



## Native Plants Suited to Lincoln County and the OR Coast

Revised April 2017

### EVERGREEN SHRUBS

#### **BLUE BLOSSOM**, (Wild Lilac) *Ceanothus thrysiflorus* and *prostratus*:(G)(S)(D)

*Thrysiflorus* is a tall shrub that blooms in late spring, *Prostratus* is a groundcover that blooms in early spring. Its lustrous green foliage is the only host for the California Tortoiseshell and the primary host for the Pale Swallowtail. It also hosts the Brown Elfin butterfly. *Thrysiflorus* can be pruned for shape and compactness or allowed to grow to a large shrub or small tree reaching 20 feet tall and wide. These plants like full sun, wind protection, fast draining soil and little summer water once established. It is covered in fuzzy fragrant flowers humming with bumble bees. The only downside is that they are short lived, 10 to 15 years.

Attracts California Tortoiseshells, Pale Swallowtails, Brown Elfins butterflies.

#### **SALAL**, *Gaultheria shallon*: (A)(H)

Salal is a perfect native substitute for many commercial small hedge plants such as boxwood. Although often grown without pruning, salal can take shaping in stride and can even be used for topiaries if desired. Salal is a great plant to support native wildlife. The leaves host caterpillars, the flowers attract butterflies, and the fruit feeds birds. It's great as a bank erosion and does very well in Oceanside gardens. Tolerates sand, wind, salt, and fog. The leaves also support wonderful flower arrangements. So take a second and third look at our native salal.

Attracts Hummingbirds, Robins, Wrens, Thrushes, Juncos, Pigeons. Brown Elfins, Spring Azures.

#### **OREGON GRAPE**, *Mahonia aquifolium* and *nervosa*:(G)

The tall form is our Oregon state flower while the lower species is more commonly seen along the coast and makes a fine groundcover. Its bright yellow, lightly fragrant flowers mature to tart blue berries.

Attracts Hummingbirds. Waxwings, Thrushes, Towhees. Brown Elfins, Painted Ladies.

#### **EVERGREEN HUCKLEBERRY**, *Vaccinium ovatum*:(G)(H)

Its pink bell shaped flowers help identify this versatile shrub as one of our many garden worthy native Heaths. It will thrive in sun or shade, moist or dry soils, wind and rain. It can be used as formal low boxwood like hedge or allowed to ramble up to twelve feet in the shade. New shoots are a bronze red and in sun, mature foliage turns reddish purple. It is a host plant for Brown Elfins and Spring Azure

Key: (A) aggressive, (G) garden worthy, (S) sun, (SH) shade, (W) can take wet soils, add organic matter, (D) fast draining dry soil required, add rock, (H) useful for hedgerows.



## Native Plants Suited to Lincoln County and the OR Coast

Revised April 2017

butterflies, a nectar plant for hummingbirds and its purplish black berries often persist into December when they are a vital food source.

Attracts Waxwings, Juncos, Jays, Chickadees,

### DECIDUOUS SHRUBS

#### **SERVICEBERRY**, *Amelanchier alnifolia*:(D)(H)(S)

Another choice garden ornamental. The white fragrant flowers ripen into tasty berries and the leaves have good yellow to red fall color. It needs to be in full sun out of the wind on fast draining soil to avoid disease. It's a good plant for the inside of the hedgerow.

Attracts Woodpeckers, Chickadees, Thrushes, Towhees, Tanagers, Grosbeaks, Finches, Juncos, Hummingbirds. Lorquin's Admirals, Pale Tiger Swallowtails, Brown Elfins.

#### **RED OSIER DOGWOOD**, *Cornus stolonifera/sericea*:(G)(H)(W)

White flowers in dense terminal clusters mature to white berries. It provides excellent songbird cover and is a host plant for butterflies and numerous birds eat the fruits. This dogwood has striking red twig color on new growth that brightens the winter landscape. It can be left wild if you want it to get taller or can be pruned back at the end of winter for a compact mass of dense color. It is very easy to propagate from hardwood cuttings. Just cut a winter twig and poke it in wet ground.

Attracts Vireos, Warblers, Pigeons, Robins, Flickers, Flycatchers, Wood Ducks, Quail, Hummingbirds. Spring Azures, Orange Sulfurs.

#### **OCEANSPRAY**, *Holodiscus discolor*:(H)

The large white lilac like flower clusters are a nectar source for butterflies while succulent, and a late season seed source for birds after they mature and turn brown. The seeds will last through the winter if not deadheaded.

Attracts Chickadees, Bushtits, Hummingbirds. Brown Elfins, Pale Tiger Swallowtails, Spring Azures, Lorquin's Admirals.

Key: (A) aggressive, (G) garden worthy, (S) sun, (SH) shade, (W) can take wet soils, add organic matter, (D) fast draining dry soil required, add rock, (H) useful for hedgerows.



## Native Plants Suited to Lincoln County and the OR Coast

Revised April 2017

### **TWINBERRY**, *Lonicera involucrata*:(H)(W)

Purplish green bracts surround the twin yellow flowers which produce shiny black twin berries. The bark is peeled by birds for nesting material. This is a good shrub for the windy side of a hedgerow once it's established it'll take the full brunt of the wind even on exposed headlands.

Attracts Grosbeaks, Juncos, Waxwings, Thrushes, Flickers, Finches, Quail, Hummingbirds.

### **WESTERN CRAB APPLE**, *Malus fusca*:(H)(W)

Another member of the rose family with white to pink fragrant flowers best used in the middle of the hedgerow due to its shedding of leaves, twigs, bark and flowers. It is a host for caterpillars and its rotting apples feed adult butterflies.

Attracts Geese, Woodpeckers, Sapsuckers, Jays, Robins, Waxwings, Towhees, Finches, Sparrows, Hummingbirds.

### **INDIAN PLUM**, *Oemleria cerasiformis*:(H)

It's one of the earliest flowering shrubs blooming in late February to early March and therefore provides an early food source. Has a vertical habit. Fruits are on the female plants only. Female flowers are fragrant while male flowers smell like cat urine. Birds eat the berries.

Attracts Jays, Robins, Chickadees. Brown Elfins.

### **NINEBARK**, *Physocarpus capitatus*:(S)(W)

The dense snowball shaped flowers are nectar sources for butterflies, the reddish brown seed husks provide fall food for birds, and the multicolored bark adds interest.

Attracts Spring Azures.

### **WESTERN AZALEA**, *Rhododendron occidentale*:(G)(S)

Our native deciduous azalea serves as a nectar plant for butterflies with its fragrant blooms. This is a parent plant for Knaphill and Koster hybrids. Its late spring early summer bloom time and fall foliage display make it one of our finest natives. As we are in the northern end of its range it does best in full

Key: (A) aggressive, (G) garden worthy, (S) sun, (SH) shade, (W) can take wet soils, add organic matter, (D) fast draining dry soil required, add rock, (H) useful for hedgerows.



## Native Plants Suited to Lincoln County and the OR Coast Revised April 2017

sun. Be sure to pick your specimens in bloom as the intensity of fragrance will vary significantly from one individual to another.

Attracts Anise Swallowtails, Western Tiger Swallowtails, Brown Elfins, Satyr Angelwings.

### **RED FLOWERING CURRANT**, *Ribes sanguineum*:(D)(G)(S)

Since the berries are persistent and ripen sequentially they provide a long term food source. It is listed as shade tolerant but it will perform much better in full sun which will help to give its winter twigs an orange-like color. With fast growth of a least a foot a year and a month long bloom time this plant should be in every native garden. Be sure to select the more common red or pink forms if you want to attract hummingbirds that are attracted to light in the red color spectrum.

Attracts Hummingbirds

### **WILD ROSES**, *Rosa gymnocarpa* and *nootkana*:(A)(H)(S)

You won't have to worry about black spot with this aggressive native. The flowers attract hummingbirds and butterflies and the rose hips provide a long term seed source.

Attracts Hummingbirds, Juncos, Grosbeaks, Quail, Thrushes. Mourning Cloaks.

### **SALMONBERRY/THIMBLEBERRY**, *Rubus spectabilis* and *parviflorus*:(A)(H)

These are functional brambles best suited for the middle of a hedgerow. Their small magenta and white flowers respectively, reveal their rose family heritage and are hummingbird favorites. The salmonberry's early fruits are vital for young fledglings and Swainson's thrush was known as the Salmonberry bird in native languages.

Attracts Chickadees, Grosbeaks, Jays, Robins, Sparrows, Tanagers, Towhees, Warblers Waxwings, Wrens, Hummingbirds. Margined Whites, Orange Sulfurs.

### **RED ELDERBERRY**, *Sambucus racemosa pubens*:(H)(W)

This is a fast growing tropical looking shrub with large pinnately compound leaves. Its fragrant flower clusters attract both hummingbirds and butterflies and produce berries that are eaten by a variety of songbirds. Elderberry is one of the few natives that requires occasional pruning to look its best but keep

Key: (A) aggressive, (G) garden worthy, (S) sun, (SH) shade, (W) can take wet soils, add organic matter, (D) fast draining dry soil required, add rock, (H) useful for hedgerows.



## Native Plants Suited to Lincoln County and the OR Coast

Revised April 2017

an eye out for nests as the acute angle of the branches is a favorite nesting location. It works in a variety of locations including deep shade and poor soil.

Attracts Sparrows, Thrushes, Warblers, Tanagers, Jays, Grosbeaks, Woodpeckers, Hummingbirds. Spring Azures.

### **SPIRAEA**, *Spirea douglasii*:(S)(W)

Our native spirea is a summer bloomer with large rose pink pyramid shaped plumes that are a nectar source for butterflies and provide late season seed heads. Its common name of hard hack refers to the effort required by early explorers to hack through its many stems when traversing wet bogs dominated by this aggressive shrub. Like our other native members of the rose family it serves as a host plant for a variety of butterflies.

Attracts Hummingbirds. Mourning Cloaks, Pale Tiger Swallowtails, Lorquin's Admirals.

### **SNOWBERRY**, *Symphoricarpos albus*:(A)

Has delicate pink flowers which produce white berries which persist through the winter providing a late season food source for wildlife while the dense twiggy growth provides cover. Makes a great winter focal point plant.

Attracts Pheasants, Juncos, Chickadees, Hummingbirds.

### **RED HUCKLEBERRY**, *Vaccinium parvifolium*:(G)

The small greenish-white bell shaped flowers are set on bright lime green stems and turn into tart, salmon-pink berries. Its attractive habit and color make this another choice garden ornamental. Its status in the heath family marks it as a host plant for butterflies while any berries that don't make it into breakfast muffins can be consumed by wildlife. It likes to be planted over lots of organic material as witnessed by its natural location on nurse logs.

Attracts Robins, Jays, Hummingbirds. Spring Azures, Brown Elfins.

Key: (A) aggressive, (G) garden worthy, (S) sun, (SH) shade, (W) can take wet soils, add organic matter, (D) fast draining dry soil required, add rock, (H) useful for hedgerows.



## Native Plants Suited to Lincoln County and the OR Coast Revised April 2017

### PERENNIAL GROUND COVERS AND A VINE

#### **ASTERACEAE**, Sunflower (S)(D)( most)

All of our native members of the Sunflower family are excellent nectar sources for butterflies. Their flat landing pad structure and multiple florets are perfect lurching spots. Douglas Aster (*Aster subspicatus*), Seaside Daisy (*Erigeron glaucus*), and Oregon sunshine (*Erophyllum lanatum*), are some of the best for the formal garden. A serious butterfly gardener will also include Pearly Everlasting (*Anaphalis margaritacea*), Yarrow (*Achillea millefolium*), or Goldenrod (*Solidago canadensis*) in the wilder portions for a season long food supply.

#### **WILD ONION**, *Allium cernuum*:(G)(S)

Our most garden worthy native onion provides contrasting visual structure with its slender grass like foliage and whitish buds that open to deep pink umbels which sway in the breeze.

Attracts Hummingbirds, Gray Hairstreaks.

#### **COLUMBINE**, *Aquilegia formosa*:(G)

Another hummingbird favorite. Like all columbines this one hybridizes easily with others of its genus.

Attracts Hummingbirds. Anise Swallowtails, Western Tiger Swallowtails, Pale Swallowtails.

#### **KINNIKINNICK**, *Arctostaphylos uva-ursi*:(D)(G)(S)

Our most well known and used native evergreen groundcover. The white to pink flowers contrast against the dark green leaves. It's a butterfly hosting, hummingbird attracting, red berry and seed providing, wildlife wonder. It starts slowly but will expand successfully if given great drainage, minimal summer water and full sun. Like most native plants fertilizing will do more harm than good.

Attracts Pigeons, Juncos, Towhees. Brown Elfins, Spring Azures.

#### **GOAT'S BEARD**, *Aruncus sylvestris/dioicus*:(G)(SH)(W)

An herbaceous perennial which masquerades as a shrub. The male plants have showier flowers and do not seed themselves. Looking like an astilbe on steroids its height requires a location out of the wind. The tall plumes of white flowers turn into early winter seed and feed.

Key: (A) aggressive, (G) garden worthy, (S) sun, (SH) shade, (W) can take wet soils, add organic matter, (D) fast draining dry soil required, add rock, (H) useful for hedgerows.



## Native Plants Suited to Lincoln County and the OR Coast Revised April 2017

Attracts Hummingbirds.

**BUNCHBERRY**, *Cornus canadensis/unalashkensis*:(G)(SH)

A beautiful native perennial for the shady portion of the garden. It has a typical dogwood flower with four white bracts surrounding a central floret cluster which produce bright red, late season berries. In the wild it often grows on nurse logs so you need to add lots of rotted chips from your pile to be successful with this beauty. Place it in an area where it won't get root disturbance if you want it to spread.

**BLEEDING HEART**, *Dicentra formosa*:(A)(G)(SH)

Although the flowers are not as large as *spectabilis* it will flower over a long period if given supplemental summer water. This is the obligate host of the *Clodius Parnassian* butterfly which lays its eggs on the ground near this herbaceous perennial.

Attracts Hummingbirds, *Clodius Parnassians*.

**STRAWBERRY**, *Fragaria chiloensis*:(A)(S)

Our coast strawberry is one of the parents of the garden cultivar. It makes an attractive aggressive groundcover in full sun with fast drainage and will even bind sand. White flowers give way to edible fruits and the leaves turn a bright red in the fall.

Attracts Purplish Coppers, Two-Banded Checkered Skippers, Brown Elfins.

**HONEYSUCKLE**, *Lonicera ciliosa*:(G)(S)

This honeysuckle is one of our few native vines. The odorless, trumpet shaped orange red flowers attract hummingbirds while the fruit hangs on through autumn and into winter to serve as a food source for other birds.

Attracts Hummingbirds.

**LUPINE**, *Lupinus sp.*:(S)(W)

There are a number of native lupines which attract hummingbirds and butterflies. Our tall native *polyphyllus* and the introduced *arboreus* were the parents of the Russell Lupine hybrids.

Key: (A) aggressive, (G) garden worthy, (S) sun, (SH) shade, (W) can take wet soils, add organic matter, (D) fast draining dry soil required, add rock, (H) useful for hedgerows.



## Native Plants Suited to Lincoln County and the OR Coast Revised April 2017

Attracts Hummingbirds. Orange Sulphurs.

**MONKEYFLOWER**, *Mimulus guttatus, lewsi*:(A)(W)

In shades from yellow to pink red monkeyflowers make good aggressive ground covers for the wetter part of the garden.

Attracts Hummingbirds. Common Buckeyes.

**COAST PENSTEMON**, *Penstemon serrulatus*:(D)(G)(S)

Our native penstemon is a perennial, sprawling sub-shrub shape with large purple tubular flowers that cascade all over the plant. It works well in rock gardens and moisty streambanks.

Attracts Hummingbirds. Anise Swallowtails, Western Tiger Swallowtails, Pale Swallowtails.

**SILVERWEED** *Potentilla pacifica*:(S)

With buttercup yellow flowers and indented compound pinnate leaves this aggressive ground cover is well adapted to wet sandy areas. As a member of the Rose family along with Oceanspray, Serviceberry, Spirea, Indian Plum, Roses, and Strawberry it is a host as well as great nectar plant for bees and butterflies. Birds eat the seeds.

Attracts Purplish Coppers.

**SEDUMS** *Sedum oreganum, spathulifolium*:(G)(S)(D)

The native stonecrops are best placed in full sun with excellent drainage where their grey green rosettes will tinge rose red and provide a contrast to the bright yellow flowers.

Attracts Moss-Elms.

**FRINGECUP**, *Tellima grandiflora*:(A)(G)(SH)(W)

This ground cover looks good all year but its capacity to self seed aggressively in good soil should limit it to the wild portion of the garden. Plant in clusters for a wonderful carnation fragrance.

Attracts Hummingbirds.

Key: (A) aggressive, (G) garden worthy, (S) sun, (SH) shade, (W) can take wet soils, add organic matter, (D) fast draining dry soil required, add rock, (H) useful for hedgerows.





Lincoln County Master Gardener™ Association  
orcoastmga.org/nativeplants

## **Native Plants Suited to Lincoln County and the OR Coast**

**Revised April 2017**

**VIOLETS**, *Viola adunca*, *glabella*, *sempervirens*:

Like many endangered species that have narrow niches the Oregon Silverspot butterfly or Zerene Fritillary chooses only one species as its host; the early blue violet, *Viola adunca* which grows in dry open locales on exposed coastal headlands. Our yellow woodland violets make serviceable low ground covers for shadier setting.

Attracts Spring Azures, Hydaspe Fritillaries, Zerene Fritillaries aka Oregon Silverspots?

Key: (A) aggressive, (G) garden worthy, (S) sun, (SH) shade, (W) can take wet soils, add organic matter, (D) fast draining dry soil required, add rock, (H) useful for hedgerows.