: LEWIS AND CLARK REMEMBERED

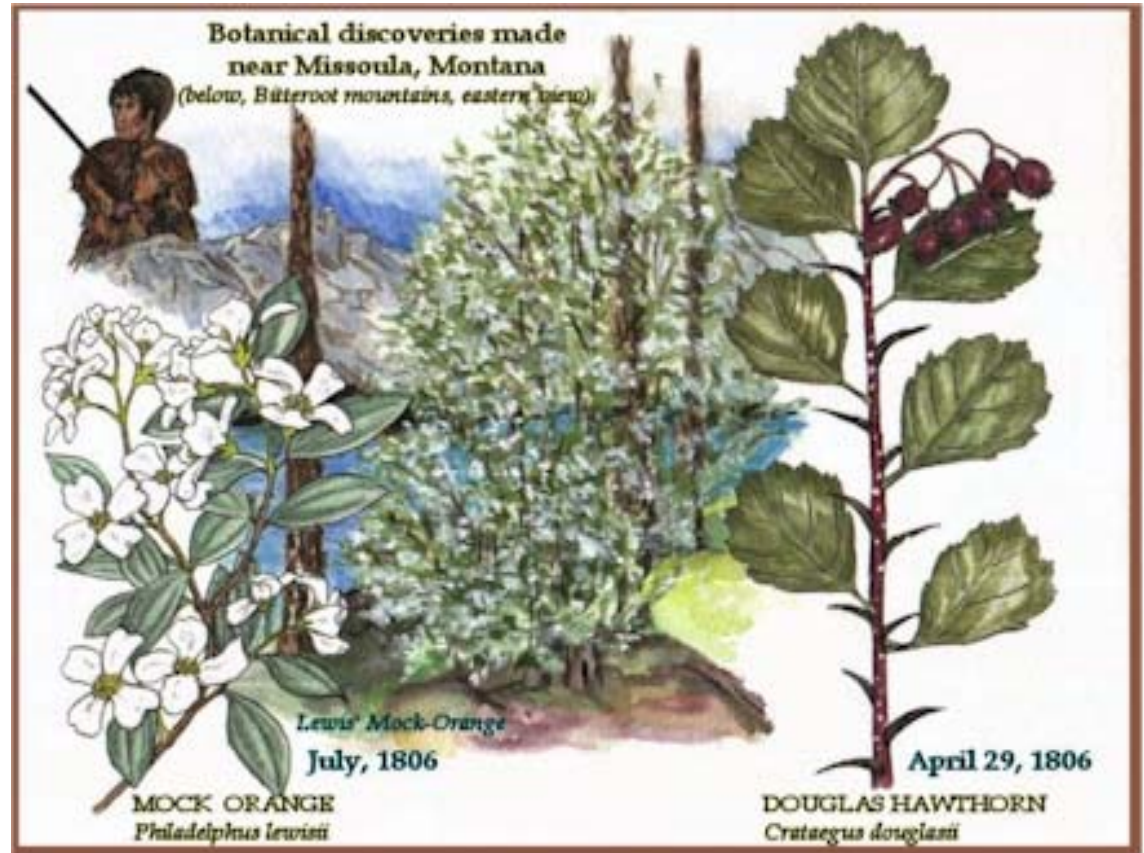
Friday, Saturday & Sunday, November 11, 12, & 13, 10 AM – 6 PM Daily, Sun: 9 AM – 5 PM
92937 Walluski Loop, Astoria, Oregon

Towering trees set within a botanical garden showcasing regional plants is the first thing to greet visitors as they enter **Festival of the Pacific**. This centerpiece attraction sets the tone for a festival designed to delight the youngest to the oldest festival-goer.

Ocean in View

Speaker Series, Friday, Saturday, Sunday, & Monday, November 11, 12, 13 & 14

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Painting courtesy of Heidi D. Hansen

Lewis & Clark: NW Native Plant, cont'd

CORPS OF DISCOVERY II: 200 YEARS TO THE FUTURE

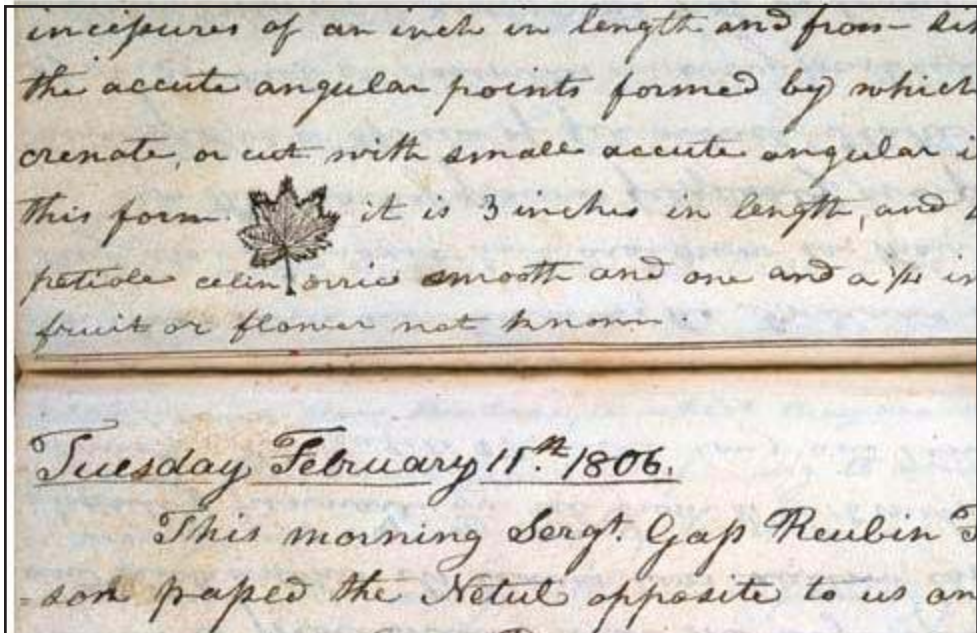
Long Beach, Washington

November 7 – 15, 9 AM – 5 PM Daily

Seaside, Oregon:

November 19 -22, 10 AM 6 PM Saturday & Sunday, 9 AM – 5 PM Monday & Tuesday

Experience a National Park on Wheels! Created and staffed by the National Park Service, **Corps of Discovery II** travels the Lewis and Clark Trail in conjunction with the national Bicentennial commemoration. This unique, interactive traveling exhibit offers visitors a chance to learn about the Expedition and its significance in American history in a lively and hands-on environment.



From Captain Lewis' Journal

Corps II features a self-guided exhibit and a 250-seat traveling auditorium called the Tent of Many Voices. Special presentations occur daily with music and dance performances or talks from local tribal representatives, historians, and National Park Rangers.

Kids and adults will love the half-scale replica keelboat, a full-scale Plains Indian tipi, and a dugout canoe similar to what members of the Corps used on their journey.

The Corps of Engineers, Fish and Wildlife, National Guard, and other federal programs bring an incredible array of interactive exhibits to explore throughout their stay in Long Beach, Washington.

There is a new website for finding information about the Corps II exhibit in Seaside November 19 -22, 2005. Visit www.seasidecorpsii.com for details.

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Lewis & Clark: NW Native Plant, cont'd

CONSIDER THE COLUMBIA

Sunday, November 13 Board busses at 7 am at Clatsop County Fairgrounds
8 am Ceremony begins, 8 AM procession begins
Advanced reservations required

Commemorate the journey from the Missouri to the Columbia Rivers and the joining of our country and peoples in a colorful ceremony on the most spectacular view platform in the region: the Astoria-Megler Bridge. This event offers a singular moment of shared reflection providing a life-long memory for those who participate.

Participants board buses at 7 AM at the Clatsop County Fairgrounds. Helpful guides are aboard each bus providing assistance and historical interpretation. Each participant receives a keepsake to commemorate this special program.

The ceremony includes a “living map” of the Lewis & Clark Expedition’s progress through the region, a joining of the waters of the Mississippi, Missouri, Clearwater, Snake and Columbia Rivers to symbolize the journey westward by the Corps of Discovery, and a celebration of colors and peoples.



Painting courtesy of Heidi D. Hansen

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Lewis & Clark: NW Native Plant, cont'd



Painting courtesy of Heidi D. Hansen

Merry To The Fiddle

Music Performances

Friday (8 PM) & Sunday (2 PM),
November 11 & 13

Liberty Theater, 1203 Commercial
Street, Astoria, Oregon

A rollicking good time with music by
local folk and traditional musicians
featuring the Brownsmead Flats and
the Beerman Creek String Band.

DEDICATION OF THE FORT TO SEA TRAIL

Monday, November 14, Fort Clatsop
Unit of the Lewis and Clark National
Historical Park, 9 AM hike to Sunset
Beach, Noon Trail Dedication at
Sunset Beach

Fort Clatsop National Memorial hosts a special dedication of the **Fort To Sea Trail**, the newest addition to the Lewis and Clark National Historical Park sites in Oregon. Trail hikes with rangers and historians and a beachside campfire are among activities being planned.

RE-ENACTORS AT THE PACIFIC

Tuesday, November 15, 10 AM - 2 PM, Chinook County Park, Chinook, Washington

Welcome the Corps of Discovery as they arrive at the Pacific Ocean from Clark's Dismal Nitch. The Discovery Expedition of St. Charles re-enactors have been traveling the Lewis and Clark Trail since the kick-off event in Monticello in January 2003. Now they are preparing to complete their mission by reaching the "Pacific Ocean." The Washington State Historical Society sponsors this program.

[⇒More⇒](#)

Lewis & Clark: NW Native Plant, cont'd

THE VOTE AT THE PACIFIC

Thursday, Nov. 24, 10 AM – 2 PM
Station Camp, McGowan, Wash.

The Vote at Station Camp was a pivotal moment for the Corps of Discovery. Original plans were to begin their long journey home by heading east up the Columbia to establish winter camp at Sandy River (near modern-day Portland) or the Falls (near The Dalles). They chose to cross and examine the Columbia River, where they established Fort Clatsop.

What changed their minds?
Captains Lewis and Clark met with Clatsop Indians the day before departure and indicated elk were on the south side of the river. In an unusual departure from military conduct, the Captains polled members of the Corps, including Sacagawea, and York – Clark's slave, about whether to head east or to cross and examine. The Corps voted to cross and examine.



Painting courtesy of Heidi D. Hansen

The Vote Online

Learn more about the history of The Vote and make your own voice heard by taking the online poll to help The Corps choose their winter camp. Visit www.destinationthepacific.com and click [The Vote](#) link.

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Lewis & Clark: NW Native Plant, cont'd



CORPS OF DISCOVERY II: 200 YEARS TO THE FUTURE Oregon and Washington Schedule



Red-Osier Dogwood
Photo by JoAnn Onstott

2005	LOCATION
October 1-9	Clarkston, WA, Port of Clarkston
October 14-17	Tri Cities (Kennewick), WA, Columbia Park
October 21-24	Umatilla, OR, Tamastslikt Cultural Institute
October 28-31	The Dalles, OR, Columbia Gorge Discovery Center
November 7-15	Long Beach, WA, City Center
November 19-22	Seaside, OR, City Center/Convention Center
November 28-Dec. 11	Vancouver, WA, Fort Vancouver
2006	LOCATION
March 17-20	St. Helens, OR, Waterfront
March 25-April 2	Grand Ronde, OR, Grand Ronde Reservation
April 7-10	Stevenson, WA, County Fairgrounds
April 14-17	Toppenish, WA, Yakama Nation Heritage Center
April 22-25	Warm Springs, OR, Museum at Warm Springs
April 29-May 7	Pendleton, OR, Tamastslikt Cultural Institute
May 12-15	Dayton, WA, Main Street



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Lewis & Clark: NW Native Plant, cont'd

WINTERING OVER EVENTS: DECEMBER 2005 – MARCH 2006

“Wintering Over” activities are scheduled each month through March 2006 commemorating key historic activities of the Corps’ exploration of the Oregon coast and their interaction with the Native Americans residing here.

- **“snuggly fixed in their huts” — a Bicentennial Christmas at Fort Clatsop.** December 25, 2005, featuring Living History programs at the Fort.
- **Ecola Crossing: A Whale of an Event!** January 7, 2006. Commemorating the historic hike Captain Clark, Sacagawea, and other members of the Corps took over Tillamook Head near modern-day Cannon Beach to see the whale that had washed ashore.
- **Salt Makers Return**, February 17, 18, 19, 2006 Members of Fort Clatsop’s Living History Corps build an ocean-side camp where they boil salt, trade with the locals, and talk about their journey west.
- **The Return Home**, March 23, 2006. Fort Clatsop National Memorial hosts a special ceremony to commemorate the departure of the Corps from their winter camp and the Native people who remained.

Ticketing and Contact Information

Destination: The Pacific

P.O. Box 2005

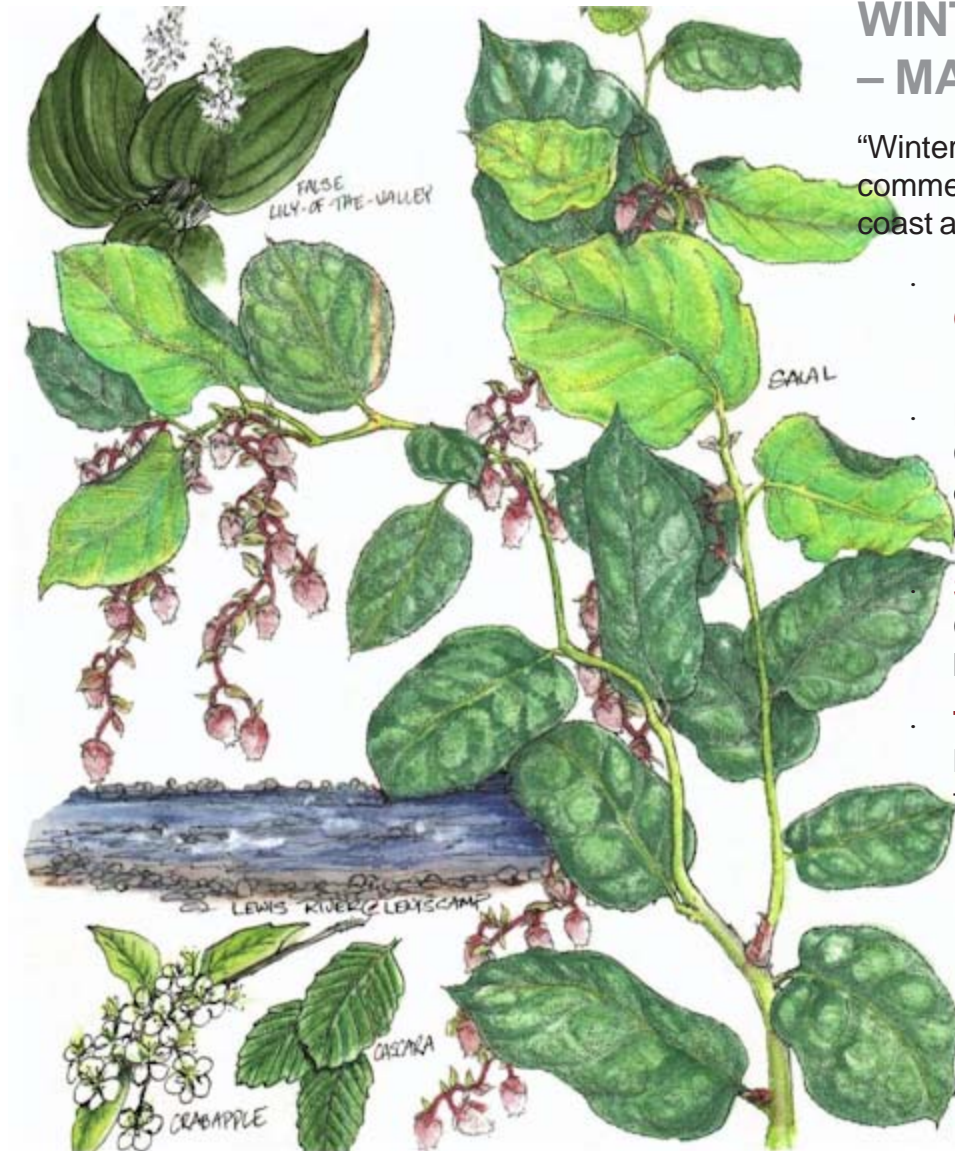
Astoria, OR 97103

(503) 861-4403

director@destinationthepacific.com

Painting courtesy of Heidi D. Hansen

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Lewis & Clark: NW Native Plant, cont'd

Just days before the celebration begins, tragedy strikes!

10/4/2005 5:44:00 AM

Breaking News: Fort Clatsop destroyed

As Reported by The Daily Astorian

WARRENTON — Fort Clatsop was a gutted shell today after a mystery blaze destroyed the West Coast landmark during the night.

North Coast firefighters worked for hours to try to save the replica fort, but early reports were that more than half of the structure – if not more – was completely engulfed by the fire.

The fire is believed to have started about 10:45 p.m. Monday night.

The fort was named after the local Clatsop tribe of Native Americans. The Corps of Discovery moved into the fort on December 25, 1805. The original stockade was a small cramped wooden structure, more of a barracks than a defensible structure. By their own accounts, the Corps members were largely miserable during the damp cold winter on the Pacific Coast. Whereas the previous winter on the Great Plains they spent a great amount of time interacting with the local Native Americans, at Fort Clatsop their interaction with the local Clatsop was not social and was limited mostly to small-scale trading. The fort was opened to trading only 24 days during the entire winter.

The expedition's journals do not give a precise layout of the fort, and the two floorplans drawn Sergeant John Ordway and Captain William Clark differ. Clark's floorplan is the accepted version due to his rank and role in the construction work.

The area they had settled in was on the lands of the Clatsop tribe, one of the Lower Chinookan peoples. Prior to the expedition's arrival, the Clatsop had frequently traded with other European traders and explorers visiting the area by ship. Because of their prior experience with traders, the Clatsop were shrewd at valuing the expedition's "Indian trinkets". Despite this, the tribe interacted frequently with the expedition, trading goods, services, and information.



Painting courtesy of Heidi D. Hansen

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Lewis & Clark: NW Native Plant, cont'd



BitterCherry (*Prunus emarginata*) Photo by Rory

The camp site was selected by Captain Lewis and construction took place over the month of December, with the expedition moving in by Christmas Day, 1805. They remained there until March 23, 1806, when they abandoned it for their return home.

The original fort decayed in the wet climate of the region but was reconstructed in 1955 from sketches in the journals of William Clark. The site is currently operated by the National Park Service. On the late evening of October 3, 2005, a fire destroyed the replica fort; federal, state and community officials immediately pledged to rebuild it. Contributing to the degree of damage sustained, was a 9-1-1 operator's insistence that the fire was little more than fog over the nearby Lewis and Clark River, delaying firefighters by almost a half-hour in arriving. Investigators concluded that the fire was an accident, and not the result of arson, as was initially thought. The fire started in one of the enlisted men's quarters, known as the candle room. Earlier in the day there had been an open hearth fire burning in the room. Despite the tragedy, the fire has renewed archaeological interest in the site, as excavations were not possible while the replica was standing. Additionally, the new replica will be built utilizing information on the original fort that was not available for the 1955

replica. The rebuilt replica will also have a fire detection system installed in it.

Archaeological work has begun using a magnetometer and ground penetrating radar to see what lies under the site where the replica was built.

Archaeologists and others have made extensive explorations around the replica trying to determine the location of the original, which the explorers occupied for three months. The replica is thought by many to be at or near the site of the original.

Visitors can watch the archaeologists work, and park rangers will be on site to answer questions daily. Although the fire happened less than six weeks before a Lewis and Clark Bicentennial event was scheduled to be held at the fort, the culmination of a two-year, national celebration of the explorers' journey West. The expedition had wintered at Fort Clatsop after reaching the Pacific Ocean in November 1805.

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Oregon Ash (*Fraxinus latifolia*)
Photo by JoAnn Onstott

Lewis & Clark: NW Native Plant, cont'd



and Clark expedition. It was built near the site where experts believe the original stood, its design based on drawings and descriptions in the journals of William Clark and Meriwether Lewis.

Five years after the Lewis and Clark expedition left Fort Clatsop and started for home, fur traders sent by New York financier John Jacob Astor arrived on the coast and built their own fort. The site of that fort became the city of Astoria.

Painting above courtesy of Heidi D. Hansen
Photo at right by JoAnn Onstott, Red-Flowering Currant (*Ribes Sanguineum*)

“We will rebuild,” Jenkins said. “The Lewis and Clark Bicentennial events will go on through the winter.”

The fort, a popular tourist attraction, is the centerpiece of the Lewis and Clark National Historical Park, which is among the newest of the nation’s 388 national parks. The 10,000-acre park is made up of several sites in Oregon and Washington linked to the westward end of the Lewis and Clark expedition of 1804-1806.

The 50-by-50-foot replica fort was built in 1955 to mark the sesquicentennial of the Lewis



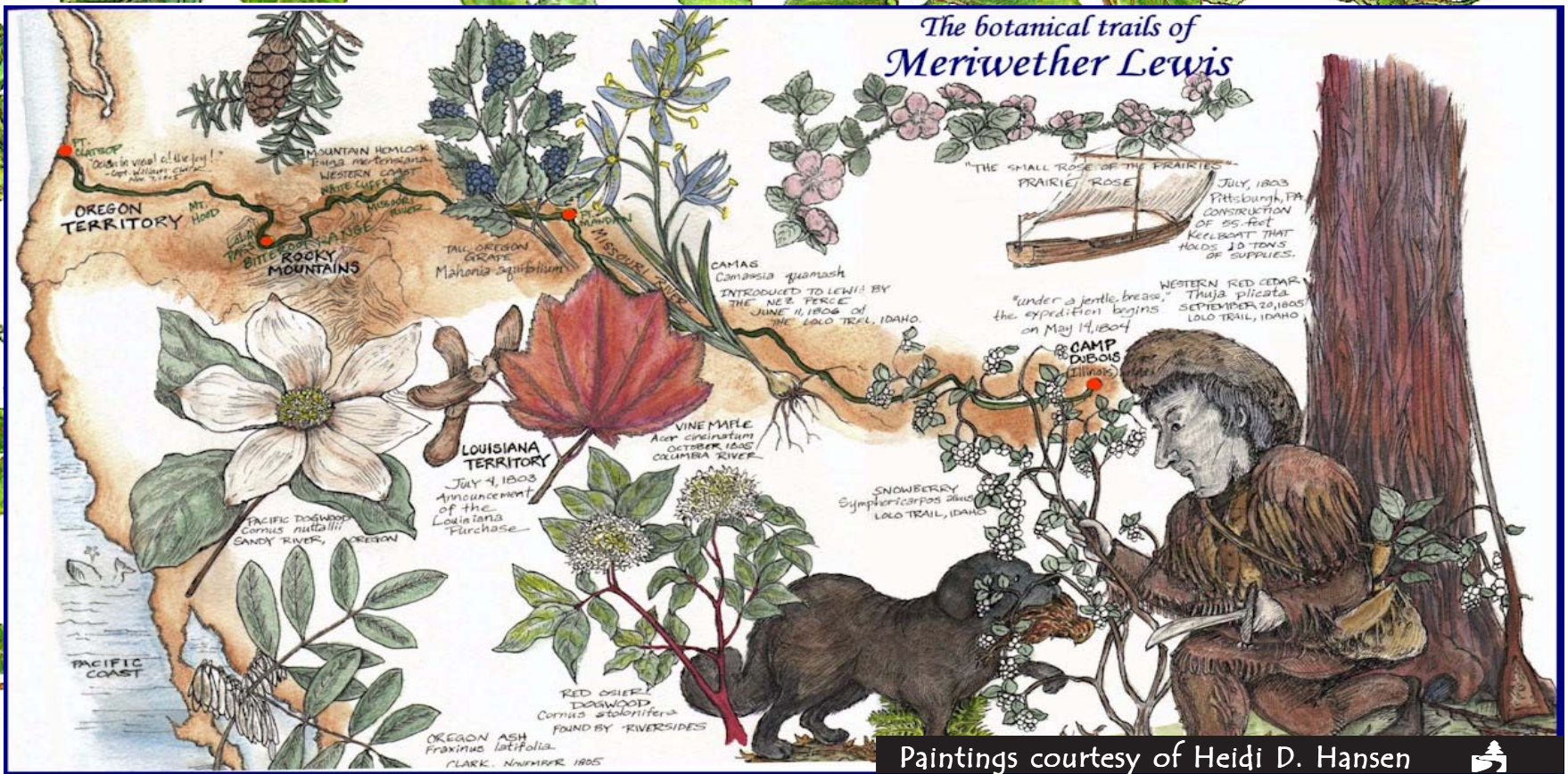
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Lewis & Clark: NW Native Plant, cont'd

Fort Clatsop Rebuild Fund

The Lewis & Clark National Historic Park has established a 'rebuild fund' for Fort Clatsop. Donations can be made at any branch of The Bank of Astoria or forwarded to this address:

Fort Clatsop Historical Association
92343 Fort Clatsop Road
Astoria, OR 97103



Paintings courtesy of Heidi D. Hansen



The Transformation of a Garden

By Jennifer Rehm

It's almost done!

Well as we've all noticed, a garden is never really "done." But this one has been transformed from a green grass traditional American suburban (yawn) unimaginative standard issue rectangle of lawn with the requisite number of alien plants, all chemically altered and manicured and watered in a never-ending race to put a spot of green in front of the house.

Now it's an almost-all Northwest native plant oasis. A spot of infinite beauty and grace enhancing the soil as it grows, attracting wildlife and once again joining nature in providing a healthy place for humans to abide.

Ah, I wax poetic.

When I look at the yard I don't see just the young plants becoming adjusted to their new homes, staking claim to their spot of dirt and learning to live together. I also see this garden as it will be in 1 year, 5 years, 30 years. I see the arching branches of Elderberry and Filbert as their combined umbrella shade the birdbath to keep the water cool in summer. I see the pink and red and purple flowers constantly kissed by butterflies and bees. I see the little grandchild's hands all dripping with juice as he crams huckleberries in his mouth. I see the smile on my face as I gaze with pleasure on this panorama. And I feel the peace in my heart knowing this garden will not strip the earth of nutrients but feed it instead. I see my garden all grown up.

I hope you will find a garden of your own just as lovely as this one. You can, you know. It can be right outside your door.



Vine Maple (*Acer circinatum*)
Photo by JoAnn Onstott

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The Transformation of a Garden, continued



The final plant selection gives beauty and wildlife habitat all year long.

- ▶ In winter, the Snowberry and Rose Hips along the twig fence will be lovely companions and give feathered and furred friends an ongoing bounty.
- ▶ The red stems of the Dogwood will draw the eye to the center of the garden where the Salal, Yew, Kinnikinnik fruits provide a further buffet.
- ▶ Sparky's friends will enjoy the hazelnut and the shelter of these diverse plants will be appreciated by all the wild ones.
- ▶ But the spring and summer display of flowers large and small will bring the birds and bees and butterflies, a living montage complete with fragrance and flitting wings.

Snowberry (*Symphoricarpos albus*)
Photo by JoAnn Onstott

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The Transformation of a Garden, continued



Walking through the nursery, list in hand, we selected our plants, filled the wagon (4 wagons in all) and put them in the truck. Justin kept an eye on the plants in the pickup bed as we drove home. He said, "It's a jungle back there!" He was right!

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The Transformation of a Garden, continued

It was a beautiful day, not too cold, not too hot, tiny bit of sprinkles to keep everything fresh. We got home, unloaded the truck and down came the rain!

I've scheduled the crabapple tree to be cut down and once that it done, we're planting. I'm keeping a close eye on those plants until they get in the ground.

The branches for the fence are ready to go. Such an exciting time, on the verge of fulfilling a dream.

I have a few special rocks that will be planted in the garden for butterflies to sunbathe and because they were gifts from dear friends.

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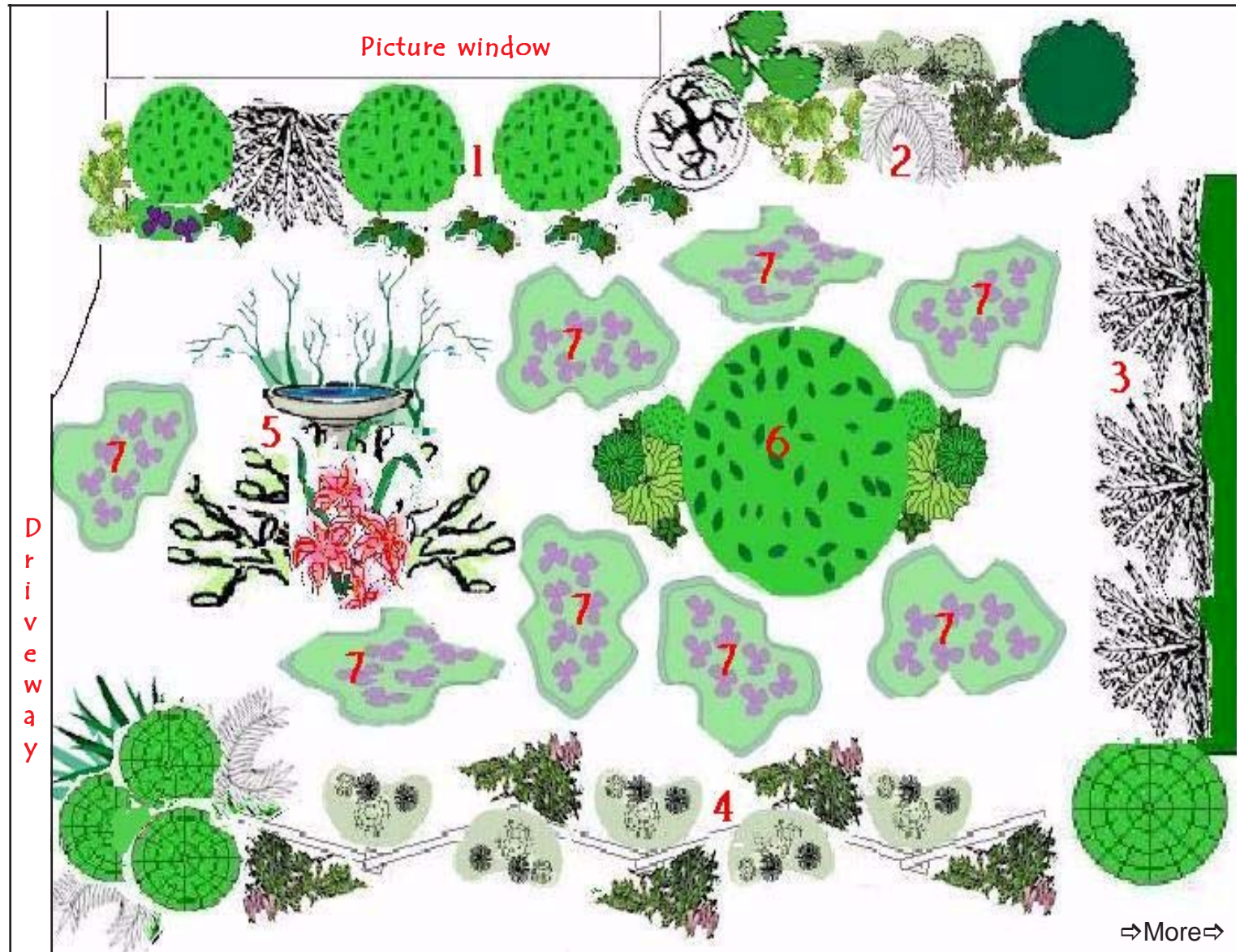
The Transformation of a Garden, continued

There is a wide variety of plants that together will blend into a harmonious space for wildlife and sheer beauty. I love this plan.

It's got the feel of a secret garden but is not completely closed off so my neighbors can enjoy a view as nice as that seen from the house.

There are plants in tradition with my Cherokee heritage (Red Elderberry, Camas, Bear Grass) which makes me feel at peace. All of the plants are the same ones that have grown in this valley for hundreds of years.

I'm starting with just one of most plants but they should reproduce themselves and spread around in time. Most of the plants are the smallest sizes available in the nursery.



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The Transformation of a Garden, continued

1. Three rhodies underplanted with Wild Ginger (*Asarum caudatum*) and a Sword Fern (*Polystichum munitum*) between the first and second Rhodie, a Piggy-back Plant (*Tolmiea menziesii*) with some Western Long Spurred Violet (*Viola adunca*) by the walk.
2. Grouping of Vine Maple (*Acer circinatum*), Devil's Club (*Ophopanax horridum*) and Yew (*Taxus brevifolia*), all underplanted with Bleeding Heart (*Dicentra formosa*), Twinflower (*Linnaea borealis*), Maidenhair Fern (*Adiantum pedatum*), Vanilla Leaf (*Achlys triphylla*) in the corner, Pipsissewa (*Chimaphila umbellata*), Fringecup (*Tellima grandiflora*).
3. Giant Arborvitae hedge (*Thuja plicata*) fronted with Deer Fern (*Blechnum spicant*) and Lady Fern (*Athyrium filix-femina*). A Silk Tassel (*Garrya elliptica*) planted at the end of the hedge to soften the corner.

Plants shown, clockwise from upper left:

Vanilla Leaf (*Achlys triphylla*)
Douglas Aster (*Aster subspicatus*)
Evergreen Huckleberry (*Vaccinium ovatum*)
Twinflower (*Linnaea borealis*)
Snowberry (*Symphocarpus albus*)
Bleeding Heart (*Dicentra formosa*)
Wild Ginger (*Asarum caudatum*)
Coastal Strawberry (*Fragaria chiloensis*)

Photos by JoAnn Onstott



The Transformation of a Garden, continued



Design of "clouds" for Boxwood



Example of split rail fence in traditional "snake" design

4. Twig fence laid in tradition of old time split rail fences with Snowberry (*Symphocarpus albus*) and Wood's Rose (*Rosa woodsii*).

Mixed in with the Snowberry and Roses are Douglas Iris (*Iris douglasiana*), Oregon Iris (*Iris tenax*), Blue-Eyed Grass (*Sisyrinchium douglasii*), Indian Hyacinth (*Camassia quamash*), Douglas Aster (*Aster subspicatus*), Hooker's Onion (*Allium acuminatum*), Nodding Onion (*Allium cernuum*), Cat's Ear (*Calochortus uniflorus*), Fireweed (*Epilobium angustifolia*), *Penstemon digitalis*.

Existing Box drive trimmed into "clouds" of leaves with Bear Grass (*Xerophyllum tenax*) and Coastal Shield Fern (*Dryopteris arguta*) beneath, brightened by *Lewisia columbiana* and Cliff Maids (*Lewisia cotyledon*).

There is a Box on the other side of the driveway which would have the same treatment. A solar light tucked in with the ferns on each side will light the opening of the drive.

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The Transformation of a Garden, continued

5. Existing Crabapple removed and a Red Elderberry (*Sambucus racemosa*) with bird bath beneath, underplantings of Saskatoon (*Amelanchier alnifolia*), Red-Osier Dogwood (*Cornus sericea*), Indian Plum (*Oemleria cerasiformis*), Evergreen Huckleberry (*Vaccinium ovatum*), Salal (*Gaultheria shallon*), Scarlet Monkeyflower (*Mimulus cardinalis*), Tiger Lily (*Lilium columbiana*), Panther Lily (*Lilium pardalinum*), and Washington Lily (*Lilium washingtonianum*). A hazelnut of questionable ancestry will join these plants, rescued from near the foundation of my home where a generous squirrel deposited it's seed. It will grow unfettered in it's natural multi-stemmed fountain, mingling with the Elderberry in harmony.

6. Existing Douglas Maple (*Acer glabrum*) surrounded by Mock Orange (*Philadelphus lewisii*) with Salal (*Gaultheria shallon*), Shooting Star (*Dodecatheon hendersonii*) Trillium (*ovatum* or *parviflorum*). The bare branches in early spring will encourage the Trillium to bloom and break the winter dormancy of the Shooting Star.

7. Groundcovers Bunchberry (*Cornus canadensis*), Kinnikinnik (*Arctostaphylos uva-ursi*), Coastal Strawberry (*Fragaria chiloensis*), Wild Strawberry (*Fragaria virginiana*), Creeping Oregon Grape (*Mahonia repens*), Mahala Mat (*Ceanothus prostratus*), Grouseberry (*Vaccinium scoparium*) with little surprises sprinkled among them like Rattlesnake Plantain (*Goodyera oblongifolia*).

Maidenhair Fern (*Adiantum pedatum*)

Photo © JoAnn Onstott

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Lady Fern (*Athyrium filix-femina*)

Photo © JoAnn Onstott



The Transformation of a Garden, continued

This project took some time and planning and of course some work. Calculating the value is a matter of perception.

From a strictly real estate viewpoint, the net gain that can be realized from this project is about 15%. The home is currently valued at \$124,000. The monetary cost of the total project was \$738.60. So the project added approximately \$17,000 to the home's worth. That's a pretty good return.

From an ecological viewpoint, the net gain for the earth is 100%. The old landscape added nothing good. The chemicals used to maintain it did add pollution to the water table and to the air quality. It removed the bugs and birds that kept the nasty bugs like slugs and aphids in check.

From an annual maintenance viewpoint, it put a stop to the 40 weekly mowings, the twice-weekly waterings during dry weather, the weed pulling and edging that were required almost continuously. Now there will be about 4 days per year of gathering up spent perennials and picking up wind-blown debris and general tidying. There will be waterings about once a week in the first year. There will eventually be dividing of perennials and propagating of shrubs which will add more plants and provide extras to give away to friends and neighbors.

From an esthetic point of view there is no comparison between the old and new gardens. The old one had it's good points--the crabapple bloom was lovely and the shade helped cool the home. And the project aroused interest in the neighborhood every day. That continues and will be ongoing. Who can resist enjoying flowers and wildlife antics?

From my side of the fence, this has been a resounding success. I encourage you to try it. You can start small if you aren't up for the big picture. But do start. You won't regret it.

Next Journal: Photos of the garden!

How much did it cost?

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
Fir bark, 7 yards	\$115.00
Total Materials	\$296.50

Labor:

Initial laying of plastic	\$10.00
Spreading compost	Trade 4 hours of computer work
Removing plastic and spread bark	\$10.00
Total Labor	\$20.00

Plants:

Purchased during Fall Sale	\$422.10
(Regular price, \$604--a savings of \$181.90!)	

Grand Total	\$738.60
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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.



(*Crataegus douglasii*)
Painting by Heidi Hansen

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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.inc>

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.



(*Acer circinatum*)
Painting by Heidi Hansen

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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.

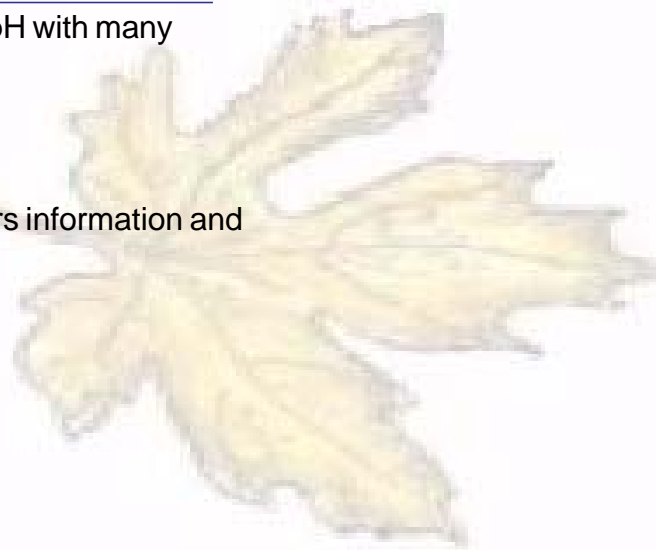
Soil Science Society of America

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

Website for soil science professionals. Offers information and links.



(*Populus tremuloides*)
Painting by Heidi Hansen



Big-Leaf Maple
(*Acer macrophyllum*)
Painting by Heidi Hansen



Personal notes from Wally

Winter in the Northwest!

Each Native Plant Garden has its very own “personality.” Ponds of water from Winter Rains create a unique environment of texture and smells, dampness, decay and life.

As a farm boy in rural Whatcom County in Washington State, in the early “thirties” - just below the Canadian border - I have delightful memories of running “after school” trap lines in the swamps along the Nooksack River.

How fascinating the mysterious swamps. How fascinating now to walk in my own damp, cool, beautiful Native Plant Winter Gardens! All seasons are delightful in a garden!

Wally

The wild rose blooms sweetly, delicate aroma from the pure pink petals. In winter the petals have fallen and the hips that held them are bright red and orange. The fragrance of the hips is as sweet as the flowers that have gone by. But there's more! Those rose hips are fresh and tart! Delicious for tea and delightful to birds. The winter face of the rose is as precious as the one it gives in summer.



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

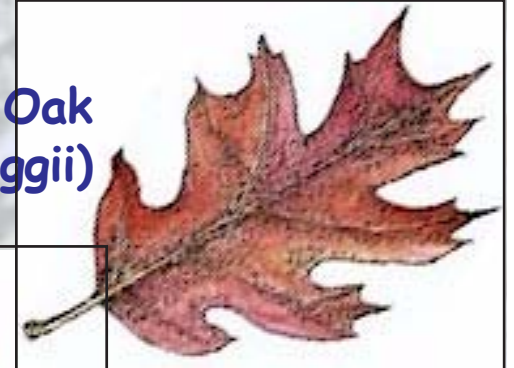
Our website,
www.nwplants.com, is no longer
commercial. Our goal is to
continue Wally's legacy of
generating interest, even
passion, in the magnificent
native plants of the Pacific
Northwest through information
and illustration.

Good luck!
Good gardening!

Lord Alfred Tennyson

NW Native Oaks

Black Oak
(*Quercus kelloggii*)



Garry Oak
(*Quercus garryana*)



Sadler's Oak
(*Quercus sadleriana*)

