Plants Grouped by Size
Choosing the “right plant for the right place” involves understanding a plant’s preferred growing conditions (sun or shade, moist or dry etc.) as well as the growth habits of the species. This guide offers a practical organization of Pacific Northwest native plants based on their typical mature heights. Under ideal growing conditions plants may grow larger than average; under challenging conditions, plants will probably remain smaller. Be sure to understand the other needs of each plant species needs before making a final choice for your landscape (moisture and exposure requirements).

GROUNDCOVERS
(usually below knee height)
Bleeding Heart (Dicentra formosa)
Bunchberry (Cornus unalaschkensis)
Coastal Lupine (Lupinus littoralis)
Coastal Strawberry (Fragaria chiloensis)
Deer Fern (Blechnum spicant)
False Lilly of the Valley (Maianthemum dilatatum)
Foam Flower (Tiarella trifoliata)
Kinnikinnik (Arctostaphylos uva-ursi)
Lillies (Pink, White Fawn, Yellow Glacier) (Erythronium sp.)
Oregon Wintergreen (Gaultheria ovatifolia)
Trailing Blackberry (Rubus ursinus)
Western Trillium (Trillium ovatum)
Violet Species (Viola sp.)
Woodland Strawberry (Fragaria vesca)

SMALL SHRUBS / PERENNIALS
(usually below waist height)
Dunegrass (Elymus mollis)
False Solomon’s-SEal (Smilacina racemosa)
Lady fern (Athyrium filix-femina)
Large-Leaved Lupine (Lupinus polyphyllus)
Low Oregon Grape (Mahonia nervosa)
Maidenhair fern (Adiantum pedatum)
Oak fern (Gymnocarpium dryopteris)
Snowberry (Symphoricarpos alba)
Sword fern (Polystichum munitum)
Tufted Hairgrass (Deschampsia cespitosa)
Yarrow Species (Achillea sp.)

Remember: these lists are just a starting point. There are many interesting and attractive native plants to explore. For more ideas and information, see the links on our website at www.masoncd.org
LANDSCAPING GUIDE: SELECTING NATIVE PLANTS BY HEIGHT
Focus on Pacific Northwest (PNW) Native Plants

MEDIUM SHRUBS
(at or below shoulder height)

Baldhip Rose (Rosa gymnocarpa)
Bog Blueberry (Vaccinium uliginosum)
Douglas Spirea (Spiraea douglasii)
Dwarf Blueberry (Vaccinium caespitosum)
Evergreen Huckleberry (Vaccinium ovatum)
Hairy Manzanita (Arctostaphylos columbiana)
Nootka Rose (Rosa nutkana)
Oval-Leaved Blueberry (Vaccinium ovalifolium)
Red Huckleberry (Vaccinium parvifolium)
Red Flowering Current (Ribes sanguineum)
Salal (Gaultheria shallon)
Tall Oregon Grape (Mahonia/Berberis aquifolium)
Thimbleberry (Rubus parviflorus)
Wax Myrtle (Myrica californica)

Buying tip:
Always use the botanical name (in parenthesis) when ordering or buying plants to be sure you get the correct species.

TALL SHRUBS /SMALL TREES
(usually 10-20’ tall)

Beaked Hazelnut (Corylus cornuta)
Ocean Spray (Holodiscus discolor)
Red Osier Dogwood (Cornus sericea)
Wax Myrtle (Myrica californica)
Pacific Crabapple (Malus fusca)
Pacific Ninebark (Physocarpus capitatus)
Pacific Rhododendron (R. macrophyllum)
Western Serviceberry (Amelanchier alnifolia)
Red Elderberry (Sambucus racemosa)
Blue Elderberry (Sambucus cerulea)
Vine maple (Acer circinatum - to 30’)
Indian Plum/Osoberry (Oemleria cerasiformis)
Black Twinberry (Lonicera involucrata)
High Bush Cranberry (Viburnum edule)
Thimbleberry (Rubus parviflorus)
Salmonberry (Rubus spectabilis)
Redstem Ceanothus (Ceanothus sanguineus)
Snowbrush (Ceanothus velutinus)
Mock Orange (Philadelphus lewisi)