

Upland Trail Botanical Guide



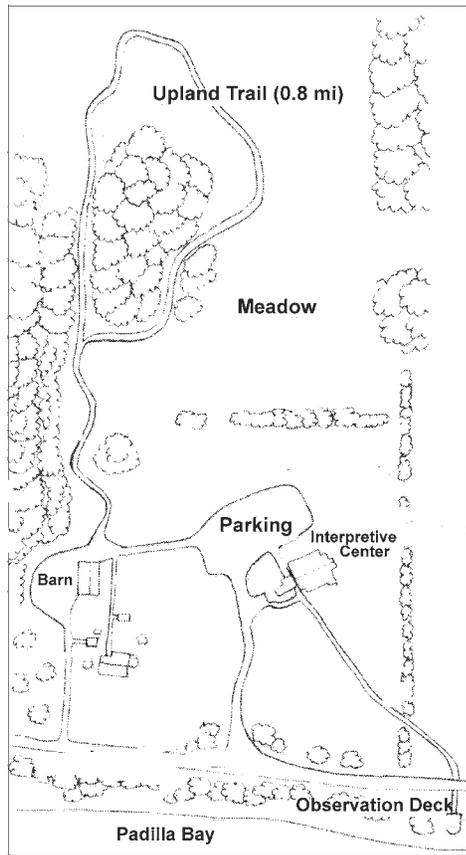
Padilla Bay

National Estuarine Research Reserve

Please Return to the Front Desk

Upland Trail Botanical Guide

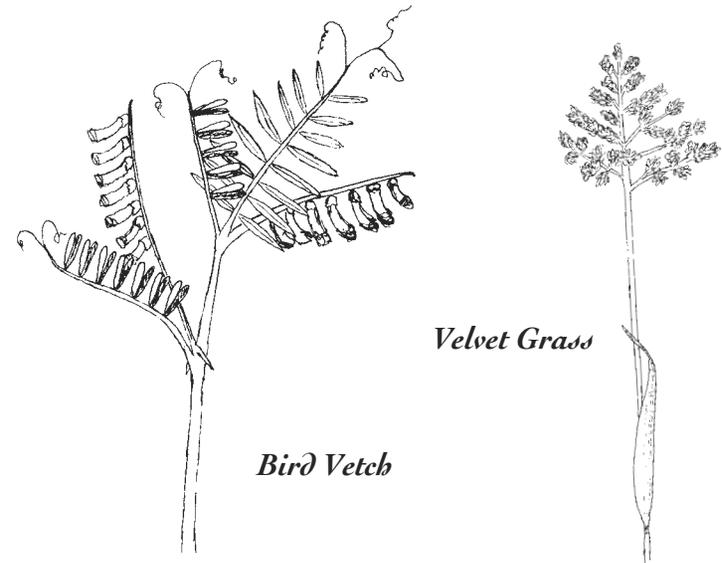
*Written and Illustrated by Elise Bishop
August 1996*



The Padilla Bay National Estuarine Reserve was established in 1980 under Section 315 of the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972. The Reserve is managed by the Washington State Department of Ecology, in cooperation with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. The upland trail, observation deck, and the Interpretive Center are located on 64 acres. Miss Edna Breazeale donated the land on behalf of the Breazeale family, following the family wish that the farm would be open to the public for scientific research and environmental education for visitors of all ages.

The Upland Trail provides an opportunity for visitors to view the wonderful plants that are located on the reserve. Many of the plants remain unchanged throughout the year, where- as others undergo several phases. This guide was written during late spring and summer. Please consider these seasonal variations when searching for the deciduous plants. The lower fields of the reserve are mowed in the mid-summer, which alters the state of some plant life on along the trail.



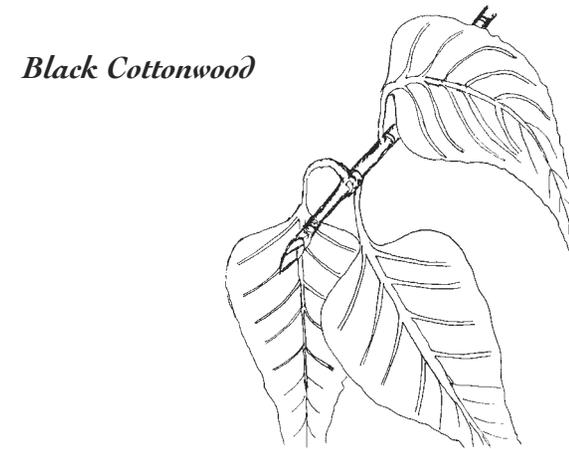


Vicia cracca, Bird Vetch, is native to Europe, but naturalized in disturbed areas in the U. S. The dark purple and white flowers are 1 to 1.5 cm long. The tube-shaped flowers bloom from May to July and are closely packed together. The leaves are 6 to 12 cm long. The narrow leaflets are 1 to 1.5 cm long and are usually on one side of the branch in clusters of twelve to twenty. The Bird Vetch has curly tendrils at the end of each branch that are 1.5 to 3 cm long. The Bird Vetch is a trailing or climbing plant.

Holcus lanatus, Velvet grass, is common throughout the Puget Sound. It is also known as Yorkshire Fog which describes its origins in Europe. This aggressive plant thrives in disturbed sites, open transitional forests, and rocky meadows. The grass has a purple hue to it, the spikelets are soft to the touch, and the awns are hooked.



Salal, *Gaultheria shallon*, prefers coastal forests and can form a dense cover over 2 meters tall. The light green, oval shaped leaves turn darker as they age. The leaves have a sharp apex and a stiff, leathery texture. The twigs and stalks have a reddish tint to them and are very colorful in the winter. The white to pinkish flowers are shaped like lanterns. The Northwest Indians named the fruit, which ripens in July. The sweet black berries are not very juicy, but perform as a laxative if too many are consumed. The Northwest Indians mashed the berries and dried them into cakes which they put on split cedar boards or on skunk cabbage leaves. N.W. Indians ate the berries or dipped them into whale or seal oil. They used the leaves for teas to cure a cough or tuberculosis.



1

Populus trichocarpa, the Black Cottonwood, is one of the tallest and broadest-leaved trees in North America. The slender Cottonwood is a good indicator of saturated soils because it stores an enormous amount of water by developing a shallow, spreading root system. It often borders rivers, streams, lakes, and marshes. The broad, large leaves are almost triangular shaped. They are deep green on the top and are silvery white on the underside. The Black Cottonwood has male and female flowers on separate trees. The female flowers grow in clusters and release green capsules into the wind to be germinated. The wood of the Cottonwood is very weak and decays easily. Some Northwest Indian tribes believed that the Black Cottonwood has a life of its own because it shakes when there is no wind.

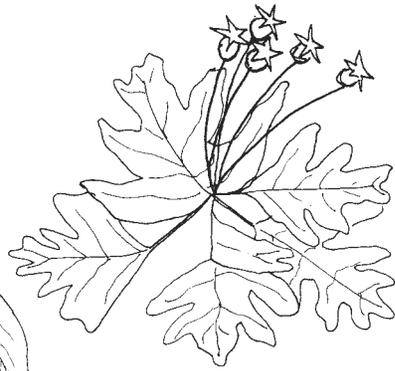
The One Seed Hawthorn, *Crataegus monogyna*, is a small tree that is common along country roads. The Hawthorn can grow to a height of thirty feet tall and eight feet wide. Originally from Europe, the Hawthorn is planted as an ornamental shrub or to create a hedge.



Bitter Cherry

The white flowers produce red fruit that only has one seed. The leaves have 3 to 7 lobes, often with smooth margins.

Prunus emarginata, commonly known as Bitter Cherry, grows to the height of 10 meters at low elevations. It grows rapidly for thirty years until it is crowded out by Douglas Fir and Red Alder. This native species has blunt, oval leaves that are 2.5 to 7.5 cm long. The fragrant white flowers grow in small clusters that mature into round black or red berries. The berries are a 1.75 cm long, have stone-hard seeds, and are devoured by many birds. The mature bark is a hardy reddish-brown, whereas the wood is soft, weak, and brittle. The bark wraps around the trunk like the bark of Birch trees. Northwest Indians peeled the bark, polished it to a red color, and wove strips of it into decorative baskets.



One Seed Hawthorn



Dewberry



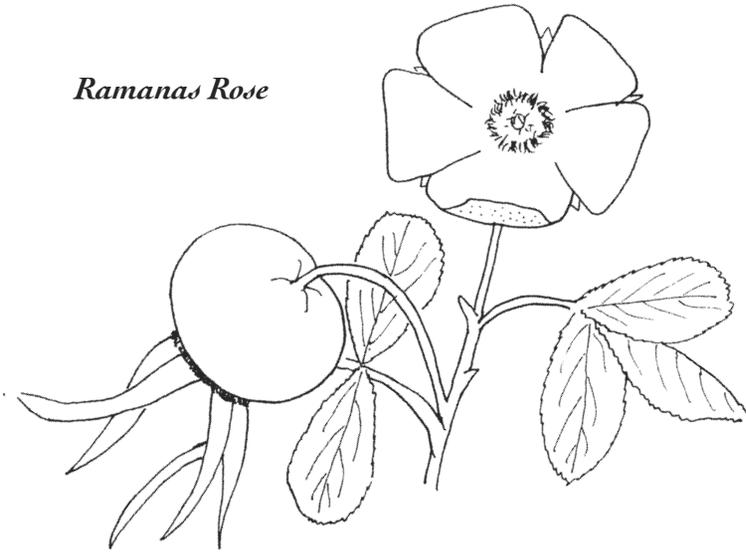
Indian Plum

2

The Dewberry, *Rubus ursinus*, creeps over the ground to find a place in the shade or sun. The thin, tough stems are armed with small spears that break off easily. The native Dewberry plant has flowers that only produce pollen and others that only produce fruits. The edible berries change color from red to black as they ripen. Northwest Indians ate the berries fresh and dried. They used the leaves to create a tea to aid stomach pains.

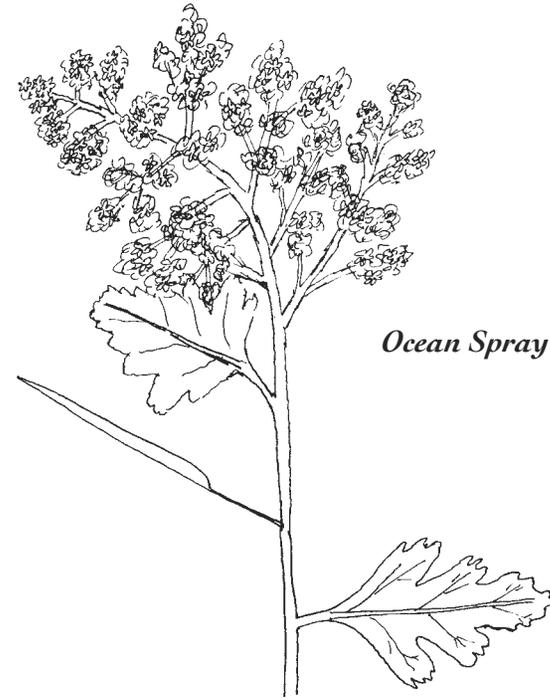
Indian Plum, *Oemleria cerasiformis*, does not require a lot of light, however it does need a lot of moisture. The smooth margined, narrow leaves are pale green and up to ten cm long. In February and early March Indian Plum produces elongated flowers that have greenish white petals (1 cm across) in clusters. Male and female flowers are on separate plants. Indian Plum produces large, bluish black bitter tasting fruit from June to August. Northwest Indians ate the berries fresh. A quick clue to identifying the Indian Plum is to crumple one of the leaves. It should smell like a cucumber.

Ramanas Rose



Rosa rugosa, Ramanas Rose is a deciduous shrub that lives in most areas in the U.S. It is a vigorous, hardy plant that can withstand hard freezes, wind, lack of water, and salt spray from the ocean. Ramanas Rose grows from 1 to 2.7 meters tall and is used in some areas as a hedge or to prevent soil erosion. The leaves are a glossy, bright green with heavy veining which gives it a crinkled look. The pink flowers are 7.5 to 10 cm wide and are very fragrant. Once the flowers have matured, it bears bright red, tomato-shaped fruits that are edible but very seedy. The stem is covered with thorns. The Ramanas Rose is native to the Kuril Islands north of Japan.

Ocean Spray



Ocean Spray, *Holodiscus discolor*, grows in woodlands and on hills next to forests. The Ocean Spray looks similar to lilac bushes which are abundant throughout the Puget Sound. The cream colored blossoms curl downward representing the frothy crests of crashing waves. The individual flowers are in the shape of stars. Ocean Spray reaches two or three meters tall and is rather uninteresting in the winter when it loses its foliage. The soft oval leaves are dull green and are three or four cm long. Ocean Spray's durable, hard wood was used by craftsmen for finishing woodwork. Northwest Indians used the wood for arrows, tools, and roasting tongs, because it would not burn.



Red Elderberry



Western Service Berry



Salmonberry

3

Red Elderberry, *Sambucus racemosa*, grows near the coasts and in damp areas. It flourishes low to the ground, yet can grow to five or six meters tall. The small, cream-colored flowers are concentrated in dense groupings. The leaves have five or seven leaflets and are twice as long as wide. The Red Elderberry produces wine-red berries which Northwest Indians steamed on rocks and put in containers to store underground or in cool water to eat in the winter. However, many people today consider the berries to be poisonous.

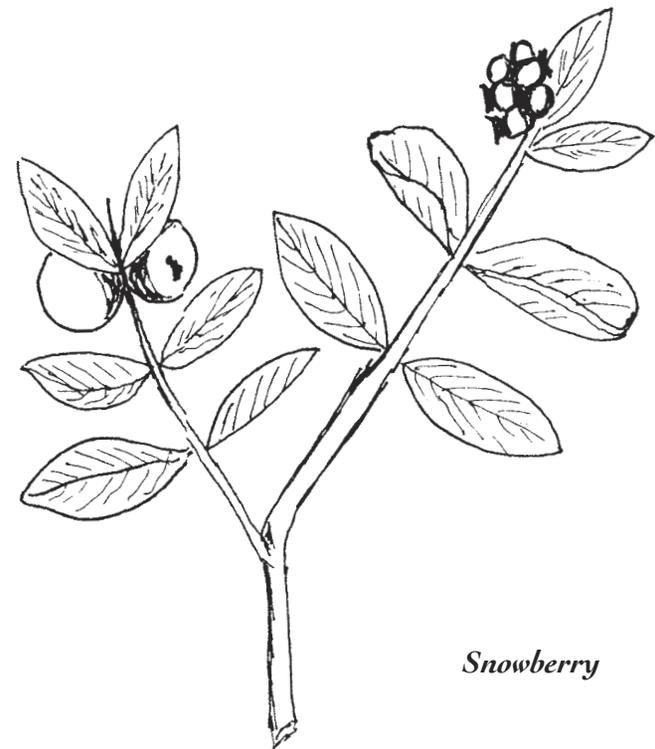
The Western Service Berry, *Amelanchier alnifolia*, is a tree-like specimen, which grows eight to ten feet tall. The leaves are bright green with oval blades and are 2 or 3 cm long. The white flowers have narrow petals that are slightly twisted. The ripe blackish purple fruits have several seeds inside. Northwest Indians ate the fruit fresh in the summer and dried in the winter. The tough wood was used as a spreader in the rigging of a halibut line.

Rubus spectabilis, commonly known as Salmonberry, grows in damp exposed areas such as in woodlands, along stream beds, and in ravines of coniferous forests. The Salmonberry often reaches 2.7 and occasionally 3 meters tall. The leaves are divided into three dark leaflets. If you bend back the top lobe of a Salmonberry leaf, the other two lobes create the shape of a butterfly. In late winter the Salmonberry bears small red or pink star flowers. More blossoms appear along with heavy leafage in March and April. In June and July the sweet, juicy berries turn from tangerine orange to rosy purple. The berries come clean off the cone when picked. Northwest Indians ate the berries fresh and they also peeled young Salmonberry shoots to eat with salmon.



Large Avens

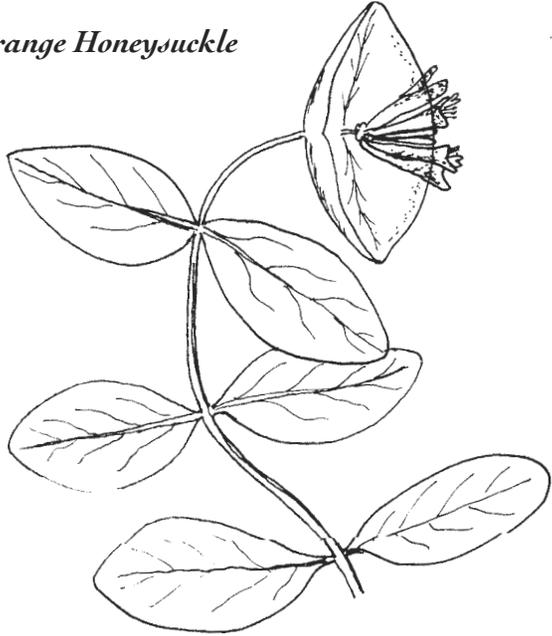
The Large Avens, *Geum macrophyllum*, look like buttercups because of their similar yellow flowers. Large Avens grow in shady areas and in the woods. Most of the Avens only reach a height of 50 cm. The leaves close to the flower are much smaller and are divided into two or three lobes, whereas the basal leaves are elongated and compound. The terminal leaflet of the basal leaves is much larger than the leaflets of the lateral ones. Northwest Indians rubbed it on open cuts.



Snowberry

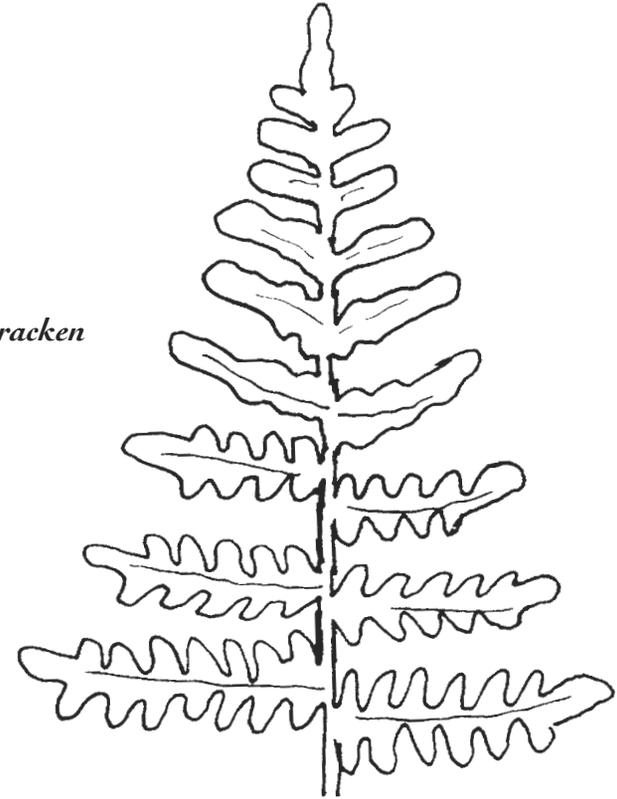
The Snowberry, *Symphoricarpos albus*, is a deciduous shrub that grows to the height of around two meters. The Snowberry is found on dry, exposed slopes, in dense shady woods, and along roads. The dull, greenish leaves are 2.5 to 5 cm long and are often irregularly lobed. The Snowberry blooms from spring to late summer, producing creamy white berries that are bitter and avoided by animals. Northwest Indians used the bark as a remedy for tuberculosis. They gave babies with coated tongues a mild tea and used the berries as an antidote for poisonings.

Orange Honeysuckle

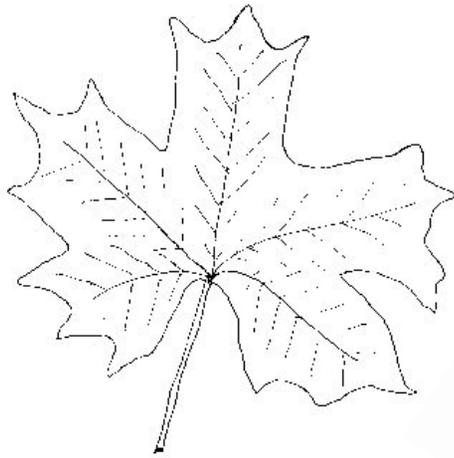


Orange Honeysuckle, *Lonicera ciliosa*, prefers sunny places like the open woods and along the edges of clearings. It often grows over other shrubs and up into trees for several meters. The flowers vary from orange to red to orange-yellow and bloom in late spring to mid summer. The trumpet-like flowers have five lobes and are pollinated by hummingbirds during the day. The oval leaves are on opposite sides of the plant and are four to six cm long. The tops of the leaves are a dull green and the bottoms are whitish. The leaves closer to flowering tips are joined at their buds, appearing as if they are a single leaf. Northwest Indians boiled the bark to drink as a tea for colds and sore throats. They also chewed the leaves and swallowed the juice for colds. For a strengthening tonic, they boiled the leaves and poured the juice over the plant which was laid on a patient.

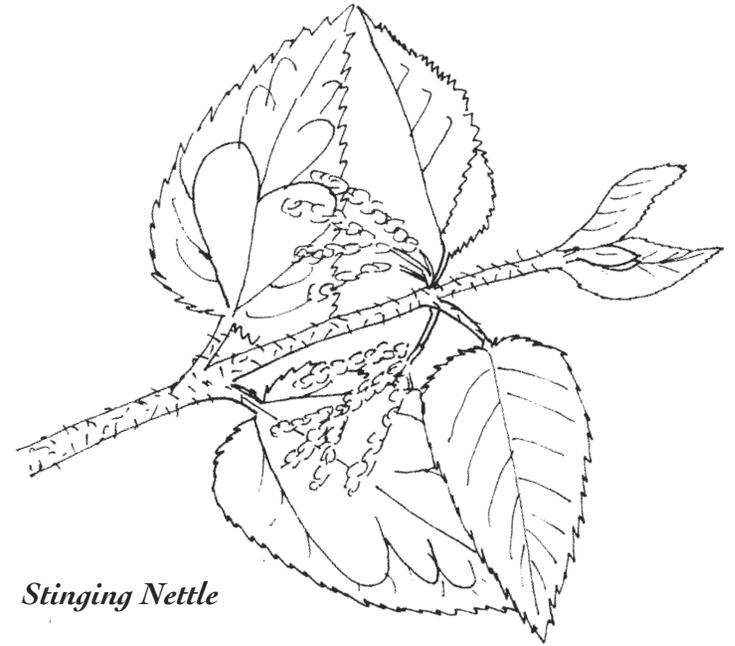
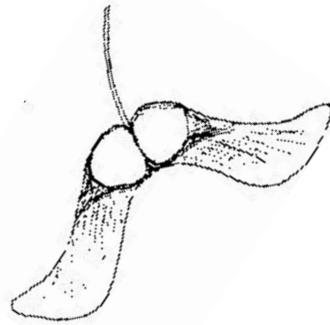
Bracken



Pteridium aquilinum or Bracken, is a deciduous fern that prefers open, grassy areas, as well as the woods and bushy habitats. Bracken can grow over one and a half meters tall. The leaves originate from a single creeping stem. Spore-bearing sacs are concentrated near the edges on the undersides of the leaflets. The blades of the Bracken have a triangular shape. Northwest Indians roasted the rhizomes of the fern in ashes, then peeled and ate them as their main source of starch.



Big Leaf Maple

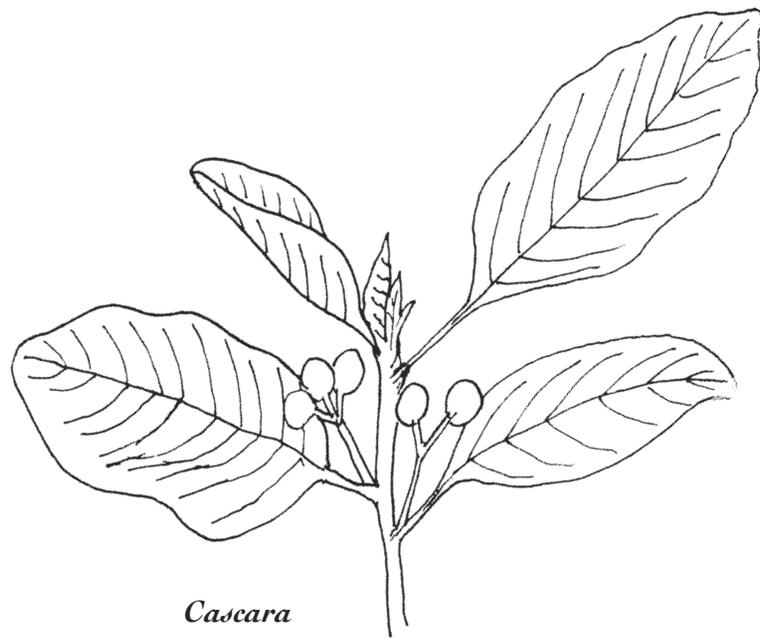


Stinging Nettle

4

The beautiful Big Leaf Maple, *Acer macrophyllum*, is abundant in rich soils. Once mature, the Maple has a short trunk, which supports its massive spreading branches. True to its name, the big leaves measure from six to twelve inches across and have five lobes that deeply cut into them. The leaf stalks are also six to twelve inches long. The Big Leaf Maple bears its leaves, twigs, buds, and winged fruit opposite each other in pairs. The fruit consists of two nuts with a long wing attached to each nut. The Maple depends on insects for fertilization of its flowers. The Big Leaf Maple is valued for its lumber and fuel wood. Northwest Indians used the bark to make rope and the wood to make bowls, utensils, canoe paddles, and sweat lodges. They also used the leaves to cover food cooking in pits and the dead wood to smoke salmon.

The Stinging Nettle, *Urtica dioica*, is a perennial that creeps across the ground by underground stems. The Stinging Nettle forms dense colonies that prefer nitrate-rich soils. The shoots of the nettles die each winter, but grow to about 1 meter by fall. The small greenish flowers form drooping clusters and the oval leaves look like toothed blades. If you have ever touched a Stinging Nettle, you may remember the tingling sensation that lasts for several hours afterwards. Northwest Indians peeled, dried, and rolled the bark into a two-ply string. For medicinal purposes, the Indians took baths in a mixture of the entire nettle plant and white fir, which they pounded together and boiled. This mixture was also used as a tonic and for colds.



Cascara

5

Rhamnus purshiana, commonly known as Cascara, is located in forests that contain deciduous trees mixed with conifers. Most Cascara reach about 10 meters tall. As a young sapling it retains its leaves through the winter. The dark green leaves are 6 to 10 cm long and have an elliptical outline. The main veins on both sides of the leaves are almost straight and parallel. The surface of the leaves is similar to a washboard because the veins are set in furrows. Cascara produces small greenish flowers and blackberries. Northwest Indians boiled bark to make a green dye for mountain goat wool. Cascara bark is harvested for laxatives.

Mock Orange



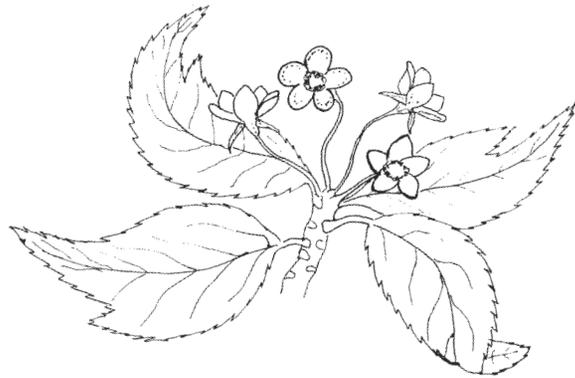
Canadian Thistle



Philadelphus lewisii, the Mock Orange, prefers open, bushy areas where the soil is rocky. The light green, narrow, ovate leaves are slightly toothed and range from 3 to 5 cm long. The tree blooms from late May to July, displaying fragrant white flowers in clusters of up to fifteen flowers. The flower has four petals and yellow stamens. Northwest Indians made combs and arrow shafts out of the wood.

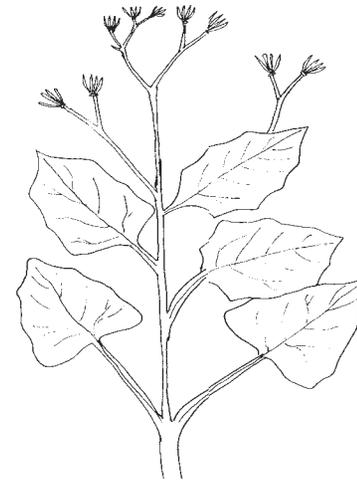
The Canadian Thistle, *Cirsium arvense*, is a large aggressive weed. It spreads rapidly in spite of removal by humans and animal grazing. This exotic species was introduced accidentally by Canadian settlers and now is a nuisance on every continent except Antarctica. The Canadian Thistle reaches a height of 1.5 meters or taller. The leaves are elongated and the blades are smooth. The flowers atop the plant are purplish pink or pale purple, and sometimes white. The seeds look like giant cotton balls.

Western Crabapple



6

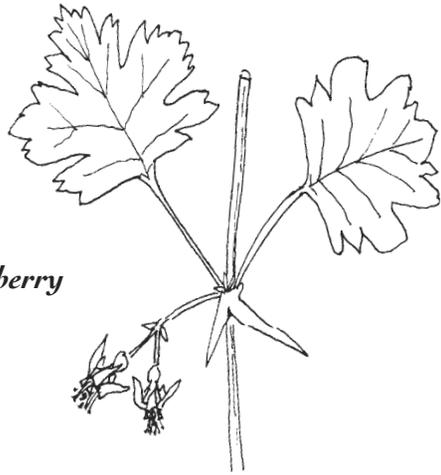
The Western Crabapple, *Pyrus fusca*, is abundant near swampy areas, open meadows, seashores, and at woodland edges. The Crabapple grows to be dense and shrubby, unless it is along a woodland where it can grow 10 to 15 meters in height. The leaves of the Crabapple are usually serrated, often trilobed, and irregularly shaped. The leaves turn lovely shades of light red and yellow in the fall. The bark of older Crabapple trees is very rough. In April and May the white flowers are wonderfully fragrant.



Nipplewort

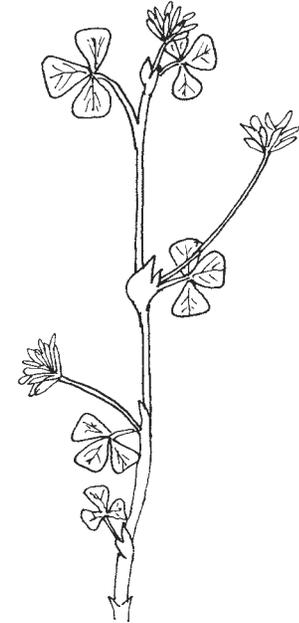
Nipplewort, *Lapsana communis*, is an annual weed that reaches 15 to 150 cm tall. The Nipplewort originated in Eurasia and is now found in disturbed sites and in woodlands. The thin oval-shaped leaves have visible veins. The Nipplewort grows on a single erect stem. The flowers have long petals that are three to five mm long. The flowers are abundant from June to July.

Wild Gooseberry



Ribes divaricatum, Wild Gooseberry, is a hardy shrub that favors dry sites, especially forest margins and rocky outcrops. The shrub, which tends to form tall bushes up to two meters high, has a single large spine. The flowers appear to be broad, due to the protruding stamens. The petals vary from white to pale brown to reddish brown. The Coast Black Gooseberry produces smooth purplish-black berries. Northwest Indians ate the berries fresh and boiled the roots to make a drink for sore throats and tuberculosis.

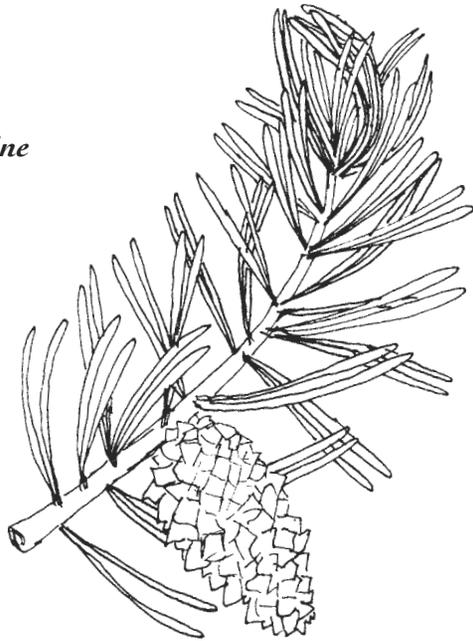
Yellow Clover



7

Trifolium dubium, Yellow Clover, originated in Europe and thrives in waste areas, along roads, and on recently cleared lands. The tiny yellow flowers bloom from April to September. The main stem is 10 to 50 cm long. The leaflets are in groups of threes and have blunt edges.

Shore Pine



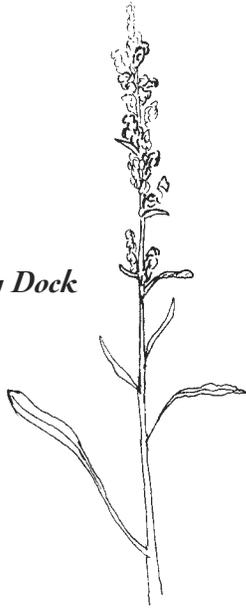
The Shore Pine and the Lodgepole Pine, both varieties of *Pinus contorta*, are abundant along the coast and in the lowlands of the north half of Puget Sound. The Shore Pine and the Lodgepole Pine grow in sandy soils, bogs, and at high elevations. The trees stand fairly straight and tall. The bark may be 2 cm thick in some places. The stiff, dark green needles are in bundles of two and are usually 2.5 to 7.5 cm long. The cones remain on the trees until they are heated enough to cause them to open.



Meadow Hawksbeard

Crepis runcinata, Meadow Hawksbeard, is abundant in moist meadows and flats, lowlands, foothills, and mountains. Its yellow flowers bloom in late spring to mid summer. The leaves are green, broader and rounded at the apex, and tapered at the base. The leaves are one to 5 cm long and have tiny hairs on the underside. The stem leaves are smaller.

Curly Dock



Curly Dock, *Rumex crispus*, is one to two meters tall and lives along seashores, forest edges, and pastures. Curly Dock originated in Eurasia. This plant has large basal leaves which curl along their edges. The plant bears yellow-green flowers with tiny reddish bells. Curly Dock blooms in June and July, at which time the flowers are replaced by small dark brown seeds. The tender young leaves of Curly Dock may be boiled and eaten like spinach.

Western Buttercup



Ranunculus occidentalis, the Western Buttercup, thrives in open lowland fields and meadows. The Western Buttercup covers meadows throughout the Puget Sound region. It has a deep yellow flower with five petals and down-turned sepals. The flower is atop of a 15 to 60 cm stalk. The leaves are usually 5 cm long and have three course wedge-shaped lobes.



Bull Thistle

Cirsium vulgare, the Bull Thistle, looks like the Canadian Thistle but is more robust. The Bull Thistle can grow to 3 meters tall and originated in Europe. This armed, imposing plant is biennial. Its large heads turn into sweet smelling flowers that are bright purplish pink and occasionally white. The stem is spiny and painful to touch unless you wear gloves. The leaves are deeply clefted.



Fragrant Bedstraw

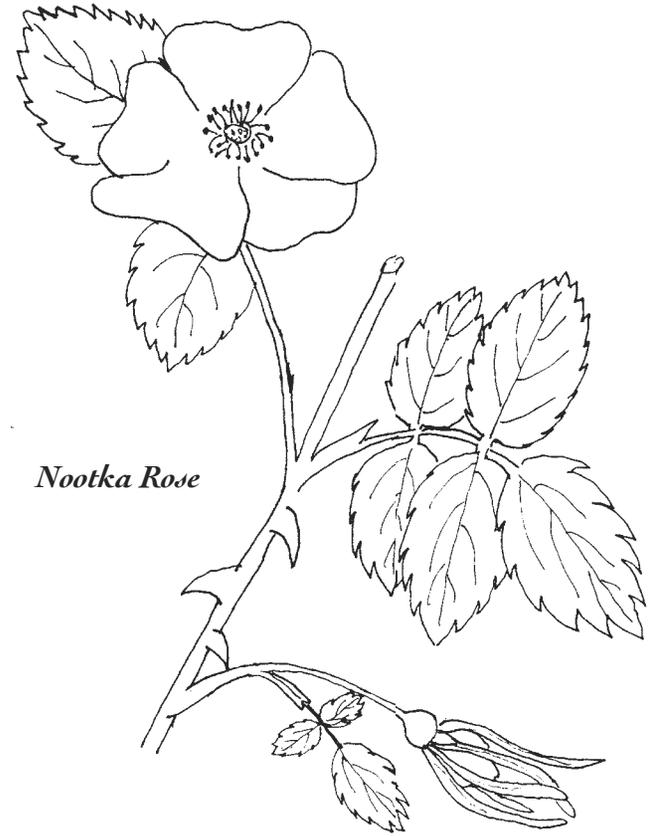
Galium aparine, Fragrant Bedstraw, thrives in woodlands and in meadows. Fragrant Bedstraw grows to waist height and has a cinnamon scent when it is dried. The tiny white flowers, in clusters of threes, have four to six petals. The seeds of the plant have hooked bristles created to catch on the fur of passing animals. Fragrant Bedstraw, also known as "stick-tight," is in the Madder family, the family that coffee beans and gardenias are in. The leaves are a dark green. Settlers used Bedstraw to fill their mattresses and Northwest Indians used it to rub on their body to smell good and to make their hair grow.

Himalayan Blackberry



8

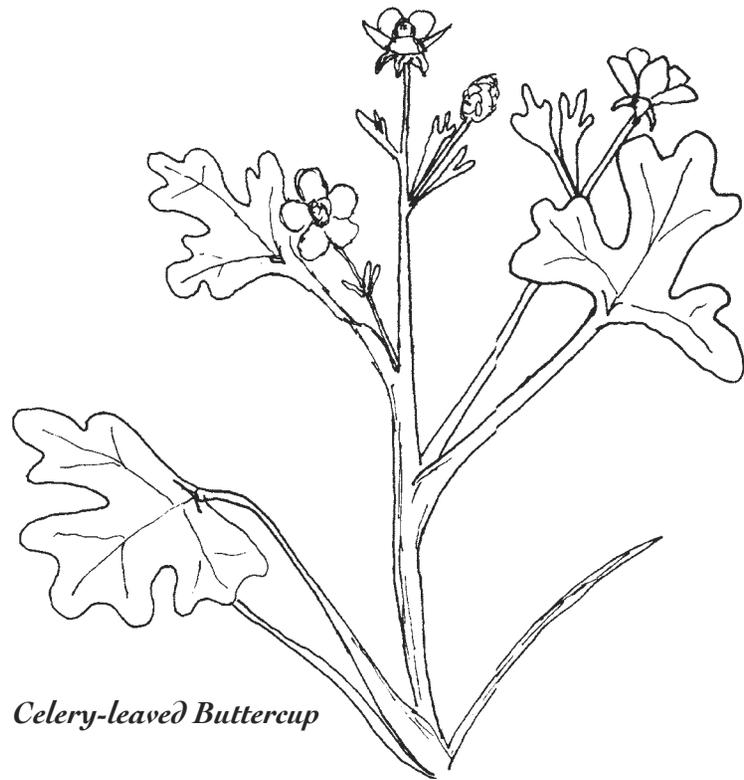
The non-native Himalayan Blackberry, *Rubus discolor*, is common throughout the Puget Sound. The Blackberry is present everywhere, especially on roadsides. Many leaves of the plant last through the winter. The underside of the leaves is covered with a whitish fuzz. The leaves are usually in groupings of three to five leaflets. The shrub ranges in height from 1.7 to 2.7 meters tall. The flowers of the plant are white or a faint pink. The thorns of the Himalayan Blackberry are large and sharp. Many people eat the berries fresh in pies or jams or frozen.



Nootka Rose

9

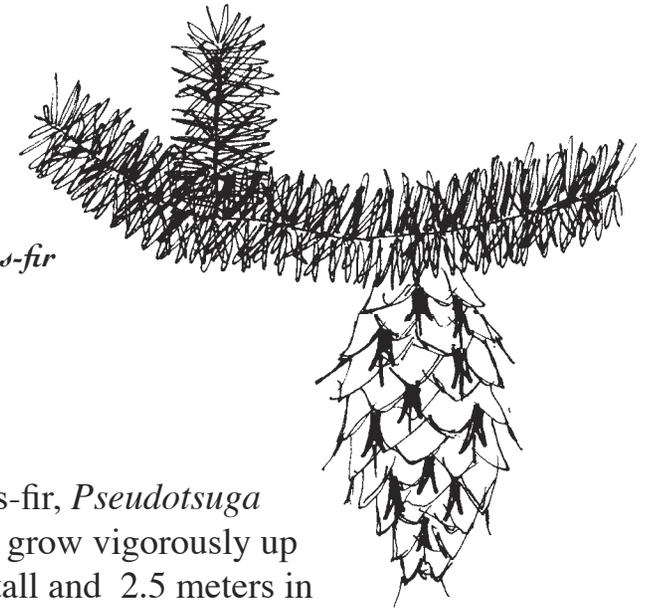
The Nootka Rose, *Rosa nutkana*, forms dense four to six foot thickets along saltwater, roadsides, forest edges, and exposed areas. The thorns on the rose are moderate and mostly are present on the stems where the leaves originate. The Nootka Rose yields bright pink flowers that are five cm across. The Nootka Rose hips, which are a good source of vitamin C, have rounded leaflets and sepals. The rosehips can be used to make tasty tea or syrup. Northwest Indians ate rosehips dried or with salmon eggs. They used leaves and peeled twigs to make tea.



Celery-leaved Buttercup

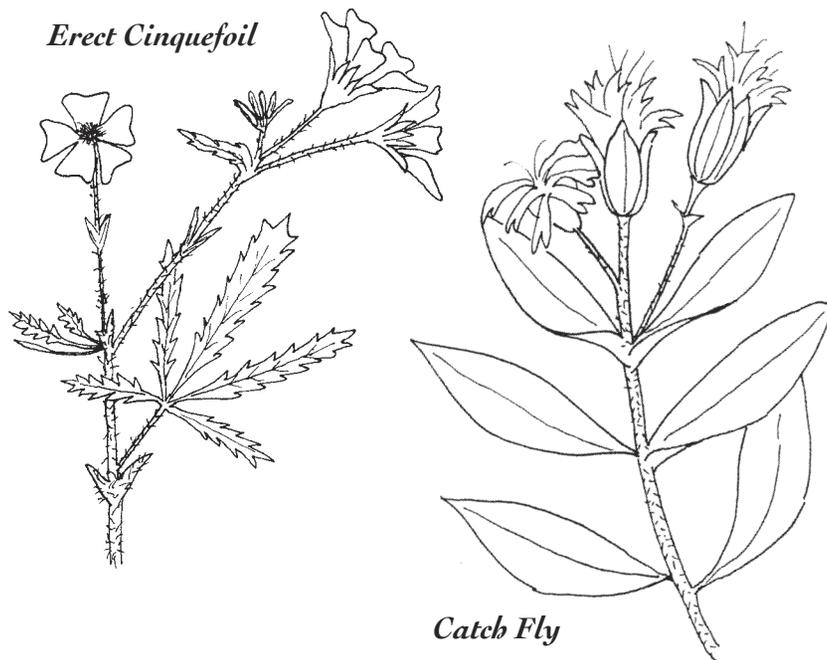
The Celery-leaved Buttercup, *Ranunculus sceleratus*, is poisonous to the touch and the sap may raise blisters on the skin. The yellow flowers bloom in the late spring to early autumn and have five petals. This annual plant grows in wet meadows, on shores of streams and ponds, and in shallow water. The stem is covered with tiny hairs and the basal leaves look like celery leaves, which are three lobed. Numerous roots allow the plant to reach a height of 31 cm.

Douglas-fir



10

Douglas-fir, *Pseudotsuga menziesii*, can grow vigorously up to 8.5 meters tall and 2.5 meters in diameter. The Douglas-fir thrives in moist regions along the seashore to 4000 ft elevation. This adaptable tree can survive fire and drought and regenerate rapidly. The flat needles are 2.5 cm to 4.25 cm long and stick out all directions from the branches. The needles are linear and are narrower at the base. After the green needles are shed, tiny scars replace their spot. The cones are 7.5 to 10 cm long and have a distinctive three-pointed bract that extends beyond the scales of the cone. The bract resembles a mouse's tail and hind quartets. The seeds of the Douglas-fir are food for many different animals. Immature bark is smooth and grey with tiny blisters, whereas mature bark is thick, deeply furrowed, and reddish-brown. The corky bark can be up to one foot thick. The Douglas Fir is prime industrial wood because of its moderate weight, strength, and durability. Northwest Indians used the wood for firewood, wooden spears and harpoon shafts. They boiled bark to make light brown dye to disguise their fishing nets.

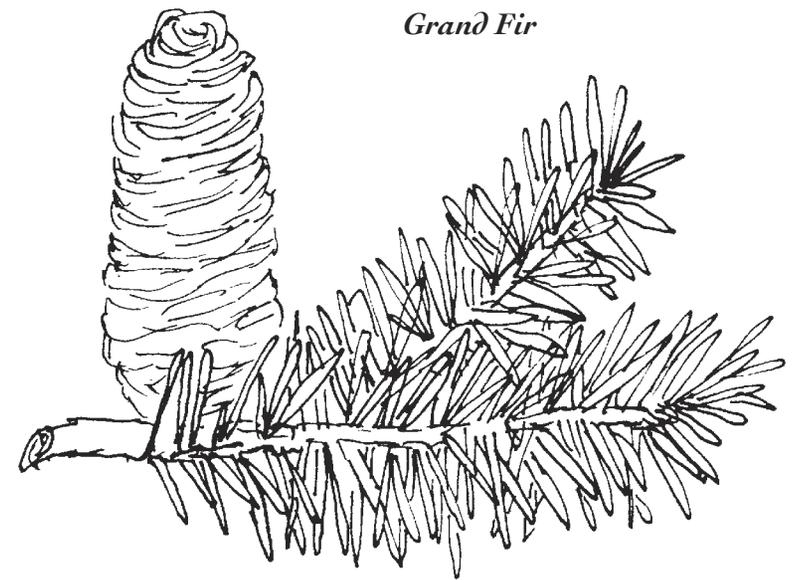


Erect Cinquefoil

Catch Fly

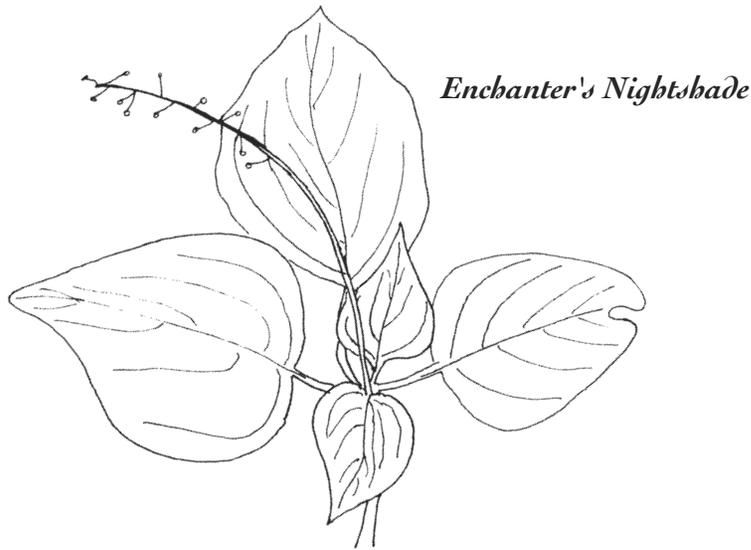
The Erect Cinquefoil or the Sulfur flower, Potentilla recta, is a noxious weed. The flat flower is often mistaken for a buttercup. The Erect Cinquefoil and the buttercup flower have five round, non waxy, petals. The petals of the Erect Cinquefoil are flat or slightly dished and are often notched. The Cinquefoil leaves are compound. The plant lies fairly close to the ground. The Cinquefoil thrives along coastlines.

The Catch Fly or Menzies' Campion, Silene menziesii, has white flowers in the late spring and summer. The petals of the Catch Fly are lobed. It is a spreading, matted plant with broad shaped leaves, which are covered with tiny hairs. The Catch Fly lives in moist woods.



Grand Fir

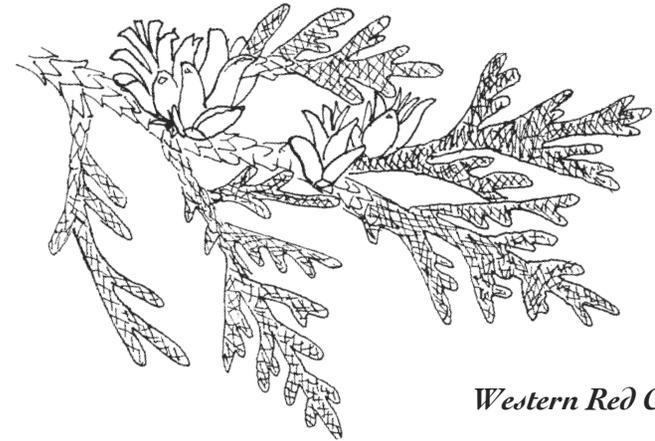
The Grand Fir, *Abies grandis*, prefers lowlands and moist locations. The Grand Fir often is in areas that contain Douglas-fir and Western Red Cedar. The Grand Fir has long branches in the middle of the tree and short wood fibers, making it a poor wood for construction. The needles are usually three to four cm long and notched at the tips. The needles form an opposing series. The upper surface of the needles is glossy green, whereas the bottom has two whitish lines of pores. The upward pointing cones on the Grand Fir are about ten cm long and are only found on the very upper branches. The cones usually break apart when the seeds are ripe or if they are pulled apart by birds or rodents.



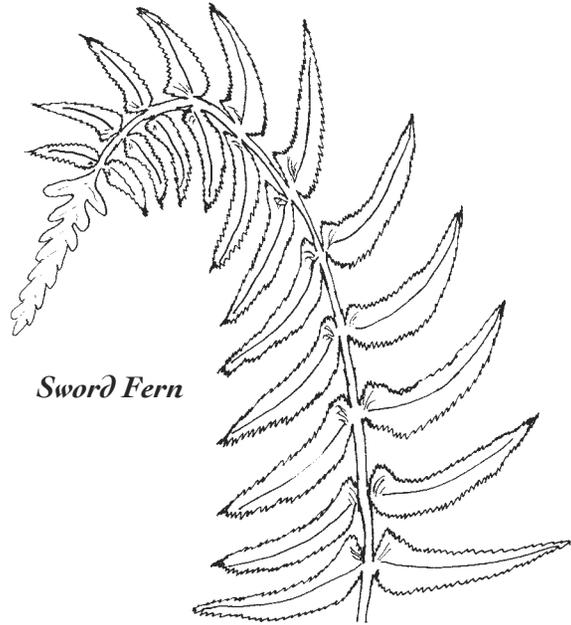
11

Enchanter's Nightshade, *Circaea alpina*, looks like it belongs in the forests of fables such as Snow White and Cinderella. This species spreads by rhizomes, an underground root system, and by seeds. Enchanter's Nightshade, a perennial, grows only to a height of 15-20 cm tall. Its heart shaped leaves are opposite each other. The white flowers have only two sepals and are on the upper part of the plant. Nightshade fruit produces a single seed, which is a tiny capsule with hooks.

The Western Red Cedar, *Thuja plicata*, thrives in moist habitats, where the annual precipitation is over 30 inches per year. The Western Red Cedar mainly grows between sea level and 3500 feet elevation in Northwest Washington. The trunk is conical and tapers rapidly as it increases in height. The base of the tree is anchored by shallow, widely spreading roots. Old growth cedars can grow to eight to ten feet in diameter and achieve heights



of 200 feet. Once mature, the massive trees have broad crowns of spreading branches that turn up at their tips. The fragrant, lacy, scale-like leaves are usually one-eighth of an inch long. The leaves hold small brown oval cones that are one-half to three-fourths inches long. The cones sit straight on the leaves, and they bear seed so tiny that many animals do not bother to eat them. Only a few seeds are germinated a year. Red Cedar wood is very valuable. It is lightweight, soft, resists decay, and has a straight grain which allows it to split easily. It is used for shingles, shakes, and boards on houses in North America. Northwest Indians used cedar as their main fabric fiber. They shredded the inner layer of the tree finely so that it could be used for diapers and cradle padding. They also wove the fibers into fishing nets and sails for their dug-out canoes. Some tribes used the bark to make clothing and blankets. Northwest Indians used the wood to carve totem poles and dugout canoes.



Sword Fern

12

Polystichum munitum, the Sword Fern, is a large showy fern that lives in forests and woods. The Sword Fern is usually rooted in the soil, but often is found in rotten logs. The serrated fronds (leaves) of the Sword Fern are 70-80 cm long. On the underside of the fronds there are spore-bearing sacs arranged in dense clusters. The fronds are densely gritty and are covered with tiny brown scales. Northwest Indians chewed the curled fronds raw and swallowed them to ease sore throat or tonsillitis.



*Spreading Wood
Fern*

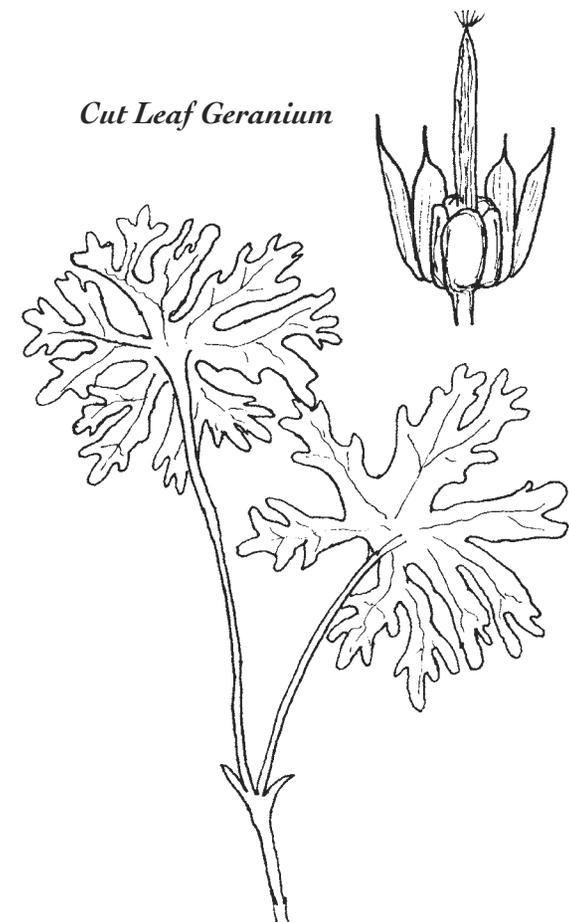
The Spreading Wood Fern, *Dryopteris austriaca*, grows in forests and in woods and thrives in decaying wood. The Spreading Wood Ferns fronds (leaves) are triangular shaped. Each frond can reach 50 cm in length and they often survive the winter. Northwest Indians gathered the fern during the fall and winter and used the rhizomes of the plant for food during the fall and winter.



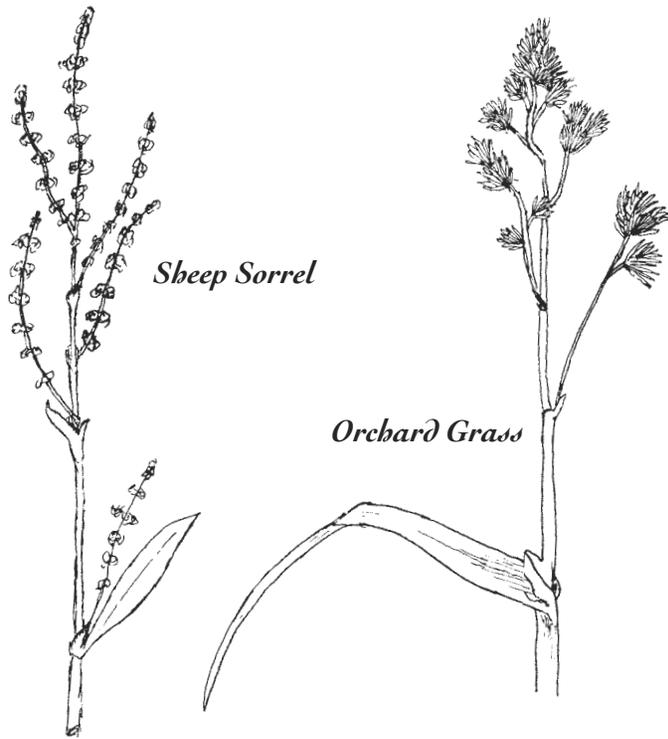
13

The Stork's Bill or Dovefoot, *Geranium molle*, grows over thirty cm tall in meadows, on roadsides, and in lawns among grasses. The rounded fern-like base leaves extend outward one to two inches. The leaves are deeply divided into coarsely toothed lobes. The flowers and top leaves are seen on the short, sparsely branched, reddish stems. The flower is one cm long, blossoming from May to August, and has five pink or magenta petals. The petals are broad at the middle. The pistils have very long styles that resemble a stork's bill. The fruit of the Stork's Bill splits into five parts.

The White Clover, *Trifolium repens*, is present in disturbed woodlands and wastelands throughout the world. The perennial plant grows low to the ground, blooming from April to September. The flowers fade to pink and occasionally orange with age. The leaves are broadest above the middle, and may have slight indentations at the tips.



The Cut Leaf Geranium, *Geranium dissectum*, is an introduced weed from Europe that prefers waste areas. The flowers have pink to purplish elongated petals and blossoms from March to July. The leaves are narrowly lobed and have a sharp point. The fruits are covered with tiny hairs. The fruit has a beak-like style and a round apex with a shallow notch. The stem usually reaches only 22 cm tall.



Sheep Sorrel

Orchard Grass

Sheep Sorrel, *Rumex acetosella*, appears in every habitat and reaches 50 cm tall. The lower leaves are lobed near their arrowhead shaped bases. The leaves are narrow and smooth. Sheep Sorrel produces small red-dish-green flowers containing no petals. The flowers are clustered together on the branches. The Sheep Sorrel is edible when young, but one should limit the amount one consumes because of the oxalic acid contained.

Dactylis glomerata, commonly known as Orchard Grass, is abundant in fields and meadows. The grass ranges from 60 to 120 cm tall. Orchard grass is a perennial, displaying flat blades and bundled clusters of spikelets.