

# **WATERSHED WISE**

## **Mason Conservation District**

### **2022 Special Plant Sale Issue**



### **Providing Habitat for Pollinators this Winter**

Mason Conservation District staff partnered with local farms and community gardens in Mason County to construct an over-winter nesting habitat for native pollinators. Donated old-growth driftwood from Lake Cushman served as the main feature and provided a source of woody debris in various states of decay, which provides prime nest sites for wood-boring pollinators. Native perennial bunch grasses, shrubs, and trees were also planted. Many of our local pollinators find winter homes in hollow stems and leaf litter left on the ground. Rock and brush piles at the site provide additional nesting sites for often overlooked pollinators like beetles! The oyster shell, donated by Hama Hama Oysters, highlights one of Mason County's main industries and catches the morning dew, and provides a water source where pollinators can hydrate safely from drowning. It is estimated that the services that native pollinators provide has an economic value of 3 billion dollars per year. Pollinators are a keystone species and their services will not be replaced if they die off, making habitat projects like this crucial to conservation efforts. Contact Mason CD to learn more about what you can do for our local pollinators and for simple practices you can do around your yard and garden to promote habitat.



# Community Events From This Fall

Our 2022 Orca Recovery Day events were a great success! Orca Recovery Day is a Puget Sound wide event focusing on restoring habitat that will reduce pollution that could threaten our Orca populations. Orcas rely heavily on Chinook Salmon their main food source to survive. Due to pollution, climate change, and habitat loss, salmon have had a harder time returning to their spawning grounds. Less salmon means Orcas will have a harder time surviving, if we want to save our Orca we need to start with our salmon. There are many actions you can take to help our salmon have a more successful spawning season.



Such as planting native plants to help filter out pollutants, volunteering at an Orca Recovery Day event next year, or making the switch to non-toxic yard products and household cleaners. This year we had two events one Klingel-Bryan-Beard Refuge and the other at the Salmon Center in Belfair. Together with wonderful volunteers, we were able to do significant scotch broom and invasive blackberry removal and replanting of the area with native plants. Our partners, who made this event possible, were Greater Peninsula Conservancy, and the Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group.



In October, we planted camas bulbs at the Shelton Family YMCA. Students from Cedar High School were able to plant 1,000 bulbs throughout the stormwater pond next to the parking lot. This has been part of an ongoing project, thanks to our partners Cedar High School and the YMCA. Camas plants are a traditional food source and a delicacy they have been used for generations by local tribes. The roots can be cooked down to make sugars or ground and mixed with water to make a batter that can be cooked like pancakes.

Our AmeriCorps member, Grady Graham, is largely involved in these projects.

## Plant Sale Presentations:

### **Let The Rain Soak In: Building a Rain Garden**

**Date:** December 13, 2022

**Time:** 5:30 - 7:30 PM

**Location:** Shelton Civic Center

525 W Cota St, Shelton WA 98584

**Cost:** Free

### **Your Backyard Bounty & Native Plants**

**Date:** January 5th, 2022

**Time:** 6:00 - 7:00 PM

**Location:** North Mason Timberland Library

23081 NE State Route, Belfair, WA, 98528

**Cost:** Free

If you would like to attend this event please pre-register by contacting Grady Graham at [mcdamericorps@masoncd.org](mailto:mcdamericorps@masoncd.org) or (360) 427-9436 extension 103



# Stormwater Management



Image Credit: NRCS

## What is Stormwater?

Stormwater is rainwater or melted snow that runs off streets, yards, and other locations. Usually occurring after a heavy rain or snow event. When Stormwater is absorbed by the soil it can replenish aquifers, if it is not absorbed it will runoff into streams or rivers. Stormwater can pick up a lot of pollutants as it runs off toward our streams and rivers bringing potentially toxic chemicals into our freshwater ecosystems that can have devastating effects on wildlife. Leaks from your cars may not seem significant, however, the oil from a single oil change can pollute up to one million gallons of freshwater. Proper maintenance on your vehicles can help prevent pollution on our roadways from ending up in our streams and rivers.

## How can we reduce Stormwater and filter out pollutants?

Many ways to help reduce stormwater pollution include picking up pet waste, covering bare soil with vegetation, or creating a rain garden. Rain Gardens are a great, low-maintenance addition to your landscape. They can be shaped and sized to fit your yard, provide habitat for local wildlife and pollinators, recharge groundwater, and assist with drainage issues you may experience on your property. Let's take a look at some of the plants that thrive in rain gardens:



Red Flowering Currant



Pacific Ninebark



Evergreen Huckleberry

Red Flowering Currant is part of our Natural Yard Care Package at our Native Plant Sale this year. The plants in this package are especially suited to rain gardens because they can thrive in smaller places and do an excellent job stabilizing soil preventing erosion, they also attract native pollinators including butterflies and hummingbirds, while bringing striking colors to your garden.

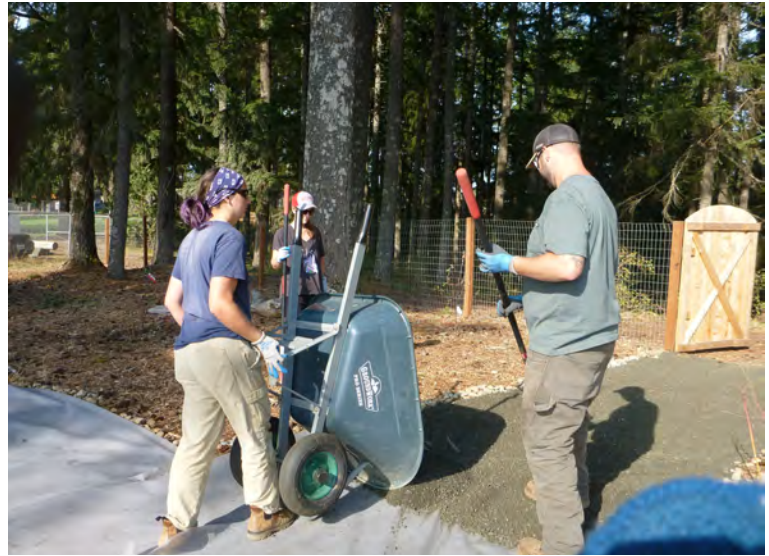
For More Stormwater Solutions Visit: [www.masoncd.org/stormwaterrunoff.html](http://www.masoncd.org/stormwaterrunoff.html)



# Community Gardening at Callanan Park

Last year we helped build a community garden at Callanan Park with partners HOPE Garden Project and the City of Shelton. The main goal of this garden is to increase food security and provide gardeners with the tools and information they need to get started. The success of this project is reliant on community participation as the mission is to increase the number of community members that have access to healthy fresh food. With our partners, we have been spreading educational materials about healthy soil, watering techniques, seed selection, cover cropping, and preparing beds to get the garden ready for winter. The nitrogen-fixing cover crops we provided will increase the health of the soil in the garden ensuring a better harvest next year. In the spring we will be focusing on increasing the efficiency of our composting so we can provide gardeners with nutrient-rich amendments to improve the health of the soil, retain water, and support microorganisms.

There are 12 open garden beds available to the community. Apply today! You can find applications at the garden or you can apply at [masoncd.org/callanan-community-garden](http://masoncd.org/callanan-community-garden)



## Story of Service

Our AmeriCorps member Grady Graham is entering the 3rd month of his service term. Some of the highlights he has had so far are working with Cedar High School to help get their Envirothon team ready for their spring competition, and helping coordinate our Farm Tour Workshop. He has also volunteered with community partners Kennedy Creek Salmon Trail as a Salmon Docent, HCSEG, and the Puget Sound Estuarium. He is most looking forward to our outdoor learning programs in the Spring. Contact Grady about workshops, volunteer opportunities or our upcoming native plant sale at [mcdamericorps@masoncd.org](mailto:mcdamericorps@masoncd.org) or 360-427-9436 ext. 103

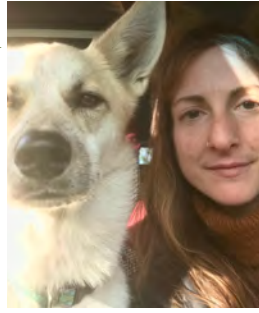




# Getting to Know our Newest Staff



**Macy Carlsgaard**  
**Habitat Restoration Technician**  
Macy is a Forestry and Natural Resources graduate from College of the Redwoods. She works on the field crew and enjoys spending time outdoors, cooking, or hanging out with her cat.



**Ash Ross**  
**Habitat Restoration Technician**  
She fell in love with Washington while walking through the state from east to west. Passing by the site of the Glines Canyon dam deconstruction on the Elwha really lit a spark for her interest in watershed restoration. Now she's happy to get her feet wet in this field and excited to see where the path leads!



**Ryan Connolly**  
**Habitat Restoration Technician**  
Ryan graduated from Evergreen State College in 2016. He enjoys hiking, backpacking, playing and listening to music, and spending time with his cat Susu.



**Kat Rodgers**  
**Habitat Restoration Technician**  
Kat graduated from Bridgewater College in Virginia. She enjoys hiking, and spending time with her dog Arlo.

## Days On the Farm

In October we hosted a farm tour workshop with partners Gallagher Fence and NRCS. Highlighting sustainable agricultural practices, NRCS programs, and Best Management Practices (BMPs) provided by Mason Conservation District. Participants learned about the variety of BMPs MCD can provide such as Heavy Use Areas, Cross and Exclusion fencing, Silvopasture, and CREP. Special thanks to NRSC's Rebecca Anderson and Gallagher Fence's Liam Shaw.

CREP is an FSA program that pays landowners yearly rent for maintaining a Riparian Buffer on their property. Restoration costs are also covered up to 75 percent. This program can benefit water quality greatly by filtering out pollutants that could otherwise runoff into streams and rivers. If you are interested in participating or want more information contact our Farm Planner Nick Schneider today at [nschneider@masoncd.org](mailto:nschneider@masoncd.org) or at 360-427-9436 ext. 111



# MASON CONSERVATION DISTRICT PLANT SALE

## Order Online at [www.masoncd.org](http://www.masoncd.org)

Number of Bundles	Plant Species	Plant Size	Price Per Bundle	Amount
	<b>Evergreen Tree</b>			
	Douglas-fir	12" Bare Root	5 Trees for \$7.60	
	Grand Fir	12" Bare Root	5 Trees for \$7.60	
	Incense Cedar	12" Bare Root	5 Trees for \$7.60	
	Ponderosa Pine	12" Bare Root	5 Trees for \$7.60	
	Port Orford Cedar	12" Bare Root	5 Trees for \$7.60	
	Western Redcedar	12" Bare Root	5 Trees for \$9.55	
	<b>Deciduous Tree</b>			
	Big Leaf Maple	18" Bare Root	5 Trees for 13.90	
	Oregon White Oak	12" Bare Root	5 Trees for \$14.00	
	Pacific Dogwood	12-18" Bare Root	5 Trees for \$13.90	
	<b>Shrub &amp; Herbaceous Perennials</b>			
	Evergreen Huckleberry	Plug	5 Plugs for \$35.60	
	Kinnikinnick	Plug	5 Plugs for \$20.30	
	Maidenhair Fern	Plug	5 Plugs for \$20.30	
	Mock Orange	12" Bare Root	5 Shrubs for \$14.55	
	Nootka Rose	12" Bare Root	5 Shrubs for \$12.90	
	Oval Leaved Viburnum	12" Bare Root	5 Shrubs for \$24.40	
	Pacific Ninebark	12" Bare Root	5 Shrubs for \$12.90	
	Red Flowering Currant	12" Bare Root	5 Shrubs for \$27.15	
	Rhododendron	Plug	5 Plugs for \$26.90	
	Serviceberry	12" Bare Root	5 Shrubs for \$12.90	
	Shrubby Cinquefoil	12" Bare Root	5 Shrubs for \$17.60	
	Snowberry	12" Bare Root	5 Shrubs for \$13.25	
	Vine Maple	12" Bare Root	5 Shrubs for \$12.90	
	Western Honey Suckle	Plug	5 Plugs for \$20.30	
<b>Number of Packages</b>	<b>Grouped Plants</b>		<b>Price Per Package:</b>	
	Natural Yard Care Package		\$37.55	
		TOTAL		

Plants are sold on a first-come, first-serve basis. Quantities are limited and some species always sell out so please order early. Several species of native plants not listed are available for special order. Call for availability and pricing. You can use the above table to plan out your order before going on-line to: [www.masoncd.org](http://www.masoncd.org)









































































































**Pick up** your order Friday, February 24th, between 10 AM & 5 PM or Saturday, February 25th between 10 AM & 2 PM at the Mason Conservation District office at **450 W Business Park Road, Shelton, WA 98584**. If you have any questions please call (360) 427-9436, Ext. 113.

### Mail in Orders

If you would like to order through the mail, please contact Jen Thurman-Williams at 360-427-9436, ext. 113 to receive a paper copy order form.





COMMON NAME GENUS SPECIES	HEIGHT	CLASSIFICATIONS	Habitat and Growth Characteristics. Typical Uses and Description.
<b>EVERGREEN TREES</b>			
Douglas-fir <i>Pseudotsuga menziesii</i>	250'	  	Important food source for chickadees, finches, and Douglas squirrel. Grows best in full sun to part shade on well-drained soil.
Grand Fir <i>Abies grandis</i>	250'	  	Glossy, dark green to bright green needles. Grows in dry to moist conditions and is a shade tolerant species.
Incense Cedar <i>Calocedrus decurrens</i>	100'	  	Dense fan-like foliage, reddish bark and pleasant odor. Grows best in moist, well-drained, soil but will tolerate hot, dry sites. Prefers full sun to light shade.
Ponderosa Pine <i>Pinus ponderosa</i>	150'	 	Needles are in bundles of three, forming tufts at the end of each branch. Prefers deep, well-drained, soil and is resistant to drought once established.
Port Orford Cedar <i>Chamaecyparis lawsoniana</i>	200'	  	Flat sprays of feathery foliage that is often blue-green in color. Full sun to full shade. Easily grown in average, moist but well-drained soils.
Western Redcedar <i>Thuja plicata</i>	150'	  	Lustrous dark green foliage. May be planted under existing canopies on moist sites. Vigorous growing, ornamental tree.
<b>DECIDUOUS TREES</b>			
Big Leaf Maple <i>Acer macrophyllum</i>	100'	  	Bright yellow fall color. Fast growing shade tree that grows well in dry to moist sites.
Oregon White Oak <i>Quercus garryana</i>	75'	  	Dry to moist, well-drained, gravelly soils. Full sun to partial shade. Once established, it provides good habitat for many species of birds and mammals.
Pacific Dogwood <i>Cornus nuttalli</i>	60'	   	Best adapted for growing on sites with moist, well-drained soils, and areas that range from sunny to shady. Large white flowers, with berries for wildlife.
<b>SHRUBS &amp; HERBACEOUS PERENNIALS</b>			
Evergreen Huckleberry <i>Vaccinium ovatum</i>	6-8'	   	Ornamental shrub with pink, bell-shaped flowers and blue edible berries. Excellent erosion control capabilities. Plant in partial shade.
Kinnikinnick <i>Arctostaphylos uva-ursi</i>	1'	   	Evergreen leaves with pinkish flowers and bright red fall berries. Grows in sandy soil in filtered shade to full sun.
Maidenhair Fern <i>Adiantum aleuticum</i>	1-3'	  	Grows well in shady, moist, humid forests, or on rocks and cliffs, often within the spray zone of waterfalls. Has delicate airy fronds that look like fingers.
Mock Orange <i>Philadelphus lewisii</i>	8-12'	  	Fragrant, white 2" flowers. Arching green branches, which retain foliage. Highly adaptable, grows in most locations.
Nootka Rose <i>Rosa nutkana</i>	3-8'	    	Clusters of large 2" pink flowers & red fruit. Grows well in most areas. Good for erosion control & wildlife habitat.
Oval Leaved Viburnum <i>Viburnum ellipticum</i>	6-10'	   	Attractive clusters of small white flowers appear in mid-spring, providing nectar to butterflies and bees. Attractive fall color. Prefers dry sunny sites.
Pacific Ninebark <i>Physocarpus capitatus</i>	10-15'	   	Arching branches hold small white flower clusters. Prefers wet, somewhat open sites.
Pacific Rhododendron <i>Rhododendron macrophyllum</i>	12'	   	Large bell shaped flowers bloom on this evergreen native in late spring. Grows in moist to dry openings or on forest margins.
Red Flowering Currant <i>Ribes sanguineum</i>	3-10'	   	Hummingbirds are attracted to the pale pink to red flowers blooming March - June. Grows in clearings and open forest areas that remain dry.
Serviceberry <i>Amelanchier alnifolia</i>	5-10'	    	Large, showy white flower clusters adorn this multi-stemmed shrub. The dark purple berries are commercially harvested for syrup.
Shrubby Cinquefoil <i>Dasiphora fruticosa</i>	2-4'	   	Shrub with large masses of yellow flowers. Best in full sun or part shade, in well drained soils. Tolerates drought, salt, poor soils, and is deer resistant.
Snowberry <i>Symphoricarpos albus</i>	5-10'	   	Bright white berries are ornamental after the leaves drop. Good in partial shade and moist locations. Excellent for erosion control. Drought tolerant.
Vine Maple <i>Acer circinatum</i>	15-25'	  	Grows in full sun to shady areas on dry to moist sites. Provides good forage for wildlife and attracts butterflies. Great fall color.
Western Honeysuckle <i>Lonicera ciliosa</i>	35'	   	Evergreen flowering vine. Blooms in late spring with orange sweet smelling flowers. Attract Hummingbirds and bees. Plant in partial to full sun.
<b>Number of Packages</b>			
Natural Yard Care Package (Three of each species will be included in the Natural Yard Care Package for a total of 15 plants)			See above for Red Flowering Currant.
• Low Oregon Grape	3'	    	Low Oregon Grape - <i>Mahonia nervosa</i> Slow spreading evergreen shrub with dark green holly-like leaves, yellow flowers and edible berries. Prefers part shade and sun in well-drained soils
• Narrow Leaved Cone Flower	2'	   	Narrow Leaved Cone Flower- <i>Echinacea angustifolia</i> Perennial flowering plant. Single flower per stem, have pinkish, lavender rays drooping from a dark spiny, cone shaped center.
• Nodding Onion	2'	    	Nodding Onion - <i>Allium cernuum</i> Soft grass-like leaves rise from a bulb. The stem bends so that the pink flowers, which appear in a cluster. Attracts hummingbirds and butterflies.
• Red Flowering Currant	10'	   	Thin Leaf Huckleberry - <i>Vaccinium membranaceum</i> Deciduous shrub with striking purple flowers that bloom in late spring. Moderately fast growing and long lived. Grows well in higher elevations in wet soil and full sun.
• Thin Leaf Huckleberry	5'	   	

LEGEND:

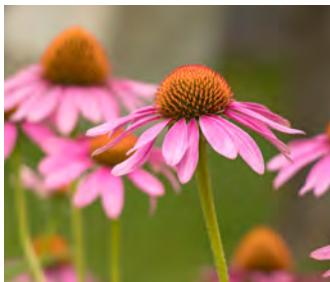


### Plant Sale Reminders:

Plants are sold in bundles of FIVE except for the Natural Yard Care Package.

Online ordering opens December 1st until sold out. View, Order, and Pay for plants **online** using your credit card through our website at [www.masoncd.org](http://www.masoncd.org).

**Pick Up:** Friday, February 24th from 10am to 5pm and Saturday, February 25th from 10am to 2pm at the District office. For questions about the native plant sale please call Jen at (360) 427-9436 ext. 113 or [jentw@masoncd.org](mailto:jentw@masoncd.org).



## Natural Yard Care Package

The Natural Yard Care Package includes 15 Native Plants. 3 of each; Low Oregon Grape, Red Flowering Currant, Thin Leaf Huckleberry, Nodding Onion, and Narrow Leafed Cone Flower. These plants were picked because they excel at attracting pollinators, and thrive in urban gardens and rain gardens while bringing vibrant striking colors to your garden. This package is part of our effort to increase the use of native plants in landscaping, as native plants are better for native birds and pollinators. These plants are also better suited for our soils and will require less maintenance than other non-native species. Making small changes to your landscape to include native plants can have drastic benefits for our native pollinators, as native plants are up to 4 times more attractive to pollinators than non-native plants. Find resources for your landscaping plan at

[www.masoncd.org/conservationlandscaping.html](http://www.masoncd.org/conservationlandscaping.html)