

English Ivy (*Hedera Helix*)



Where did it come from? Europe and Asia.

Habitat: Forest edges, coastal areas, salt marsh edges, and other upland areas.

Description: Evergreen vine that can trail along the ground or grow vertically up trees, fences, walls and hillsides and is often found in yards, forests, and parks. Leaf shape and size varies. Shiny, lobed leaves grow in dense clusters and produce umbrella-like groups of small yellow-green flowers in the fall, followed by dark purple-black berries in the late winter or early spring.

Did you know? When English ivy is allowed to grow up tree trunks it can increase the risk of the trees being blown over in windstorms because of its large mass and “sail effect” of the vines in the canopy.

Himalayan Blackberry (*Rubus Armeniacus*)



Where did it come from? Europe and Asia.

Habitat: Disturbed moist areas such as roadsides and fencerows; needs sunlight

Description: Blackberry bushes can reach up to 15 feet tall with large round leaves in groups on thorn-covered stems. Black, edible berries are produced and ripen in midsummer. Flowers are small, white to pinkish with five petals.

Did you know? Invasive blackberry bushes out-compete native understory vegetation and prevent the establishment of native trees that require sun for germination such as Pacific Madrona, Douglas Fir and Western White Pine.

Dandelion (*Taraxacum Officinale*)



Where did it come from? Eurasia.

Habitat: Lawns, roadsides, sidewalks, degraded meadows, rocky hillsides, and forest openings.

Description: Herb with hollow, leafless stem, 5-5 cm tall; thin, deep green, coarsely toothed, clustered leaves growing from plant base in spreading rosette; long, thick taproot; each stem has a single flower head or seed head. Dandelions blossom in early spring through summer; flowers are bright yellow and seed heads are white.

Did you know? Dandelion leaves are edible for humans, they are a good source of potassium, vitamin A, vitamin C, and actually have more beta-carotene than carrots.

Poison Hemlock (*Conium Maculatum*)



Where did it come from? Europe and the Mediterranean

Habitat: Roadsides, fields, riparian forests, and ditch banks.

Description: 5–8 feet tall, with a smooth green stem, usually spotted or streaked with red or purple on the lower half of the stem. The leaves are finely divided and lacy, triangular in shape, up to 20 inches long and 16 inches wide. The flowers are small, white, and clustered. When crushed, the leaves and root emit an unpleasant odor often compared to that of parsnips.

Did you know? Poison hemlock is unrelated to the native hemlock tree and is acutely toxic to people and animals, with symptoms appearing 20 minutes to three hours after ingestion. In ancient Greece, hemlock was used to poison condemned prisoners; the most famous victim of hemlock poisoning is the philosopher Socrates.

Bittersweet nightshade (*Solanum dulcamara*):



Where did it come from? Europe and Asia.

Habitat: Woodlands, wetlands, and marshes.

Description: Vine or sprawling shrub with leaves that are dark-green to purplish, leaf blades are 1 to 4 inches long. Flowers are purple, star-shaped, and grow in clusters along branches on short stalks. Berries are round or egg-shaped and bright red when ripe with numerous yellow, flattened seeds; unripe berries are green.

Did you know? This plant is somewhat poisonous and has caused loss of livestock and pet poisoning and, rarely, sickness in humans. Fortunately, bittersweet nightshade has a strong, unpleasant odor, so most animals will avoid it, and poisonings from this plant are not very frequent.

English Holly (*Ilex Aquifolium*):



Where did it come from? Europe.

Habitat: Understory of cool, wet forests.

Description: Holly shrubs are large, slow growing and can reach heights of 15-50 feet. Their leaves are long and waxy and have sharp wavy points. Originally, it was grown commercially in the Pacific Northwest and commonly used in decorations and floral arrangements as well as in landscapes.

Did you know? Studies have found that extracts from the roots and bark of English Holly contain chemicals that look promising for the treatment of skin cancers and for strengthening the immunological effects of vaccines.

Tall Buttercup (*Ranunculus Acris*)



Where did it come from? Central and northern Europe.

Habitat: Pastures and open fields and occasionally is seen in coastal areas and forests.

Description: Tall buttercup is an upright, perennial broadleaf plant that grows from a cluster of fibrous roots. Stems are 1 to 3 feet tall, hairy, hollow, leafy below and branched above. Each root crown typically has several stems in a cluster. Flowers have 5 to 7 glossy yellow petals, are about 1 inch wide, and grow on long stalks.

Did you know? Tall Buttercup spreads only by seeds dispersed by wind, birds, farm animals, small rodents, clothes and tires.

Common Tansy (*Tanacetum vulgare*)



Where did it come from? Asia and Europe

Habitat: along roadsides, stream banks and in pastures.

Description: Tansy can grow from 1 to 5 feet tall. It has fern-like dark green foliage around the stem with many small button-like flowers on top.

Did you know? Tansy has a long history of uses. It has been used for insect repellent, organic insecticide, and even medicinally for treating fevers and jaundice.

Morning Glory (*Convolvulus arvensis*)



Where did it come from?

Habitat: ravines, greenbelts, forested parks, farmlands, and residential areas. It can be found in either shade or sun and is highly drought-tolerant.

Description: Deep rooted vine that grows along the ground and climbs aggressively. It has smooth arrowhead-shaped leaves and pink to white trumpet-shaped flowers.

Did you know? Most morning glory flowers unravel into full bloom in the early morning.

Horsetail (*Equisetum*)



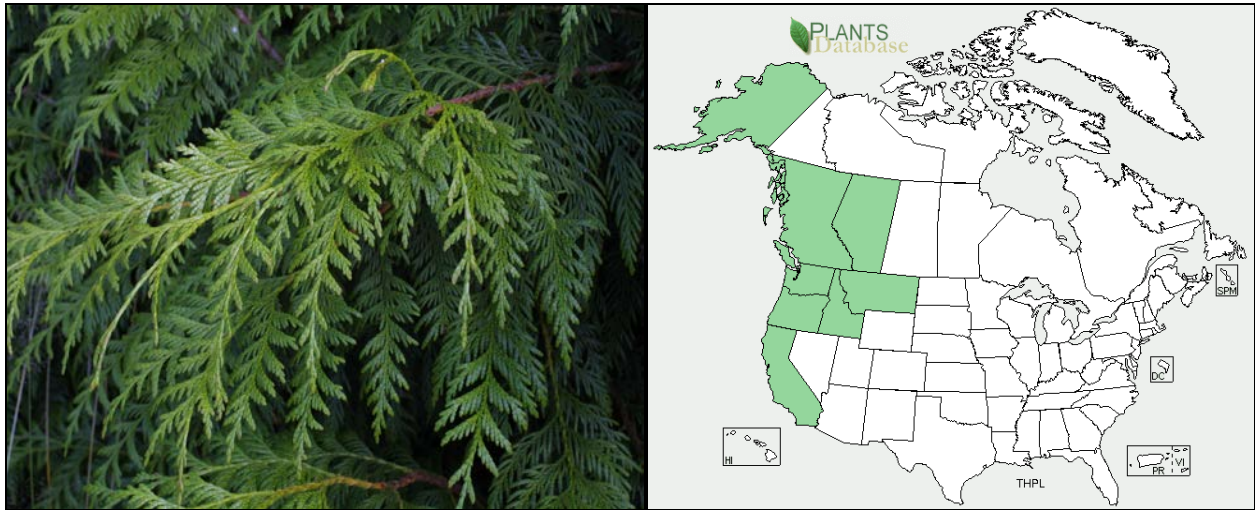
Where did it come from? Europe, Western Asia, and Northern Africa

Habitat: Damp shady places.

Description: Large green stem with lots of thin branches extended out from the stem. Horsetail has no true leaves. It can grow to be 6 inches to several feet tall. Horsetail resembles a small Christmas tree or a bottle brush.

Did you know? Horsetail has been around for over one hundred million years. Back when the dinosaurs were alive, horsetail trees could reach up to 30 meters tall!

Western Red Cedar (*Thuja plicata*)

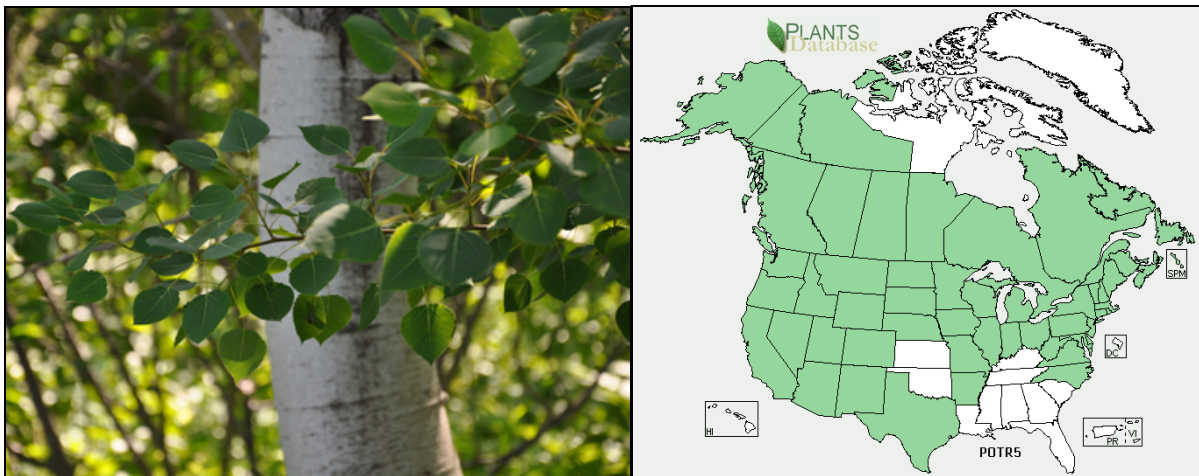


Habitat: Moist, partially shaded areas.

Description: Red-brown thick bark with many vertical “tears” in it. Leaves are scale-like and arranged on twigs in flat, fan-like sprays.

Did you know: Western Red Cedars live to be hundreds of years old and can grow to be over 200 feet tall. Their trunks are so big and cavities in them are often used by raccoons, skunks, and bears for their dens.

Quaking Aspen (*Populus tremuloides*)



Habitat: Damp sunny places.

Description: Light grey smooth bark. Lots of small oval to round leaves alternate on the slender grey to brown branches. Leaves are dark green on the surface and pale green on the underside.

Did you know: Quaking aspens grow quickly and reach an average height of 60 feet tall. Butterflies and birds often like to make homes in these trees.

Douglas Fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*)

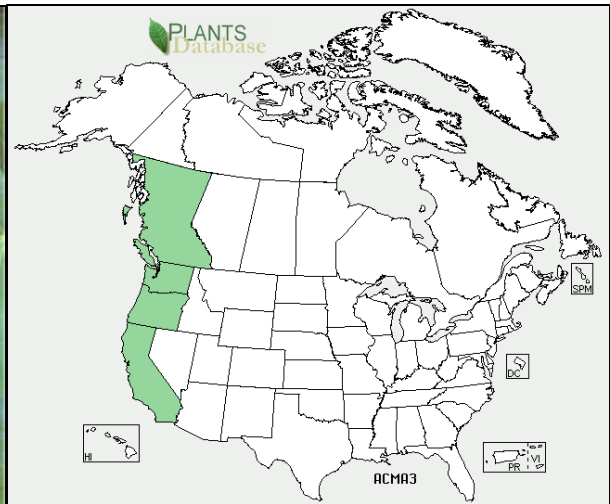


Habitat: Moist sunny or partially shaded areas.

Description: Bark is generally coarse and scaly with a reddish-brown color. 1 inch needles are green, flat, linear, soft, and encircle the branches. The pine cones are 3-4 inches long, hang down, and have pitchfork-shaped bracts on them.

Did you know: A mature Douglas-fir will grow to be 250 feet tall. Animals such as squirrels, shipmunks, mice, and birds will live in these trees and eat Douglas-fir seeds.

Big leaf maple (*Acer macrophyllum*)

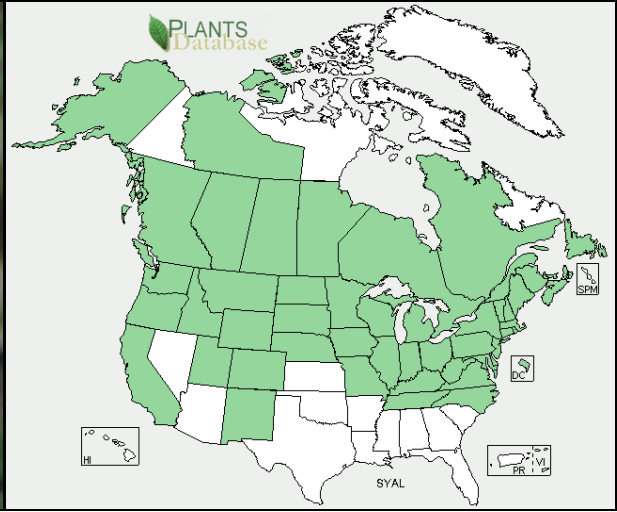


Habitat: Moist soils usually near water sources.

Description: Grey-brown shallow grooved bark. Leaves have 5 lobes and can be 5 to 12 inches in diameter. Leaves are green in the spring and summer and change colors in the fall.

Did you know: Big leaf maples grow up to 100 feet tall. Squirrels and mice like to eat the seeds of these trees, while deer and elk enjoy eating the twigs. Big leaf maples aren't used to make maple syrup, that's actually a different type of maple called the sugar maple.

Snowberry (*Symphoricarpos albus*)



Habitat: Open, sunny areas in both moist and dry places.

Description: This shrub often forms thickets 1-3 feet tall. It has many slender reddish-brown branches with oval green leaves coming off it. It is usually identified by its small clusters of white berries.

Did you know: Don't eat the snowberries' berries! They make humans sick. However, the barriers and leaves are an important food source for birds, rabbits, deer, mice, dears, and elk.

Salal (*Gaultheria Shallon*):

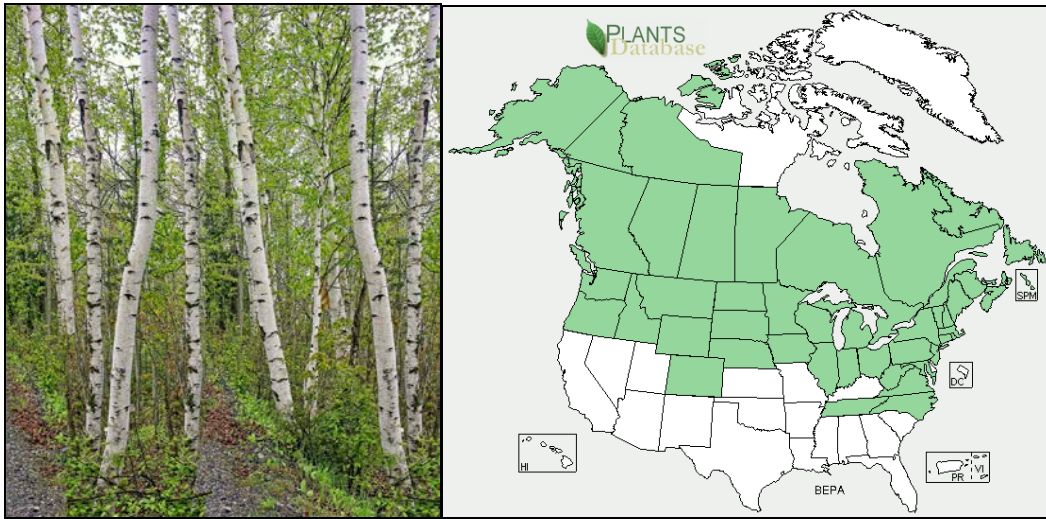


Habitat: Salal is a highly adaptive plant, growing anywhere from deep understory forest groves with moist soils to full sun and dry soils.

Description: This compact, bushy shrub has red shoots and pointed, glossy dark green leaves. White flowers tinged with pink appear in late spring maturing into purple berries by summer.

Did you know? The average height of Salal is 5 feet. Many Northwest homeowners use Salal as a decorative plant. It can be an excellent alternative to using invasive plants like English Ivy for landscaping.

Paper Birch (*Betula Papyrifera*):

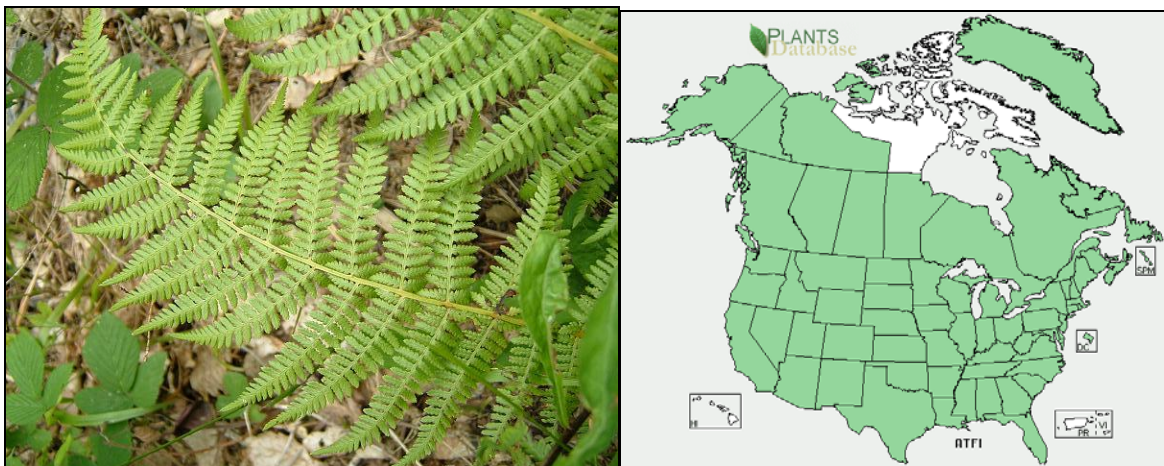


Habitat: Paper Birch is a common native tree to northern North America. It is highly sensitive to drought and requires full light to thrive.

Description: Paper Birch trees are known for their distinctive paper-like white bark. They can grow up to 60 feet tall and are used commonly as a landscaping tree.

Did you know? The sap of a Paper Birch has many medicinal uses. It is effective in treating, colds, coughs, burn wounds and even has been used in cancer research.

Lady Fern (*Athyrium Filix-Femina*):

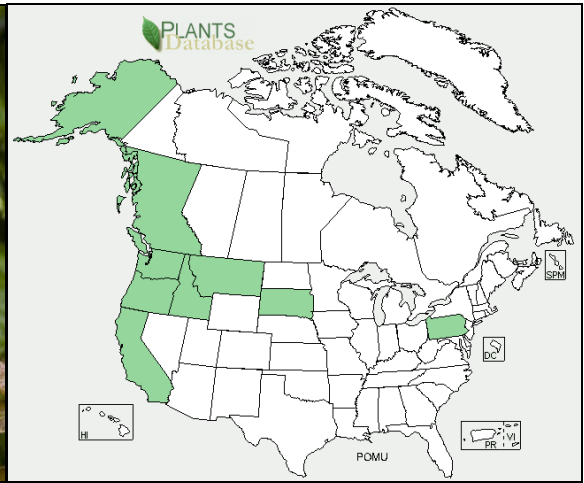


Habitat: Lady Ferns can be found growing in meadows, moist woods and along stream beds. They typically prefer wet, shaded climates.

Description: This perennial fern is about 24 to 36 inches tall. Its feather-like leaves can grow up to 30 inches long. The Lady Fern is a great source of food for bears and other Northwest Animals.

Did you Know? The juices of fern leaves can be used to cure the burning sensation that comes from touching nettles.

Sword Fern (*Polystichum Munitum*)

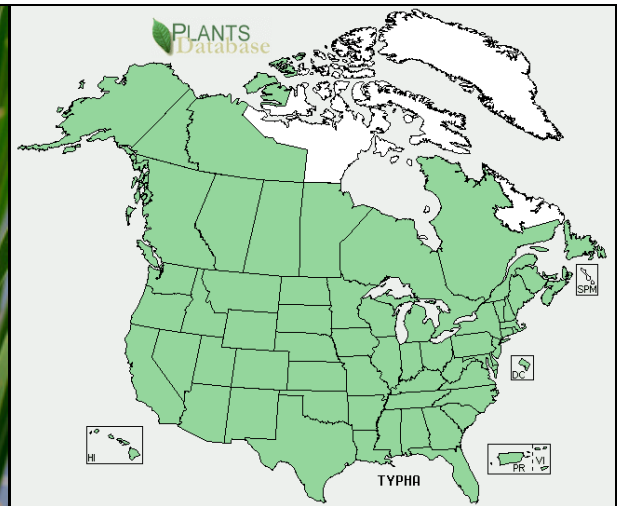


Habitat: Sword Fern can adapt for almost any site condition. It grows best in organic soils but can stand the most acidic conditions found under cedar and redwoods.

Description: Sword ferns have long, dark green fronds. These plants can grow up to 4 feet tall and more than 7 feet wide. Individual fronds usually average between 4 and 5 feet long.

Did You Know? Sword Fern fronds were used to relieve tonsillitis and sore throats and to assist in childbirth.

Cattail (*Typha Angustifolia*)



Habitat: Cattails prefer shallow, flooded conditions and easily get established along a pond shoreline or in wet, marshy areas.

Description: This grass-like plant is made up of many narrow tall leaves and a single stalk. Each stalk forms the familiar cylindrical pod of fuzzy brown seeds from which the plant gets its name.

Did You Know? Dense common cattail thickets are popular nesting areas for waterfowl, and provide protected pockets in which salamanders, frogs, and fish choose to lay their eggs.