PLANT LIST for NATIVE BEES

For URBAN, SUBURBAN, and RURAL PROPERTIES

KEY

N = Natïve plant

% = Best bee plants for small gardens

Moisture column: DT = Drought Tolerant, MT = Moisture Tolerant, Med = ordinary moisture requirements

- * = Plants that require sharp drainage (Sharp drainage means soil that retains very little moisture.) (Symbol in "Moisture" column.)
- = Plants that tolerate damp or wet soils (Symbol in "Moisture" column.)

Dec = Deciduous, Evg = Evergreen

Sun exposure color key: Sun, part sun, shade. Note that most plants need a little light to bloom, even if they tolerate substantial shade.

TREES

Plant name (Common name, Botanical name, N	Season	Bee	Size	Exposure	Moisture	Evg	Color	Notes	Warnings
for native plant) Apple, fruiting (Malus spp.)	Mid-late spring	V Hi	Varies by type	Sun	DT	-Dec Dec	White	Culinary	Needs special care
Bitter cherry (Prunus emarginata mollis) N	Late spring	Hi	To 45'H x 20'W	Sun to mostly sun	DT	Dec	White	Wildlife fruit. Beautiful bark. Fast growing but short lived 30-40 years.	Bark is fragile: wounds will allow rot in. Somewhat brittle.
Cascara (Rhamnus purshiana) N	Late spring- early summer	V Hi	To 25'H x 20'W	Sun to mostly sun	DT	Dec	Cream. Gold fall color	Bandtail pigeons & other birds eat berries	Brittle. Does not like air pollution.
★ Crabapple (Malus fusca) N	Late spring		20'-30'H x 20'W. Sometimes multi-stem.	Sun to mostly sun	MT, DT. OK with winter wet soil	Dec	White. Gold fall color	Wildlife fruit. "Thorns" are really spurs.	
Hawthorn, black (Crataegus douglasii) N	Late spring		To 25'H and narrower	Sun to mostly sun	■ MT, DT	Dec	White	Wildlife fruit	Thorns
Hawthorn, Washington (Crataegus phaenopyrum)	Early-mid summer	Hi	25'H x 15'W	Sun	DT	Dec	White. Reddish fall color	Wildlife fruit	Thorns
Plum, fruiting (Prunus domestica, varieties)	Early-mid spring	V Hi	Varies by type	Sun	DT	Dec	White	Culinary.	Needs special care

Plum, Thundercloud and similar types (<i>Prunus cerascifera</i> , varieties)	Early		To 20' dia	Sun	DT	Dec	Pink		Needs careful pruning or will sucker
∀ Vine Maple (Acer circinatum) N ∀ Vine Maple (Acer circinatum) N ∀ Vine Maple (Acer circinatum) N	Mid-late spring	V Hi	15' dia in sun, to 20' in shade. Usually multi- stem.	Mostly sun to full shade	DT	Dec	Reddish. Red to yellow fall color	More compact with sun	
Willow, Hooker's (Salix hookeriana) N	Early		<20'H Multi-stem.	Sun to mostly sun	■ Wet	Dec	Gray catkins	Male plants provide pollen	Brittle
Willow, Pacific (Salix lasiandra) N	Early		<40'H Multi-stem.	Sun to mostly sun	■ Wet	Dec	Gray catkins	Male plants provide pollen	Brittle
Willow, Scouler's (Salix scouleriana) N	Early	Hi	<40'H	Sun to mostly sun	DT	Dec	Gray catkins	Male plants provide pollen	Brittle
Willow, Sitka (Salix sitchensis) N	Early		<25'H	Sun to mostly sun	Moist	Dec	Gray catkins	Male plants provide pollen	Brittle

TALL SHRUBS (over 6' high)

Plant name (Common name, Botanical name, N for native plant)	Season	Bee Use	Size	Exposure	Moisture	Evg -Dec	Color	Notes	Warnings
Blueberries, cultivated (Vaccinium corymbosum, varieties)	Mid-late spring	V Hi	3' dia to 8' dia. Varies by type	Sun	Med	Most dec	Cream to pink. Reddish fall color	Culinary	
Ceanothus (Ceanothus spp., varieties)	Late spring- early summer	V Hi	Varies by type, to 8' dia	Sun	* DT. Requires sharp drainage	Evg	Blue	Not hardy in foothills or higher elevations	
Currant, gold (Ribes odoratum or R. aureum) N to E Washington	Mid spring	Hi	To 8' dia	Sun	DT	Dec	Gold	Wildlife fruit	
Currant, red-flowering (Ribes sanguineum) N	Early-mid spring	V Hi	8' dia	Sun to mostly sun	DT	Dec	Pink	Wildlife fruit. Hummers.	

Currant, red-flowering (<i>Ribes sanguineum</i> 'King Edward' and <i>R. s.</i> 'White Icicle')	Early-mid spring	V Hi	6' dia	Sun to mostly sun	DT	Dec	Pink (KE), white (Icicle)	Wildlife fruit. Hummers.	
Dogwood, redtwig (Cornus stolonifera) N	Late spring- early summer		15'H x 10'W	Sun to mostly sun	MT, DT, wet OK	Dec	White. Red stems. Reddish fall color.	Wildlife fruit	Aggressive spreader
K Enkianthus, redvein (Enkianthus companulatus)	Late spring	V Hi	10' dia	Part sun	DT	Dec	Pink. Red fall color		
Hardhack (Spirea douglasii) N	Mid-late summer		To 8' dia	Sun	DT, MT, wet OK	Dec	Pink	May spread	Hard to remove
Hibiscus, hardy (Hibiscus moscheutos, varieties)	Late summer- fall		Varies by type, most 4'-8' dia	Sun	Med	Dec	Color varies, white, pink, purple		
₩ Huckleberry, evergreen (Vaccinium ovatum) N	Mid spring- early summer	Hi	To 8'H x 5'W	Part sun	DT	Evg	White	Edible for people. Wildlife fruit	
₩ Huckleberry, red (Vaccinium parvifolia) N	Mid-late spring	Hi	To 8'H x 4'W	Sun to part shade	DT	Dec	Pale pink	Plant w rotten wood. Edible for people. Wildlife fruit	
Lily-of-the-valley bush (Pieris japonica, varieties)	Early-mid spring	V Hi	Varies by type, 24" dia to 8' dia	½ day sun, cool roots	Med. Well drained	Evg	White, cream, or pink		
Manzanita (Arctostaphyllos hybrids)	Early	Hi	Varies, most <10"H and narrower	Sun to mostly sun	* DT, requires sharp drainage	Dec	White to pink	Some types may not be hardy in foothills	
Ninebark (Physocarpus opulifolius, varieties)	Late spring- early summer		From 4' dia to 8' dia, varies by type	Sun to mostly sun	Med	Dec	White to pink	Often red or dark foliage	
Ninebark, Pacific (Physocarpus capitatus) N	Late spring- early summer		12' dia	Part sun	DT. Tolerates wet winter soils	Dec	White	Attractive shredding brown bark	

Ocean spray (Holodiscus discolor) N	Early-mid summer		15'H and narrower	Sun to mostly sun	DT	Dec	Cream		
Pussywillow, pink (Salix 'Mt. Aso')	Early		6' dia	Sun to mostly sun	Med	Dec	Pink catkins	Male	
Pussywillow, weeping (Salix caprea 'Pendula')	Early		6' dia	Sun to mostly sun	Med	Dec	Gray catkins	Male	
Rhododendron (Rhododendron macrophyllum) N	Mid-late spring	Hi	To 12' dia	½ day sun, cool roots	DT. Well- drained	Evg	Pink		
Rhododendron (Rhododendron spp., varieties)	Early spring- early summer	Hi	Varies by type	½ day sun, cool roots. Some types take more sun	Med. Well- drained	Evg	Color varies, white, cream, yellow, red, pink, purple		Subject to lacebug. See "Don't poison your bees" below.
Serviceberry (Amelanchier alnifolia) N	Late spring		10'H x 6'W	Sun to mostly sun	DT	Dec	White	Wildlife fruit	
Twinberry (Lonicera involucrata) N Twinberry (Lonicera involucrata) N	Early-mid summer		To 10' dia	Sun to part shade	MT Moist to wet soils	Dec	Yellow w reddish bracts	Wildlife fruit.	

MEDIUM SHRUBS (3'-6' high)

Plant name (Common name, Botanical name, N	Season	Bee	Size	Exposure	Moisture	Evg	Color	Notes	Warnings
for native plant)		Use				-Dec			
Abelia (Abelia grandiflora, varieties)	Late	Hi	3' - 6' dia.	Sun to	DT	Evg	Pink &		
	spring		Varies by type	mostly			white		
				sun					
Blackcap raspberry (Rubus leucodermis) N	Late spring- early summer		To 4'H and narrower	Sun	DT	Dec	White	Stems have bluish white bark. Wildlife fruit. Edible for people	Thorns

Blueberries, cultivated (Vaccinium corymbosum, varieties)	Mid-late spring	V Hi	3' dia to 8' dia. Varies by type	Sun	Med	Most dec	Cream to pink. Reddish fall color	Culinary	
Blueberry, oval-leaved (Vaccinium ovalifolium) N	Mid spring- early summer	Hi	To 5' dia	Part sun	Med	Dec	Pink	Wildlife fruit. Edible for people	
Ceanothus (Ceanothus spp., varieties)	Late spring- early summer	V Hi	Varies by type, to 8' dia	Sun	* DT. Requires sharp drainage	Evg	Blue	Not hardy in foothills or higher elevations	
Clethra (Clethra alnifolia, varieties)	Late summer		3'-6' dia. Varies by type	Sun to mostly sun	Med. Must not dry out.	Dec	White	Very fragrant	
Cotoneaster (Cotoneaster spp., varieties)	Late spring	V Hi	Varies by type, low to large shrub	Sun to mostly sun	DT	Evg	White	Wildlife fruit	
Dogwood, dwarf redtwig (Cornus stolonifera 'Kelseyi')	Late spring- early summer		30" dia	Sun to mostly sun	MT, DT, wet OK	Dec	White. Red stems. Reddish fall color.	Wildlife fruit	
Hibiscus, hardy (Hibiscus moscheutos, varieties)	Late summer- fall		Varies by type, most 4'-8' dia	Sun	Med	Dec	Color varies, white, pink, purple		
Lily-of-the-valley bush (Pieris japonica, varieties)	Early-mid spring	V Hi	Varies by type, 24" dia to 8' dia	½ day sun, cool roots	Med. Well drained	Evg	White, cream, or pink		
Ninebark (Physocarpus opulifolius, varieties)	Late spring- early summer		From 4' dia to 8' dia, varies by type	Sun to mostly sun	Med	Dec	White to pink	Often red or dark foliage	
Coregon grape, tall (Mahonia aquifolium, or Berberis aquifolium) N	Early-mid spring	V Hi	To 6'H x 3'W	Sun to mostly sun	DT	Evg	Yellow	Wildlife fruit	

Potentilla (Potentilla fruiticosa)	Early-mid summer		Most 4' dia ±	Sun	Med	Dec	Color varies, white, yellow, orange		
Raspberries (Rubus idaeus, varieties)	Late spring-early summer Fall types bloom in mid summer.	V Hi	5-6'H x 3'W	Sun	Med	Dec	White	Culinary. Requires staking.	
Rhododendron (Rhododendron spp., varieties)	Early spring- early summer	Hi	Varies by type	½ day sun, cool roots. Some types take more sun	Med. Well- drained	Evg	Color varies, white, cream, yellow, red, pink, purple		Subject to lacebug. See "Don't poison your bees" below.
Rose (Rosa spp., varieties) Single flower types	Early-mid summer		Varies by type	Sun	Med	Dec	Color varies, white, pink, cream, yellow, red	Use single flower types with exposed pollen for bees.	Thorns
Rose, baldhip (Rosa gymnocarpa) N	Mid summer		5'H and narrower	Sun to part sun	DT	Dec	Pink		Thorns
Rose, nootka (Rosa nutkana) N	Mid summer		5'H, can get taller, and narrower	Sun	DT	Dec	Pink		Thorns
Rose, swamp (Rosa pisocarpa) N	Mid summer		5'H, can get taller, and narrower	Sun to Part sun	■ MT	Dec	Pink		Thorns
Rosemary (Rosemarinus officianalis, varieties)	Late spring	Hi	3' dia, varies by type	Sun	* DT. Needs sharp drainage.	Evg	Blue	Culinary. Most types not hardy in foothills.	

Salmonberry (Rubus spectabilis) N	Early-late spring	V Hi	6'H x 3'W	½ day sun, dappled sun	MT, DT. Tolerates wet winter soil	Dec	Pink	Hummers. Extended bloom. Berries edible for people. Wildlife fruit. Can grow in large pot to contain.	Aggressive spreader. Stickers.
	Early-late summer	V Hi	3'-5' dia	Sun to part shade	DT	Dec	Pink - white	Extended bloom. White berries stay into winter. Wildlife fruit	
★ Spirea (Spirea japonica, varieties)	Early-mid summer Some re- bloom		Varies by type. Most 4' dia	Sun to mostly sun	DT	Dec	Pink or white		
Thimbleberry (Rubus parviflorus) N	Early summer		3'-4' dia	Part sun to part shade	DT	Dec	White	Wildlife fruit. Can grow in large pot to contain.	Aggressive spreader

SMALL SHRUBS (3' high and under) and PERENNIALS

Plant name (Common name, Botanical name, N	Season	Bee	Size	Exposure	Moisture	Evg	Color	Notes	Warnings
for native plant)		Use				-Dec			
Ajuga (Ajuga spp.) Ajuga (Ajuga spp.)	Mid-late spring		Mat forming, flower stalks 6"-8"	Part sun to shade	DT	Evg	Blue		Aggressive spreader
Allium, giant (Allium spp., varieties)	Late spring- early summer	V Hi	Varies by type	Sun	* DT Requires sharp drainage	Dec	Color varies, white, blue, purple	Bulbs	Very toxic to all cats and some dogs
Anemone, Japanese (Anemone x hybrida)	Late summer- fall		To 4'H x 18"W	Part shade	Med	Dec	Pink or white	May spread	
** Aster (Aster chiloensis, Aster subspicatus) N	Mid summer- fall	V Hi	<30"H and narrower	Sun	DT	Dec	Purple		

Aster (Aster spp., varieties)	Mid summer- fall	V Hi	Varies by type	Sun	DT	Dec	Mostly purple		
Blackberry, trailing or evergreen (Rubus ursinus) N	Late spring- early summer	V Hi	Vine	Sun to mostly sun	DT	Evg	White, pink tinge	Wildlife fruit. Edible for people	Aggressive spreader. Stickers
Bleeding heart (Dicentra Formosa) N	Mid spring- early summer		12" dia	Shade, dappled shade	DT	Dec	Pink	Dies back mid summer	Aggressive spreader.
Bluebeard (Caryopteris x clanonensis, varieties)	Mid-late summer	Hi	Varies by type	Sun	* DT Requires very sharp drainage	Dec	Blue	Very slow to emerge in spring. Likes heat	
Camas (Camassia quamash) N	Late spring- early summer		18" dia <u>+</u>	Sun	* DT. Requires sharp drainage	Dec	Blue		
Catmint (Nepeta fassenii, varieties)	Mid summer	V Hi	18" dia	Sun	* Med. Requires sharp drainage	Dec	Blue		
Catnip (Nepeta cataria)	Mid summer- fall	V Hi	36 dia	Sun	Med	Dec	White	Self sows. Cats love it. Birds eat Fall seeds.	
Chives (Allium schoenoprasum)	Late spring- mid summer	V Hi	18"H and spreads	Sun	Med	Dec	Purple	Culinary	Very toxic to all cats and some dogs
Columbine (Aquilegia spp.)	Late spring	V Hi	12"-18" dia, flower stalks higher	Sun to mostly sun	Med	Dec	All colors	Hummers. Self sows	
Columbine, Western (Aquilegia formosa) N	Late spring- early summer	Hi	12-18" dia	Sun to mostly sun	DT	Dec	Orange and yellow	Hummers	
Coneflower and Black-eyed Susan (Rudbeckia spp., varieties)	Mid-late summer		Most 3'H+ and narrower, varies by type	Sun	DT	Dec	All colors		

Coreopsis (Coreopsis spp.)	Mid-late summer		Most <24"H and narrower	Sun	* Needs sharp drainage	Dec	Yellow		
Corydalis (Corydalis spp.)	Mid spring		<12" dia	Sun to part shade	Must not dry out	Dec	Blue or yellow	Dies back mid summer	
Cotoneaster (Cotoneaster spp., varieties)	Late spring	V Hi	Varies by type, low to large shrub	Sun to mostly sun	DT	Evg	White	Wildlife fruit	
Dogwood, dwarf redtwig (Cornus stolonifera 'Kelseyi')	Late spring- early summer		30" dia	Sun to mostly sun	MT, DT, wet OK	Dec	White. Red stems. Reddish fall color	Wildlife fruit	
Epimedium (Epimedium spp., varieties)	Mid spring		<2' H and wider	Shade to part shade. Winter sun OK.	DT	Evg	Yellow	Some types are dec. May spread. Will grow under trees.	
Fireweed (Chamerion angustifolium or Epilobium angustifolium) N	Mid-late summer	V Hi	To 5'H x 18"W	Sun	DT	Dec	Red- purple	Hummers	Aggressive spreader
Foxglove (Digitalis purpurea)	Early-late summer		To 4'H x 1'W	Sun to mostly sun	DT	Evg	Pink or white	Self sows	
₩ Fringecup (Tellima grandiflora) N	Late spring- early summer		Foliage 8"H, flower stalks to 18"	Mostly shade	Med	Dec	Cream	Self sows	
Geranium, hardy (Geranium spp., varieties, such as G. 'Biokovo', G. renardii, G. Rozzanne, G. 'Johnson's Blue', G. macrorrhizum)	Late spring- late summer	V Hi	To 12"H and wider	Sun to mostly sun	Med	Most dec	Color varies, white, blue, purple, pink	Don't confuse with Pelargonium, sold in many stores as "geranium"	
Goatsbeard (Aruncus sylvestris) N	Late spring- mid summer		To 4' H	Sun to part shade	Med	Dec	White		
★ Goldenrod, Canada (Solidago canadensis) N	Fall	Hi	To 4'H x 2'W	Sun	DT	Dec	Gold		
Goldenrod (Solidago spp., varieties)	Fall	Hi	To 4'H x 2'W	Sun	DT	Dec	Gold		

Heal-all, AKA Self-heal (Prunella vulgaris) N Heal-all, AKA Self-heal (Prunella vulgaris) N Heal-all, AKA Self-heal (Prunella vulgaris) N	Late spring- mid summer		Mat forming. Flower stalks to 5"H	Sun to shade	DT	Semi Evg	Purple		Aggressive spreader
Heath (Erica darleyensis, varieties)	Early-late spring	V Hi	12"H x 18"W	Sun	Med	Evg	Color varies, white, pink, purple	Hummers	
Heather (Calluna vulgaris, varieties)	Late summer		12"H x 18"W	Sun	Med	Evg	Color varies, white, pink, purple	Some types have fall color	
Hedge nettle, Cooley's (Stachys cooleyae) N	Early-mid summer		30"H x 12"W	Sun to mostly sun	DT	Dec	Pink	Not a stinging nettle!	
Johnny jump-up (Viola tricolor)	Early summer		Mat forming	Sun to mostly sun	Med	Evg	Color varies, yellow, purple	Self sows	
Kinnickkinnick AKA Bearberry (Arctostaphyllos usa-urvi) N	Mid spring- early summer	Hi	Mat forming	Sun to part sun	DT	Evg	Pink-white	Reliable ground cover. Wildlife fruit	
Lavender (Lavandula spp., varieties)	Late spring- late summer	Hi	Most types 2'- 3' dia	Sun	* Med. Requires sharp drainage	Semi Evg	Purple	Fragrant	Needs care
Lily-of-the-valley bush (Pieris japonica, varieties)	Early-mid spring	V Hi	Varies by type, 24" dia to 8' dia	½ day sun, cool roots	Med. Well drained	Evg	White, cream, or pink		
Lungwort (Pulmonaria spp., varieties)	Early-mid spring		<12"H and wider	Part shade	Med	Dec	Pink or blue		
Lupine, arctic (Lupinus latifolius or Lupinus arcticus) N	Late spring- mid summer		To 24" dia	Sun to mostly sun	DT	Dec	Blue		

★ Lupine, large-leaved (Lupinus polyphyllus) N	Late spring- mid summer		To 4'H and narrower	Sun to mostly sun	DT	Dec	Blue		
Lupine (Lupinus spp., varieties)	Late spring- mid summer		Varies by type	Sun	DT	Dec	Color varies, white, blue, purple		May mildew, needs air circulation
Miner's lettuce, Siberian (Claytonia sibirica) N	Late spring		12" dia	Part shade	DT	Dec.	White to pink	Annual, self- sows	
Mint (Mentha spp., varieties)	Late summer	Hi	Varies	Sun to mostly sun	Med	Dec	White to purple	Culinary	Aggressive spreader
Mint, field (Mentha arvensis) N	Late summer		24"H and spreading	Sun to mostly sun	MT Moist to wet soils	Dec	White to pale purple	Spreads	
Onion, Hooker's (Allium accummatum) N	Late spring- early summer	Hi	12"H and narrower	Sun	* DT. Requires sharp drainage	Dec	Pink	Bulbs	Very toxic to all cats and some dogs
Onion, nodding (Allium cernuum) N	Late spring- early summer	Hi	20"H and narrower	Sun	* DT. Requires sharp drainage	Dec	Pink- purple	Bulbs	Very toxic to all cats and some dogs
Coregon grape, low (Mahonia nervosa or Beberis nervosa) N	Late spring		2'H x 3'W	Mostly shade	DT	Evg	Yellow	Wildlife fruit	
Pearly Everlasting (Anaphalis margeritacea) N	Mid-late summer		To 24" dia	Sun	DT	Dec	White	Self sows. Dried flower heads.	
Penstemon (Penstemon spp., varieties)	Early summer	Hi	Most <24" dia	Sun	DT	Dec	Color varies, blue, purple, red	Hummers	
Penstemon, coast (Penstemon serrulatus) N	Early summer	Hi	24"H and narrower	Sun	* DT. Requires sharp drainage	Dec	Blue- purple	Hummers	Foliage emits bad odor

★ Piggyback (Tolmeia menzieii) N	Late spring- early summer		12" dia	Shade	Tolerates wet winter soils	Dec	Brown to reddish brown	Old leaves sprout new baby plants	
Rhododendron (Rhododendron spp., varieties)	Early spring- early summer	Hi	Varies by type	½ day sun, cool roots. Some types take more sun	Med. Well- drained	Evg	Color varies, white, cream, yellow, red, pink, purple		Subject to lacebug. See "Don't poison your bees" below.
Russian sage (Perovskia atriplicifolia, varieties)	Mid-late summer- fall	Hi	3' dia, varies by type	Sun	* DT. Needs very sharp drainage	Dec	Blue	Likes heat	
★ Salal (Gaultheria shallon) N	Early-mid summer	Hi	3'dia	Part sun to part shade	DT	Evg	White to cream	Plant w rotten wood. Wildlife fruit	
Sage, common, or garden (Salvia officianalis)	Early summer	Hi	30" dia	Sun	* DT. Requires sharp drainage	Evg	Purple	Culinary	
Salvia (Salvia nemerosa, varieties)	Early summer	Hi	Most <24"H and narrower	Sun	* DT. Requires sharp drainage	Dec	Blue or purple		
Sedum, tall (Sedum spectabile, or Hylotelephium spectabile, e.g. 'Autumn Joy' and 'Matrona')	Late summer- fall	V Hi	Most <18" dia	Sun	DT	Dec	Pink		
Snow-in-Summer (Cerastium tomentosum)	Early summer		Mat forming	Sun	DT	Evg	White		
Stonecrop (Sedum spathulifolium, S. integrefolium, S. oreganum, S. divergens, S lanceolatum) N	Early-mid summer	Hi	Mat forming	Sun	DT. Well- drained	Evg	Yellow, rarely pink	Crevices, shallow soils OK. Spreads	
Stonecrop (Sedum album, varieties)	Early-mid summer	Hi	Mat forming	Sun	DT. Well- drained	Evg	White	Crevices., shallow soils OK. Spreads	
Strawberry (Fragaria ananassa, varieties)	Late spring		Mat forming	Sun	Med. Well- drained	Evg	White to pink	Culinary	

Strawberry, coastal (Fragaria chiloensis) N	Late spring		Mat forming	Sun to mostly sun	DT	Evg	White	Wildlife fruit	Aggressive spreader
Strawberry, wild (Fragaria virginiana) N	Late spring		Mat forming	Sun to mostly sun	DT	Most dec	White	Wildlife fruit	Aggressive spreader
Strawberry, woodland (Fragaria vesca) N	Late spring		Mat forming	Part sun- shade	DT	Dec	White	Wildlife fruit	Somewhat invasive
Thyme, culinary (Thymus vulgaris)	Early summer	Hi	12" dia	Sun	* Med. Requires sharp drainage	Evg	White to purple	Culinary	
Thyme, woolly and creeping (Thymus pseudolanguinosus, T. serpyllum)	Early summer		Mat forming	Sun	* Med. Requires sharp drainage	Evg	White, pink, or purple	Some types have minimal bloom. Spreads.	
Veronica, tall (Veronica longifolia, V. spicata, varieties)	Late summer	Hi	Varies with type, most <24" and narrower	Sun	Med	Dec	Color varies, white, red, pink, purple		
★ Yarrow, wild (Achillea millefolium) N	Late summer- fall	Hi	<30"H and narrower	Sun	* DT. Requires sharp drainage	Dec	White	May self-sow	
Yarrow (Achillea spp. varieties)	Late summer- fall	Hi	Most < 4" and narrower	Sun	* DT. Requires sharp drainage	Dec	Color varies, white, pink, cream, yellow		

Information provided by Peg Ferm, Landscape Architect, Peg Ferm Design, LLC

Don't poison your bees!

Avoid fungicides and pesticides, even those called "natural."

Rhododendrons are now often attacked by lacebug. The only controls for lacebug are systemic poisons, which will kill your bees. Rhododendrons with a fuzzy layer of natural indumentum on the bottom of the leaves seem to be immune. This felt-like covering may be brown, orange, or cream colored. Rhodies and azaleas are both subject to this pest. Plants in full sun seem to be move heavily damaged. Choose plants and locations carefully to avoid the need for deadly pesticides.

Plant Toxicity

All plants should be considered toxic if ingested, except for specifically edible parts, such as some berries. Some berries eaten by wildlife may be toxic to humans.

Can you eat this?

This list does not provide information on edible plants. Plants grown for food are noted "culinary." Others may or may not be edible, and all should be considered toxic unless specifically listed as edible by reliable sources on edible plants.

Can the birds eat this?

Plants noted as having "wild fruits" provide food for wildlife, but not for people unless specifically noted.

Watering your plants

Drought tolerant plants need some water to get established. After the first 2-3 years taper off watering, then water only in drought.

Sources

Data for this list was collected in the rural and suburban parts of Monroe and Snohomish, Washington, from 2018 to 2023.

Weeds and invasive non-natives are excluded.

Bloom times will be earlier in urban areas and closer to Puget Sound, and later at higher elevations.

Plants are limited to those observed. There may be many more plants not listed that attract native bees.