



Recommended Native Trees, Shrubs, Grasses, and Forbs for Shoreline Sites in Burrard Inlet

Nick Page, Raincoast Applied Ecology (2008)

Common Name	Scientific Name	Comments	Habitat
Trees			
Douglas-fir	<i>Pseudotsuga menziesii</i>	Large tree for large sites only; prefers dry sites; fast growing once established	backshore
Sitka spruce	<i>Picea sitchensis</i>	Large tree for large sites only; fast growing once established; some disease problems	backshore
shore pine	<i>Pinus contorta</i>	Medium tree (<20 m); slow growing; dry sites with sandy soil	backshore
red alder	<i>Alnus rubra</i>	Medium tree (<25 m); fast growing; not long lived.	backshore
big-leaf maple	<i>Acer macrophyllum</i>	Large tree; fast growing once established; not long lived.	backshore
Pacific willow	<i>Salix lucinda</i>	Largest of the native willows (<25 m); too large for most bioengineering projects	backshore
cascara	<i>Rhamnus purshiana</i>	small tree with nice growth form and smooth, grey bark	backshore
Hooker's willow	<i>Salix hookeriana</i>	Small tree willow; relatively rare in Burrard Inlet; good for bioengineering	backshore
Douglas maple	<i>Acer douglasii</i>	Small tree; multiple stems; fast growing	backshore
Scouler's willow	<i>Salix scouleriana</i>	Small tree willow (to 7 m); good for bioengineering	backshore
Pacific crab apple	<i>Malus fusca</i>	Small tree (<10 m) or large shrub; thicket-like; white spring flowers; small apple-like fruits	backshore
Shrubs			
Nootka rose	<i>Rosa nutkana</i>	Good for shrub thickets; pink summer flowers and winter colour (hips); some wildlife value	backshore
oceanspray	<i>Holodiscus discolor</i>	Tall shrub; tolerant of dry, coastal sites; relatively drab colour with subtle flowers	backshore
red flowering currant	<i>Ribes sanguineum</i>	Medium shrub; excellent spring flower colour; some problems with disease; good for hummingbirds	backshore
snowberry	<i>Syphoricarpus albus</i>	Medium shrub; good tolerance of dry sites; well developed roots; winter colour	backshore
mock-orange	<i>Philadelphus lewisii</i>	Tall shrub; native to coastal sites in BC; good flower colour but otherwise subtle	backshore
sweet gale	<i>Myrica californica</i>	Not native to Georgia Basin; evergreen shrub (to 7 m); slow growth; dense growth	backshore
salal	<i>Gaultheria shallon</i>	Slow growing low shrub; difficult to establish; not recommended for active use areas	backshore
Oregon-grape	<i>Mahonia nervosa</i>	Slow growing low shrub; difficult to establish; not recommended for most sites	backshore
thimbleberry	<i>Rubus parviflorus</i>	Medium shrub; fast growth; white summer flowers; red thimble-like berries; better than salmonberry	backshore
salmonberry	<i>Rubus spectabilis</i>	Medium shrub; fast growth; white summer flowers; no winter colour; berry producer	backshore
Indian-plum	<i>Oemelaris cerasiformis</i>	Medium shrub; early spring leaves and flowers; prefers moist sites	backshore
black twinberry	<i>Lonicera involucrata</i>	Medium shrub; subtle yellow flowers; red-black berries; will grow from cuttings; straggly when older	backshore
kinnickinnick	<i>Arctostaphylos uva-ursi</i>	Low shrub/groundcover; slow growing; evergreen with red berries; tolerant of dry sites	backshore
Pacific ninebark	<i>Physocarpus capitatus</i>	Tall shrub (<4 m) with dense branches; white rounded flower clusters; open, moist beaches	backshore
Grasses			
beach wild-rye grass	<i>Leymus mollis ssp. mollis</i>	Dominant native beach grass in BC; blue-green leaves; establishes from sprigs/rhizomes	upper beach
red fescue	<i>Festuca rubra</i>	Common native grass in upper beach meadows; clumping with taller flowers	backshore
Forbs / Wildflowers			
entire-leaved gumweed	<i>Grindelia integrifolia</i>	Yellow, daisy-like flower with resinous heads; rubbery leaves; deep tap root; established from seeds	upper beach
large-leaved lupine	<i>Lupinus polyphyllous</i>	Large native lupine; purple flowers; tolerant of poor soils; to 1 m tall with flowers; can be "scruffy"	backshore
seashore lupine	<i>Lupinus littoralis</i>	Low growing native beach lupine; light purple flowers; fuzzy leaves and stems; grows in sandy soils	upper beach
beach pea	<i>Lathyrus japonicus</i>	Often occurs with beach wild-rye; purple flowers; spreads through rhizomes; sandy sites	upper beach
silvery burweed	<i>Ambrosia chamissonis</i>	Clump or mound forming perennial; low; bisected silvery leaves; subtle flowers in late summer	upper beach
beach strawberry	<i>Rubus chiloensis</i>	Native strawberry; white flowers; spreads from runners; low groundcover	upper beach
sea-watch	<i>Angelica lucida</i>	Tall, carrot-like plant with white umbrella flowers and large seeds; common on moist beaches	upper beach
cow-parsnip	<i>Heracleum maximum</i>	Large native forb with tall, white umbrella flowers; sap causes dermatitis	backshore
Cooley's hedge-nettle	<i>Stachys cooleyae</i>	Perennial from rhizomes; purple-red flowers; moist upper beach; good for hummingbirds	backshore
common yarrow	<i>Achillea millefolium</i>	White, long-lived flower; common in beach meadows and estuaries	backshore
wooly sunflower	<i>Eriophyllum lanatum</i>	yellow, daisy-like flower with silvery foliage; drought tolerant; native to coastal bluffs and meadows	backshore