



2023 Fall Native Wildflower Sale Plant Guide

The [San Juan County Conservation Land Bank](#) hosts this yearly opportunity to buy plants native to San Juan County. Reserve your plants online September 12 - 17, and pick them up on Saturday, September 30 at designated locations on San Juan, Lopez, Orcas, Waldron, and Shaw Islands. Plants are produced by the [Salish Seeds Project](#), a joint program of the Land Bank and the [San Juan Preservation Trust](#). Plants come in plant-able, fully biodegradable CowPots. This year's sale also features some wonderful native bulbs provided by the [San Juan County Master Gardener's Foundation](#).

The online plant sale will go live at 9 am on Tuesday, September 12. To access the sale, click the **WILDFLOWER SALE** tab in the menu bar of the Land Bank's website sjclandbank.org. *Plants sell out quickly; order early for the best selection.*

If you have a question or need help, contact Tanja Williamson at 360-378-4402 or email tanjaw@sjclandbank.org.

THE PLANTS



Blue wild-rye (*Elymus glaucus*): This vigorous, tall, perennial bunchgrass grows locally in prairies and the edges of woodlands. It's deer-resistant and drought-tolerant. Plant in full sun to part-shade in well-drained soil. Flowering stalks can be 3 feet or more tall. Interplant with robust native perennials to create a tall, wild meadow or border. \$5 for a 4" pot.



Broadleaf sedum (*Sedum spathulifolium*): Broadleaf sedum thrives in the wild on rocks, very thin soils, and coastal bluffs. Gray-green succulent vegetation contrasts with bright yellow flowers in late spring. Deer-resistant and extremely drought-tolerant. Full sun to part shade. Perennial. \$4 for a 4" pot.

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California oatgrass (*Danthonia californica*): California oatgrass is a lovely addition to native meadow plantings. Low-growing bunchgrasses develop gracefully drooping flowering heads in mid-summer. California oatgrass likes well-drained soil but is adaptable to a variety of moisture conditions and is drought-tolerant and deer-resistant. Full sun is best. Perennial. **\$6 for a 4" pot.**



Canada goldenrod (*Solidago canadensis*): Spikes of rich golden blooms attract masses of bees and other insects in late summer. Canada goldenrod benefits from moist soil in spring and early summer but tolerates later summer drought. It shines in a sunny location with Douglas aster and pearly everlasting. Plants spread via underground rhizomes. 2 – 4 feet tall. Perennial – give it plenty of space! **\$5 for a 4" pot.**



Chocolate lily (*Fritillaria affinis*): This elegant lily is one of our most treasured local wildflowers. Clusters of mottled, chocolate-brown bells droop from slender stalks. Also known as rice-root, this Coast Salish food plant has edible, starchy bulbs that will multiply over time. If protected from deer (highly recommended), plants can reach 1.5 – 2 feet in height. Plant in well-drained soil in full sun to dappled shade. **\$12.50 for five bulbs.**



Coast black gooseberry (*Ribes divaricatum*): One of the first shrubs to bloom in early spring, coast black gooseberry is less popular than her showy cousin red-flowering currant but is equally valued by wildlife. Small, pendant flowers attract all manner of insects. Birds and other wildlife enjoy the dark berries that ripen in mid-summer. This thorny shrub is highly adaptable to a variety of sites in full sun to part shade. Deer resistant. Grows about 5 – 8 feet tall, depending on site conditions. **\$5 for a 1-year old potted plant.**



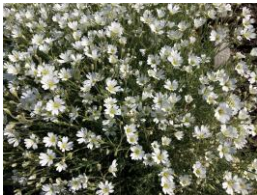
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Common camas (*Camassia quamash*): Delightful purple-blue flowers open in April, attracting a variety of bees and other pollinators. Common camas does well in sunny locations, reaching a foot or more in height. The bulbs of camas are edible and highly valued in Coast Salish culture. Choose average soil, especially sites that are moist in winter and spring but dry out well in summer. Deer protection is best. Perennial. Clumps will expand over time. **\$10 for five bulbs.**



Douglas aster (*Symphiotrichum subspicatum*): Douglas aster's cloud of pale purple blooms appears in late summer, and is very popular with bees, butterflies, and other insects. Douglas aster benefits from moist soil in spring and early summer, but it tolerates later summer drought. Give it space and a sunny location and it will grow over 2 feet tall and spread widely. Aster is a great companion for goldenrod and pearly everlasting. Perennial. **\$6 for a 4" pot.**



Field chickweed (*Cerastium arvense*): Not to be confused with the weedy garden chickweed, field chickweed forms a low, spreading mat of silvery green foliage, topped with pretty white flowers in spring. It prefers full sun and average, well-drained soil. Drought-tolerant, deer-resistant, good for rockeries. Perennial. **\$4 for a 4" pot.**



Harvest brodiaea (*Brodiaea coronaria*): With low-growing foliage much like wild onions, brodiaeas do not have any onion or garlic odor. Grows 4-10 inches tall. When the foliage dies back in June, narrowly bell-shaped violet-purple flowers appear. Does best in full sun and well-drained soils. Prefers to dry out in summer. A lovely plant for rock gardens, dry meadows, and sharply drained slopes. **\$10 for five bulbs.**



Henderson's shooting star (*Dodecatheon hendersonii*): Stunning, bright pink "stars" top this primrose relative in early spring. Basal leaf clusters die back by summer, appearing again early the next year. Plants are very low-growing and are somewhat deer-resistant. Choose a location with well-drained soil, in sun to dappled shade. **\$12.50 for five bulbs.**



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Idaho blue-eyed grass (*Sisyrinchium idahoense*): Not a grass at all but a member of the iris family, this clump-forming species has pretty blue star-like flowers in late spring. Great companion to yellow-eyed grass. Idaho blue-eyed grass prefers moist soil in spring but tolerates summer drought. Plant in full sun. Plants grow about 6 - 10 inches tall. Deer-resistant. Perennial. **\$5 for a 4" pot.**



Lance-leaf sedum (*Sedum lanceolatum*): Lance-leaf sedum is less common locally than the broadleaf species, and is found most often in coastal settings. Plant it amongst rocks or in very thin and rocky, sunny, well-drained sites. Deer-resistant and extremely drought-tolerant. Perennial. **\$4 for a 4" pot.**



Nodding onion (*Allium cernuum*): This delightful wild onion forms a tidy clump similar to chives, with graceful pink flower clusters in late spring to summer. It likes full sun and well-drained soil. Great ornamental and pollinator plant. It's also edible. Height about 1 foot. Perennial. **\$5 for a 4" pot.**



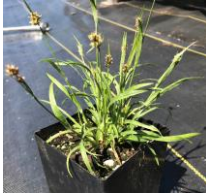
Pearly everlasting (*Anaphalis margaritaceae*): True to its name, Pearly everlasting's papery white blooms appear in late summer but last for weeks, and can be easily dried for indoor display. It enjoys full sun and some moisture early in the season, but tolerates later summer drought. Plant it with Douglas aster and Canada goldenrod for a late summer display and pollinator feast. Height about 2-3 feet. Deer-resistant. Perennial. **\$6 for a 4" pot.**



Poison larkspur, Columbia larkspur (*Delphinium trolliifolium*):

One of the tallest native Delphiniums, grows up to 5 ft, its lowermost leaves are largest. Deep blue flowers with 2 whitish upper petals bloom in mid-spring to early summer. Prefers full to part shade or dappled light and moist soil. Good in a shady woodland garden or near shaded margins of a pond or stream. *Note: This species is toxic to cattle and other livestock. Native to Washington state, but not San Juan County.* **\$12.50 for 5 bulbs.**

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Prairie woodrush (*Luzula subsessilis*): This small grass-like plant is under 1 foot tall and is a great choice for mixing with wildflowers and grasses in a meadow or prairie setting. Choose full sun to part-shade and average, well-drained soil. Deer-resistant. Perennial. **\$4 for a 4" pot.**



Puget Sound gumweed (*Grindelia integrifolia*): Common on rocky shorelines, Puget Sound gumweed will also thrive in non-coastal sunny sites with well-drained soil. 1 to 2 feet tall in bloom, it features a mounding habit and one or more flushes of bright yellow blooms in summer through early fall. Very drought-tolerant and deer-resistant. Perennial. **\$5 for a 4" pot.**



Red-flowering currant (*Ribes sanguineum*): Who doesn't love red-flowering currant? Its dangling clusters of pink to red blossoms appear in earliest spring, lifting winter's gloom. Flowers offer nectar to bees and returning hummingbirds. A variety of birds enjoy the summer berries. Choose a site with sun to partial shade and well-drained soil. Although red-flowering currant is somewhat deer-resistant, it's best to protect the plants for the first few years while they get established. **\$6 for a 1-year-old potted plant.**



Red fescue (*Festuca rubra*): A sister to Roemer's fescue below, San Juan County's native red fescue grows in coastal grasslands, but it will do quite well in most garden situations with average, well-drained soil. Interplant it with wildflowers for a native meadow. Foliage grows about 8 - 10 inches tall with much taller flowering stalks. Deer-resistant. Perennial. Red fescue is especially suitable for shoreline plantings as it can tolerate some salt-spray. **\$4 for a 4" pot.**

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Roemer's fescue (*Festuca roemerii*): This tidy, clump-forming grass is a mainstay for planting with wildflowers to create native prairies and meadows. Blueish to green foliage grows about 8 - 10 inches tall with much taller flowering stalks. Average, well-drained soil is fine for Roemer's fescue. Deer-resistant. Perennial. **\$4 for a 4" pot.**



Salmonberry (*Rubus spectabilis*): Choose salmonberry for deep soil, moist sites with sun or part shade. The flowers give a boost to early spring pollinators including hummingbirds. The colorful berries, one of our earliest to ripen, are enjoyed by wildlife and humans alike. Deer resistant. Grows 5 – 10 feet tall, depending on site conditions. **\$6 for a 1-year-old potted plant.**



Sea blush (*Plectritis congesta*): Sea blush is a lovely, easy to grow annual wildflower. Sow seed either in early fall or early spring and be rewarded with a spring display of deep pink, fragrant flowers that are attractive to pollinators. Sea blush does fine in thin, average and poor soils. Sun to part shade. Deer-resistant. Plants die back in summer but will reseed readily if bare ground is available. **\$5 for a seed packet.**



Sea thrift (*Armeria maritima*): Found in the wild on coastal bluffs and beaches, sea thrift will also do well in sunny, well-drained garden sites or rockeries with average soil. Plants form tidy mounds less than 1 foot high, with ball-headed clusters of pink flowers in spring. Various cultivars of this plant are available from nurseries; we offer the type native to the San Juan Islands. Deer-resistant and highly drought-tolerant. Perennial. **\$4 for a 4" pot.**



Seashore Lupine (*Lupinus littoralis*): Rugged, long-blooming seashore lupine grows in the wild on sandy coastal sites. It will do well inland, too, provided there's full sun and very well-drained soil. Plants are mounded and low-growing, about 1 – 1.5 feet in height, with flowers in shades of purple. Deer-resistant. Perennial. **\$6 for a 4" pot.**

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Self-heal (*Prunella vulgaris* var. *lanceolata*): Easy-to-grow self-heal attracts pollinators with spikes of purple flowers in summer. It prefers some extra spring moisture but is also tolerant of summer drought. Plant in full sun to partial shade, average soil. Plants are low-growing, about 1 – 1.5 feet in height. Deer-resistant. Perennial. **\$5 for a 4" pot.**



Perennial. **\$5 for a 4" pot.**

Showy fleabane (*Erigeron speciosus*): Charming purple aster-like flowers. This lovely plant grows in the native prairies of Whidbey Island and the Gulf Islands, so should do well in the San Juans, too (our stock was grown from Whidbey Island seed). Showy fleabane prefers sun and well-drained, average soil. 1 -2 feet tall.



Small-flowered alumroot (*Heuchera micrantha*): Dainty sprays of tiny pinkish flowers top an attractive mound of basal leaves. This wild relative of coral bells prefers sun to part shade in a well-drained, rocky setting. Perennial. **\$4 for a 4" pot.**



Western columbine (*Aquilegia formosa*): Elegant red and yellow flowers appear on western columbine in late spring, attracting both hummingbirds and bumblebees. Plant in full sun to partial shade, average soil. Plants can reach 2 - 3 feet high in bloom. Perennial. **\$6 for a 4" pot.**



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Western dog violet (*Viola adunca*): This pretty purple violet blooms in spring. Native violet leaves are the larval food plant of fritillary butterflies. Plant in full sun to partial shade, average soil. Plants are spreading and about 6 inches high. Perennial. **\$6 for a 4" pot.**



Wildflower meadow mix: This special seed mix of over 20 local, native wildflowers feeds pollinators from spring through late summer in shades of purple, pink, yellow, and white. Annuals, perennials, and grasses are included in a balanced combination. Some are deer-resistant, some are not. Be sure to sow in well-drained, bare soil – *free of other seeds as much as possible* - and a mostly sunny location. This mix should be sown in early fall. More instructions will be provided with the seed packet. **\$18 for a 100 ft² packet; \$85 for 500 ft².**



Woolly sunflower or Oregon sunshine (*Eriophyllum lanatum*): A mat-forming species with gray-green foliage, woolly sunflower makes a cheerful splash of yellow in early summer. Plants grow about 1 foot high and will spread widely if given space. Full sun, well-drained soil, this plant is a good choice for a rockery. Perennial. **\$5 for a 4" pot.**



Yarrow (*Achillea millefolium*): This cheerful, well-known wildflower is adaptable to a wide range of conditions. It has beautiful, feathery, fragrant foliage and long-lasting white flowers in summer. Drought-tolerant and deer-resistant. Perennial. **\$4 for a 4" pot.**

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Yellow-eyed Grass (*Sisyrinchium californicum*):

Yellow-eyed grass is a wonderful companion to Idaho blue-eyed grass. Bright yellow star-like flowers appear in late spring. Plants prefer full sun and moist soil in spring, but can tolerate summer drought. Plants grow up to a foot tall. Deer-resistant. Perennial. \$5 for a 4" pot.



Yellow fawn-lily (*Erythronium grandiflorum*): Solid green leaves with no mottling. Deep yellow, nodding flowers bloom in early spring to late summer. Best in full sun to part shade in well-drained soils rich in organic matter. Plant in wildflower meadows or near edges of woodland gardens. *Note: this plant is not native to the San Juan Islands, hailing from the North Cascades.* \$12.50 for five bulbs.