



# salish seeds project

## 2025 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 14 - 19, and pick them up on Saturday, October 4 at designated locations on San Juan, Lopez, and Orcas Islands. Plants are produced by the [Salish Seeds Project](#), a joint program of the Land Bank and the [San Juan Preservation Trust](#). Many of the plants come in plant-able, fully biodegradable CowPots. Other offerings include packets of Wildflower Meadow Mix, bulbs, and Pollinator Garden Kits.

The online plant sale will go live at 9 am on Sunday, September 14. To access the sale, click the **WILDFLOWER SALE** tab in the menu bar of the Land Bank's website [sjclandbank.org](http://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](mailto:tanjaw@sjclandbank.org).

## PLANTS, SEEDS, BULBS, AND POLLINATOR GARDEN KITS



**Broadleaf sedum (*Sedum spathulifolium*):** Broadleaf sedum is often found in the wild on coastal bluffs. In the garden, plant it in rock walls and paths, containers, and other locations with thin, well-drained soil. Succulent leaves shading from olive green to pink contrast with bright yellow flowers in late spring. Deer-resistant and drought-tolerant. Full sun to part shade. Perennial. **\$4 for a 4" pot.**



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**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 – give it plenty of space! 2 – 4 feet tall. Perennial. Somewhat deer resistant. **\$5 for a 4" pot.**



**Chocolate lily (*Fritillaria affinis*):** This elegant lily is one of our most treasured local wildflowers. Clusters of mottled, yellow-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 – 2 feet in height. Plant in well-drained soil in full sun to dappled shade. Perennial. **\$2.50 for 2 bulbs. Limit one order per customer, please.**



**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. Choose a sunny location and average soil, especially sites that are moist in winter and spring but dry out in summer. The bulbs of both common camas and great camas are edible and highly valued by Coast Salish peoples. Perennial; bulbs will multiply over time. **\$3 for 3 bulbs. Limit one order per customer, please.**



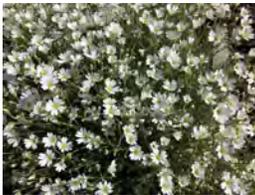
**Common red paintbrush (*Castilleja miniata*):** Native to San Juan County but far from common locally. Paintbrush is a hemiparasite - it has special roots that can attach to nearby plants, robbing their water and nutrients. Try planting paintbrush within a foot of a "host" such as yarrow, wooly sunflower, or Roemer's fescue. Grows about 1 foot tall and does best in well-drained soil in sun or dappled shade. Deer protection strongly recommended. Perennial. **\$6 for a 4" pot.**



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**Douglas aster (*Symphyotrichum 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 wide. Aster is a great companion for goldenrod and pearly everlasting. Perennial. Somewhat deer resistant. \$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.



**Great camas (*Camassia leichtlinii*):** Attractive to a variety of bees and other pollinators, the rich purple flowers of great camas open in late April, just a bit later than common camas. Choose a sunny location and average soil, especially sites that are moist in winter and spring but dry out in summer. If protected from deer, plants can grow 1.5 feet tall or more. The bulbs of both common camas and great camas are edible and highly valued by Coast Salish peoples. Perennial; bulbs will multiply over time. \$3 for 3 bulbs. Limit one order per customer, please.



**Hooker's onion (*Allium acuminatum*):** This edible wild onion prefers very thin soil and rocky sites with sparse vegetation. Growing from small round bulbs, Hooker's onion produces just a few leaves in spring, followed by bright purple-pink, loose clusters of flowers in early summer. Be sure to give it a sunny location and deer protection if possible. 6 inches tall. Bulbs multiply over time. \$10 for 25 small 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 purple 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.



**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 or more. 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.



**Puget Sound gumweed (*Grindelia integrifolia*):** Common on rocky shorelines, Puget Sound gumweed will also thrive in non-coastal sunny sites with very well-drained soil. About 1.5 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*)** Photo: Rod Gilbert.

Who doesn't love red-flowering currant? Its dangling clusters of pink to red blossoms appear in earliest spring, signaling winter's end. 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.



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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. Provides structure to your planting when nothing's in bloom. 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.**



**Sea thrift (*Armeria maritima*)** Photo: Rod Gilbert. 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 about 6 inches high, with ball-headed clusters of pink flowers in spring. Various cultivars of this plant are available from nurseries; but this one is native to the San Juan Islands. Deer-resistant and highly drought-tolerant. Perennial. **\$4 for a 4" pot.**



**Small-flowered alumroot (*Heuchera micrantha*)** Photo: Rod Gilbert. Dainty sprays of tiny pinkish flowers top an ornamental mound of basal leaves. This wild relative of coral bells prefers very well-drained soil; in the wild, it's commonly seen growing on rocky bluffs and outcrops in dappled shade. Perennial. **\$4 for a 4" pot.**



**Riverbank lupine (*Lupinus rivularis*)** Photo: Rod Gilbert. Many of you have asked for more lupines, so this year we're offering pretty riverbank lupine which hails from nearby Whidbey Island. It's recommended for sunny locations with poor, well-drained soil. 1-3 feet in height. Deer-resistant. Perennial, but may only live 2-3 years. **\$5 for a 4" pot.**



**Self-heal (*Prunella vulgaris* var. *lanceolata*):** Easy-to-grow self-heal attracts pollinators with spikes of purple flowers in summer. It prefers spring-moist sites 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.



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\$5 for a 4" pot.



**Showy fleabane (*Erigeron speciosus*):** Charming purple aster-like flowers. This lovely plant hails from the native prairies of Whidbey Island and the Gulf Islands, so should do well in the San Juans, too. Showy fleabane prefers sun and well-drained, average soil. 1 -2 feet tall. Perennial. **\$5 for a 4" pot.**



**Soopalallie (*Shepherdia canadensis*):** This attractive shrub has many fine features. Its roots fix nitrogen, making it suitable for poor soils. Many indigenous peoples value soopalallie for medicinal purposes, and the bitter berries can be whipped up to make "Indian ice-cream". Birds relish the berries, too. Plant in sun to part shade. Final height about 10 feet. Plants are either male or female (berry-producing) – sorry, we can't predict which. **\$6 for a 1-year old plant.**



**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. Somewhat deer-resistant. **\$6 for a 4" pot.**



**Western buttercup (*Ranunculus occidentalis*):** Bright yellow buttercups brighten our native woodlands, balds, and coastal grasslands every April. Deer-resistant. Well-drained soil, sun to part shade. Good companions include field chickweed, sea blush, and other low-growing flowers. Perennial. **\$5 for a 4" pot.**



**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.**



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**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. Full instructions will be provided with the seed packet. \$18 for a 100 ft<sup>2</sup> packet. Limit 2 per customer, please.



**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 rocky sites. Perennial. Deer resistant. \$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.



**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.



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## **Pollinator Garden Kit 1: Low-growing plants for dry sites. \$88 per kit. Limit 1 per customer.**

Deer-resistant and drought-tolerant plants suitable for well-drained, thin, and rocky soils.

**Sun:** Full sun

**Moisture:** medium, dry

**Height:** 4" – 18"

**Blooms:** April – July



This kit will plant 100 sq. ft. and includes 98 plugs (small plants) of Puget Sound gumweed, wooly sunflower, field chickweed, nodding onion, yarrow, Roemer's fescue, and a packet of sea blush seed. Instructions included with kit.



## **Pollinator Garden Kit 2: Medium-tall plants for sites with moderate moisture. \$95 per kit. Limit 1 per customer.**

Deer-resistant and late summer drought-tolerant, this mix appreciates somewhat deeper soil with more moisture than Kit 1.

**Sun:** Full sun

**Moisture:** medium. Spring moist, summer dry.

**Height:** 12" – 48"

**Blooms:** May - August



This kit will plant 100 sq. ft. and includes 98 plugs (small plants) of self-heal, Douglas aster, Canada goldenrod, pearly everlasting, yarrow, Roemer's fescue, and a packet of farewell-to-spring seed. Instructions included with kit.