

Attracting Wildlife to your Garden

Native Plants Resources

Capital Regional District | November 2020

Ground Covers

- Kinnickinick (*Arctostaphylos uva-ursi*)
- False lily of the valley (*Maianthemum dilatatum*)
- Sword fern (*Polstichium munitum*)
- Wild and woodland strawberry (*Fragaria virginiana*, *F. vesca*)
- Stonecrop (*Sedum spathulifolium*, *lanceolatum*, *oregonum*)

Perennials, Bulbs and Annuals

- Nodding onion (*Allium cirnum*)
- Red columbine (*Aquilegia formosa*)
- Menzie's larkspur (*Delphinium menziesii*)
- Fireweed (*Epilobium angustifolium*)
- Penstemon (*Penstemon serrulatus* and *P. fruticosus*)
- Monkey flower (*Mimulus guttatus*)
- Goldenrod (*Solidago canadensis*)
- Pearly everlasting (*Anaphalis margaritacea*)
- Fringecup (*Tellima grandiflora*)
- Aster (*Aster chilensis* and *A. modestus*)

Shrubs

- Common snowberry (*Symphoricarpos albus*)
- Nootka rose (*Rosa nutkana*)
- Red flowering currant (*Ribes sanguineum*)
- Salmonberry (*Rubus spectabilis*)
- Orange trumpet honeysuckle (*Lonicera cilosa*)
- Indian plum (*Oemlaria cerasifornis*)
- Oregon-grape, tall and short (*Mahonia aquifolium* and *M. nervosa*)
- Red-osier dogwood (*Cornus stolonifera*)
- Oceanspray (*Holodiscus discolor*)
- Salal (*Gaultheria shallon*)
- Red and Blue elderberry (*Sambucus racemosa* and *S. caerulea*)
- Thimbleberry (*Rubus parvifolius*)
- Evergreen huckleberry (*Vaccinium ovatum*)
- Saskatoon (*Amelanchier alnifolia*)
- Mock-orange (*Philadelphus lewisii*)

Trees

- Arbutus (*Arbutus menziesii*)
- Garry oak (*Quercus garryana*)
- Western yew (*Taxus brevifolia*)
- Vine maple (*Acer circinatum*)

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Notes on Attracting Wildlife

Birds

- Include berry, nut, seed or nectar food sources:
 - Red elderberry (*Sambucus racemosa*), Indian plum (*Oemlaria cerasiliformis*), Red osier dogwood (*Cornus stolonifera*), Oregon grape (*Mahonia sp*), Nutka rose (*Rosa nutkana*) and Oceanspray (*Holodiscus discolor*), Red Flowering Current (*Ribes sanguineum*), Salmonberry (*Rubus spectabilis*), and Orange trumpet honeysuckle (*Lonicera ciliosa*) (nectar for hummingbirds)
- Include bird shelter:
 - Common snowberry (*Symphoricarpos albus*), Salal (*Gaultheria shallon*), Oceanspray (*Holodiscus discolor*) – brush piles and dead trees are also good places for birds to seek shelter.
- Access to nesting material such as grasses and small twigs.
- Good nesting sites are nest boxes, shrubs and trees such as:
 - Red Osier Dogwood (*Cornus stolonifera*), Red elderberry (*Sambucus racemosa*) and Big leaf maple (*Acer macrophyllum*).
 - Dead trees are also important.
- Provide water for drinking and bathing.
- Gravel or grit helps birds with digestion.
- Good perch sites provide lookout sites and safety from predators.

Butterflies

- Nectar sources are commonly bright coloured flowers:
 - Penstemon (*Penstemon sp*), Fireweed (*Epilobium augustifolium*) and Larkspur (*Delphinium menzeisii*). Nectar plants are best in sunny locations, sheltered from the wind. Group nectar plants together to encourage longer visits.
- Sources of larval (caterpillar) food:
 - Willow (*Salix sp*), Spiraea (*Spiraea douglasii*) and Oceanspray (*Holodiscus discolor*).
- Keep your garden pesticide-free.
- Water or mud puddles to derive nutrients.

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Native Bees

- Native plants are four times more attractive to native bees than exotic plants
- Food source:
 - Aster, currants, fireweed, goldenrod, penstemon, saskatoon, snowberry and yarrow
- Chose several colours of flowers that bloom throughout the season
- Bare ground and bunch grass encourage nesting bees compared to manicured lawn and garden
- Eliminate the use of all pesticides and fertilizers

Reptiles

- Provide south facing rocks for warming on cool days, as well as cool spots under logs and rock crevices to hide and hunt.
- Include a permanent source of water in a location safe from predators.
- Foods include insects, slugs and earthworms.

Amphibians

- Include damp spots under moss, rocks, logs or leaf litter in your garden.
- Provide areas of partial shade and a permanent source of water.
- Foods include insects, slugs and earthworms.
- Provide locations that are safe from predators.