

WATERSHED WISE

MASON CONSERVATION DISTRICT

2018 Special Plant Sale Issue



Engineering for Success

The Engineering Department for the Mason Conservation District is an eclectic group of individuals with a vast array of background experiences and knowledge that allows us to operate in a completely collaborative environment to strive for a common goal. We take extreme pride in providing the best possible solution for a wide variety of situations from field to stream and all points in between including bridges, compost structures, salt and fresh water bulkhead alternatives and drainage improvements. We approach each project with a personal focus, and work with diligence and care as if it were our own. From first contact, to field work, to the in-office design, contracting and permitting, the team applies our talents and skills to create a project that will not only meet the needs of the issues in question, but increase the life quality of people and wildlife. The Engineering teams' unique blend of creativity, and complete project involvement, allows us to present each project with a sense of pride and accomplishment.

Volunteer Opportunities

The **28th Annual Native Plant Sale** is underway and MCD is looking for hearty volunteers to help sort, pack, and distribute plants. With nearly 9000 plants to organize, volunteers are encouraged to dress for cold weather for this semi-outdoor event. Plant sorting and packing will take place on Thursday, February 22rd, and distribution will be on Friday and Saturday, the 23th and 24th.

January 2018, we will begin work on an AmeriCorps **service project** in collaboration with the Skokomish Tribe at the **Skokomish Estuary**. We will be removing invasive species such as scotch broom and English ivy. This is an especially exciting volunteer opportunity as the estuary is private land. Our first projected service day is **Friday, January 19, 2018 9AM-12PM**. Don't miss your chance to help restore this beautiful land!

May 2018 is a month of **field experiences** for the students of Mason County. K, 2nd, 3rd, and 5th grade trips are already planned for exciting locations such as Twanoh State Park, Little Skookum Shellfish, Mason Lake, and more! Volunteering a day (or more) of your time would help to make these field experiences memorable for a lifetime. Come share your knowledge of forest plants, birds, marine life or simply enjoy discovering the wonders of the outdoors yourself as you guide a great group of students!

If you are interested in any of these or other volunteer opportunities, please contact **Brianna Widner**, AmeriCorps Education and Outreach Coordinator, at **bosinski@masoncd.org** or **360-427-9436 ext. 103**.



Winter Chores on the Farm

It seems like finally we're done for the year, the days are short, the rains have begun, soils are too saturated for digging and building. And yes, while some rest is a well deserved and a good thing, there are still chores to be done!

Things that can still be done this winter:

- **Check, clean, repair, replace, or install gutters and downspouts.**

Right! And don't forget to attach drainpipes to direct all that clean water away from your buildings!

- **Take your animals off pasture and put them in a Heavy Use Area or sacrifice paddock.**

Hopefully you did this before the rains began, if not, you see now why it is a good idea. Animals don't really want to wander far from shelter in bad weather so it's not a hardship for them, and keeping them off pasture will help protect the soil, prevent ponding and contaminated runoff, and improve animal health.

- **If you have a structure with a concrete floor and solid roof, make some compost!**

Manure is available for free through the manure exchange program, as is lots of information on how to turn it and other yard waste into a rich soil amendment that can be used in your garden or around other plantings in the spring. Keeping the manure out of the rain through the winter is essential to protect water quality, but if you have the structure, you're in luck!

- **Calculate a nutrient balance.**

A what? Calculations can be done to determine if your soils need more nutrients, if you're generating enough nutrients on-farm, or if you have excess that need to be exported. These figures will help both ensure productive growth of pasture or produce come spring and prevent water contamination. Contact us to find out more.

- **Think beyond the field edge.**

The planting of hedgerows and riparian buffers provide all sorts of benefits – privacy, windbreaks, filtration, pollinator and wildlife habitat, water quality protection, and beauty. We can help you customize yours, and our Native Plant Sale, coming soon, is a great opportunity to find what you need.

- **Consider your plans for next season.**

Are you thinking of expanding your production area? Do you want to be sure you're not facing the same muddy mess in your feeding area next winter as you are now? Would you like to see less runoff across your property directly into the stream? Now is the time to make a needs list, prioritize, and contact us to see what support programs are available.

Pre-Plant Sale Talks:

2018 Landscaping with Native Plants

Date: December 20, 2017

Time: 6:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.

Location: North Mason Timberland Library, 23081 NE State Route 3, Belfair, WA 98528

Cost: Free



Attracting Pollinators to Your Garden -Hosted by Mason County Master Gardeners

Date: February 9, 2018

Time: 9:00-9:45 a.m.

Location: Mason County Public Works, 100 W Public Works Drive, Shelton, WA 98584

Cost: Free



If you are interested in any of these events, please **pre-register** by contacting **Brianna Widner** at bosinski@masoncd.org or 360-427-9436 ext. 103.

Promoting Pollinators

Did You Know?

-  An estimated one third of our food supply depends on insect pollination, most of which is done by bees.
-  Bees pollinate over 15 billion dollars a year in U.S. crops.
-  Flowers, shrubs, and trees provide the nectar and pollen that bees feed on.
-  Research suggests that native plants are four times more attractive to native bees than exotic plants.

What Can You Do?

-  **Include a diversity of flowering plants in your project.**
Different pollinators fly at different times of the season and need flowering plants through spring, summer, and fall.
-  **Choose several colors of flowers and cluster plant species together in clumps.**
Clumps of plants attract more pollinators than individual plants scattered through the habitat patch.
-  **Plant flowers of different shapes.**
Pollinators come in all shapes and sizes; one flower does not fit all.

Plant these Native Pollinators



Red Flowering Currant
(*Ribes sanguineum*)
February to March



Mock Orange
(*Philadelphus lewissii*)
June to July



Oregon Grape
(*Mahonia spp.*)
March to May



Elderberries
(*Sambucus spp.*)
April to June



MASON CONSERVATION DISTRICT 2018 PLANT SALE

Order Online at www.masoncd.org

Number of Bundles	Plant Species	Plant Size	Price Per Bundle	Amount
	Evergreen Tree			
	Douglas-fir	12" Bare Root	5 Trees for \$5.30	
	Grand Fir	Plug +1	5 Trees for \$6.70	
	Shore Pine	12-15" Bare Root	5 Trees for \$10.50	
	Western Hemlock	15-18" Bare Root	5 Trees for \$14.80	
	Western Red Cedar	12" Bare Root	5 Trees for \$10.50	
	Deciduous Tree			
	Black Hawthorn	12" Bare Root	5 Trees for \$12.00	
	Oregon White Oak	12" Bare Root	5 Trees for \$13.30	
	Pacific Dogwood	18-24" Bare Root	5 Trees for \$20.70	
	Paper Birch	18-36" Bare Root	5 Trees for \$12.90	
	Shrub & Herbaceous Perennials			
	Black Gooseberry	12-18" Bare Root	5 Shrubs for \$12.30	
	Blue Elderberry	12" Bare Root	5 Shrubs for \$12.00	
	Cascara	12" Bare Root	5 Shrubs for \$12.00	
	Low Oregon Grape	Large Plug	5 Shrubs for \$20.70	
	Mock Orange	12" Bare Root	5 Shrubs for \$13.30	
	Nootka Rose	12" Bare Root	5 Shrubs for \$12.00	
	Red Flowering Currant	12" Bare Root	5 Shrubs for \$9.10	
	Red Osier Dogwood	18-36" Bare Root	5 Shrubs for \$9.50	
	Serviceberry	12" Bare Root	5 Plugs for \$12.00	
	Snowberry	12" Bare Root	5 Shrubs for \$12.00	
	Salmonberry	12-18" Bare Root	5 Shrubs for \$11.60	
	Vine Maple	12" Bare Root	5 Shrubs for \$12.00	
Number of Plants	Potted Plant		Price Per Plant	
	Beargrass	4" pot	1 Plant for \$4.10	
	Cascade Penstemon	4" pot	1 Plant for \$3.00	
	Fringecup	4" pot	1 Plant for \$3.00	
	Kinnikinnick	4" pot	1 Plant for \$4.90	
	Maidenhair Fern	4" pot	1 Plant for \$3.00	
	Pacific Rhododendron	4" pot	1 Plant for \$3.70	
Number of Packs	Pollinator Packs		Price Per Packet	
	Native Plant Pollinator Pack	15 Plants	1 Pack for \$31.30	
			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

Orders accepted through Thursday, February 1st.

Pick up your order Friday, February 23rd, between 10 AM & 5 PM or Saturday, February 24th 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 or (800) 527-9436, 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.
EVERGREEN TREES			
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.
Shore Pine <i>Pinus contorta</i>	200'	  	Fast growing tree with bluish-green foliage and drooping branches. It grows well in moist, well drained soils.
Western Hemlock <i>Tsuga heterophylla</i>	160''	  	Moderately fast growing evergreen tree that is shade tolerant. Found in fairly dry to wet sites. Graceful branches that droop with deep green needles.
Western Red Cedar <i>Thuja plicata</i>	150'	  	Lustrous dark green foliage. May be planted under existing canopies on moist sites. Vigorously growing, ornamental tree.
DECIDUOUS TREES			
Black Hawthorn <i>Crataegus douglasii</i>	30'	   	Shrubby tree with large thorns, white flowers. Grows well in moist, open places; forest edges, shorelines, coastal bluffs and stream side areas.
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 grown in moist, well-drained soils, that range from sunny to shady. Produces large showy white flowers April until June.
Paper Birch <i>Betula papyrifera</i>	80'	 	Smooth white bark that peels in layers. Beautiful golden fall color. Grows well in wet areas but does not like shade.
SHRUBS & HERBACEOUS PERENNIALS			
Black Gooseberry <i>Ribes divaricatum</i>	1-3'	    	Provides protected, thorny habitat and food for birds. with thorns at leaf nodes, small, bell-shaped flowers, and black berries.
Blue Elderberry <i>Lonicera involucrata</i>	15-30'	    	White flowers yield to bluish-black clusters of berries used in preserves, pies and wine. Grows best with ample sun, but tolerant of many conditions.
Cascara <i>Rhamnus purshiana</i>	15-30'	   	Small, creamy greenish-white flower clusters attract butterflies and birds. Performs best in a partly sunny, moist site with well-drained soil.
Low Oregon Grape <i>Mahonia nervosa</i>	2-3'	    	Slow spreading evergreen shrub with dark green holly-like leaves, yellow flowers and edible berries. Prefers part shade and sun in well-drained soils.
Mock Orange <i>Philadelphus lewisii</i>	10'	   	Fragrant, white 2" flowers. Arching green branches. 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.
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.
Red Osier Dogwood <i>Cornus sericea</i>	15'	   	Red winter branches. Large white flowers. Grows best in moist areas. Good for erosion control. Excellent food & cover for wildlife.
Serviceberry <i>Amelanchier alnifolia</i>	6-20'	    	Large, showy white flower clusters adorn this multi-stemmed shrub. The dark purple berries are commercially harvested for syrup.
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.
Sweetgale <i>Myrica gale</i>	2-6'	  	Low-growing, deciduous shrub with glossy, dark-green to grayish foliage. The long leaves are sweet-scented and is a traditional insect repellent.
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.
INDIVIDUAL POTTED PLANTS			
Beargrass <i>Xerophyllum tenax</i>	3-6'	   	Perennial, evergreen herb from the lily family. A fountain of tough green grasslike foliage with a tall stalked, fragrant flower cluster.
Cascade Penstemon <i>Penstemon serrulatus</i>	8-30''	  	Perennial forb with clusters of blue to purple flowers atop a tall stalk. Grows in part shade in moist to wet soils. Used by hummingbirds and native bees.
Fringecup <i>Tellima grandiflora</i>	15-34''	   	Forb with tall stalks covered in small, cup-shaped white, green, or pink flowers. Grows in sun, part shade or shade in moist, well-drained soil.
Kinnikinnick <i>Arctostaphylos uva-ursi</i>	8-12''	    	Ground Cover. Evergreen leaves with pinkish flowers and bright red fall berries. Grows in sandy soil in filtered shade to full sun.
Maidenhair Fern <i>Adiantum pedatum</i>	2'	  	Beautiful, delicate looking foliage. Spreads slowly and is gorgeous along a path planted in groups. Grows in shady, moist 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.
POLLINATOR PACKAGE			
Native Pollinator Package	6''- 10'	    	Pollinator pack includes a beautiful array of plants that will bloom across spring, summer, and fall to provide habitat for pollinators throughout the year.

LEGEND: Full sun  Partial shade  Shade  Evergreen  Deciduous  Flowers  Edible Fruit 



450 W Business Park Road
Shelton, WA 98584
Phone: 360-427-9436
Fax: 360-427-4396
www.masoncd.org

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Plant Sale Reminders:

Plants are sold in bundles of FIVE except for pots.

Online ordering opens December, 1. Place orders by February 1st, 2018.

View, Order and Pay for plants **Online** using your credit card through our website www.masoncd.org.

Pick Up: Friday, February 23th, 10AM to 5PM or Saturday, February 24th, 10AM to 2PM at the District office.

For questions about the native plant sale please call Jen at (360) 427-9436, Ext. 113 or (800) 527-9436, Ext. 113.

Support Program Spotlight: EQIP

Looking at building a waste storage structure? Need some Heavy Use Area Protection?

Would a High Tunnel help you increase production?

The NRCS program EQIP (Environmental Quality Incentives Program) has funding available to provide cost-share support for both the implementation of Best Management Practices as well as special focus projects, including Organic Initiative, High Tunnel, and Planning for Pollinator Habitat and Organic Transition. There are several steps to the application process but if some financial assistance might be helpful as you look to make needed improvements on your property, it is worth it. Step-by-step assistance can be found at: <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/getstarted>. The next review date for applications will be in mid-March.

START YOUR APPLICATION NOW!

District Board of Supervisors: David Mackey, Jason Ragan, Myron Ougendal and Larry Boltz

MCD Staff

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John Bolender - District Manager
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