

Perfect native plants!

Here's popular choices for Springfield naturescaping. Check with your nursery for seasonal availability.

| COMMON NAME | LIGHT | SOIL | EVERGREEN | DECIDUOUS | FLOWERING | NOTES |
|--------------------------|----------------------|--------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|---|
| TREES | | | | | | |
| Bigleaf Maple | Full to partial sun | Moist | | X | | Fast growing, large tree |
| Cascara | Full to partial sun | Moist to dry | | X | X | Small, erect tree, tends to favor southern facing aspects |
| Douglas Fir | Full to partial sun | Moist | X | | | Fast growing, very large tree |
| Oregon White Oak | Full sun | Dry | | X | | Slow growing to 80 feet |
| Red Alder | Full sun | Wet to moist | | X | | Fast growing to 80 feet |
| Western Serviceberry | Full sun | Moist to dry | | X | X | Small tree/large shrub to 10 feet, berries attract songbirds |
| SHRUBS | | | | | | |
| Douglas Spirea | Full to partial sun | Wet to moist | | X | X | Spreads, flowers attract butterflies, provides dense habitat for bird nesting |
| Evergreen Huckleberry | Full to partial sun | Moist | X | | X | Slow growing to 13 feet, berries attract songbirds |
| Indian Plum | Sun to shade | Moist | | X | X | Spreads, up to 16 feet tall, early spring blooms, fruit attracts songbirds |
| Kinnikinnick | Full to partial sun | Dry | X | | X | Spreads, berries attract some birds |
| Mock Orange | Full to partial sun | Moist to dry | | X | X | Showy, aromatic flowers |
| Ocean Spray | Full to partial sun | Moist to dry | | X | X | Cascading, creamy-white flower clusters |
| Oregon Grape | Full sun | Moist | X | | X | Spreads, berries attract songbirds |
| Pacific Ninebark | Full to partial sun | Wet to moist | | X | X | Spreads, flowers attract butterflies, seeds provide food for birds |
| Red-flowering Currant | Full sun | Moist to dry | | X | X | Spreads, flowers attract hummingbirds and butterflies |
| Red Huckleberry | Partial sun | Moist | | X | X | Berries attract songbirds |
| Red Osier Dogwood | Full to partial sun | Wet to moist | | X | X | Thicket-forming shrub that grows quickly to 10 feet, excellent cover for wildlife |
| Salal | Full to partial sun | Moist to dry | X | | X | Thicket-forming, excellent cover for wildlife |
| Snowberry | Sun to shade | Moist to dry | | X | X | Berries attract birds, but are mildly poisonous to humans |
| Swamp Rose | Sun to shade | Wet to moist | | X | X | Spreads, flower attract birds |
| Vine Maple | Full to partial sun | Moist | | X | | Spreads, showy fall foliage |
| HERBACEOUS PLANTS | | | | | | |
| Bleeding Heart | Full to partial sun | Moist | | X | X | Spreads, up to 1.5 feet tall |
| Bunchberry | Full to partial sun | Moist | X | | X | Low and trailing |
| False Lily-of-the-valley | Partial sun to shade | Moist | | X | X | Up to 15 inches tall, lightly fragrant, flowers and berries attract birds |
| Lady Fern | Tolerant | Wet to moist | | X | | Spreads, fast growing |
| Maidenhair Fern | Tolerant | Wet to moist | | X | | Spreads |
| Oregon Stonecrop | Full Sun | Dry | X | | X | Spreads, fast growing, needs well-drained soil |
| Redwood Sorrel | Partial Sun | Moist | | X | X | Spreads, select Oxalis oregano or Redwood Sorrel – other species can be invasive |
| Sword Fern | Sun to shade | Moist to dry | X | | | Spreads |
| Waterleaf | Full to partial sun | Moist | | X | X | Spreads |
| Wild Ginger | Partial sun to shade | Moist | X | | | Spreads |
| Blue Wildrye | Full to partial sun | Dry | X | | | Fast spreading bunchgrass, tall (up to 3 feet), excellent erosion control |
| Slender Hairgrass | Partial Sun | Moist | X | | | 1-4 feet tall bunchgrass, excellent erosion control |
| Spike Bentgrass | Full sun | Moist | X | | | Spreads, 1-4 feet tall |

GET RECOGNIZED

Springfield's Stormwater Team wants to recognize your support of clean water! If you install a naturescape, rain harvesting system, rain garden, or porous surface, contact us to receive a recognition package that includes a metal "Clean Water Garden" sign for your yard and gardening gloves. *Find Springfield's entire collection of Clean Water Garden brochures at bit.ly/cleanwatergarden.*

CONTACT US

We're here to help keep Springfield's rivers clean, so we're here to help you do that too!



For more info, contact the Stormwater Team
SpringfieldStreams.org, 541.726.3694
WaterResources@springfield-or.gov

CITY OF SPRINGFIELD, OREGON

Clean Water
GARDEN

NATURESCAPING
Landscape as habitat



RETURN TO THE WILD WITH



Naturescaping

Naturescaping is landscaping that uses native plants to create healthy habitat for birds, butterflies and other wildlife. Not ready to re-design your entire yard? No worries. Naturescaping can be mixed with traditional landscaping. It's easy to start in just one area of your yard.

STEP 1: GET TO KNOW YOUR YARD

Get to know your yard and identify micro-habitats, such as areas that are dry or wet, shady or sunny, or varying slopes. Determine what type of soil you have and notice the drainage.

STEP 2: DESIGN YOUR GARDEN

Sketch a plan of your yard. Include structures, micro-habitats, trees or plants to keep, and designated areas (vegetable gardens, lawn, etc.). Then review your plan and identify design opportunities. Consider the views from within your yard or the house. Are there views to maintain, enhance, or obscure?

STEP 3: CHOOSE YOUR PLANTS

To get the best from your choices, make sure your plants are native to the Springfield, Oregon, area.

Wildlife need four things: cover, food, water, and a place to raise young. Your choice of greenery affects this. Let's look!

COVER: Mimic natural habitats by planting in layers. Using trees for the canopy, shrubs for an understory, and herbaceous plants for groundcover will provide habitat for a variety of wildlife. If your area is not large enough for trees, choose shrubs of various heights.

► **Trees:** Consider some of the following: What size of tree can your area accommodate? Which trees meet the conditions of the microhabitat? Would you prefer a deciduous or evergreen tree?



► **Shrubs:** Consider the light, soil, and moisture conditions of your site. Think about whether you want deciduous or evergreen shrubs. Consider if you want flowers on them.

► **Herbaceous plants:** These smaller, non-woody plants may be perennials or annuals. Take note of growth characteristics: some herbaceous plants spread quickly to fill a space while others spread slowly or not at all.

FOOD: Native vegetation naturally provides food. Identify the wildlife you would like to attract and choose plants accordingly. Generally, butterflies and honeybees like plants with nectar, birds like berries and flowers with seeds, mammals like fruits and vegetables, and so on.

WATER: Water features can include bird baths, ponds, intentional puddles, or rain gardens (for temporary storage of water).

During warm months, change the water a few times a week to prevent mosquitoes and disease. For a puddle, add a rock where butterflies and honeybees can land.

A PLACE TO RAISE YOUNG: Many features that serve as cover can double as a suitable place to raise young. Certain wildflowers can be ideal for butterflies and moths to lay eggs. Trees, shrubs, or a birdhouse might invite a song bird to stay and raise a family.

STEP 4: SITE PREPARATION

Identify any invasive plants that need removal, such as English ivy, vinca (periwinkle), and morning glory. Learn more about invasive plants from



TIP: Flip this page over for our suggestions of creature-friendly native plants.

BENEFITS OF NATURESCAPING:

- Attracts local wildlife naturally and provides habitat.
- Helps conserve water since native plants grow well here.
- Lower costs and health risks as there's less need for pesticides and fertilizers.
- Less time on maintenance since native plants grow in the area naturally.
- Reduces pollution in stormwater due to less chemical use and increased greenery. This improves water quality in the Willamette and McKenzie Rivers.

Oregon's Department of Agriculture at oregon.gov/oda/programs/Weeds/Pages/AboutWeeds.aspx.

Determine the status of your soil, as it may need organic compost added; particularly for compacted soil or heavy clay.

Locate any underground utilities. Always CALL 811 before you dig.

STEP 5: PLANTING

The best time to plant is during the plants' dormant season (late fall to early spring). Fall is a good time to plant trees and shrubs to let them root during the wet winter months and increase their chance of surviving the summer.

Dig the hole at least 1.5 times the size of the root mass. Consider mixing in some organic matter such as compost or potting soil when you back fill the hole. The base of the main stalk, or the trunk, should be level with the ground once planted.

Add a layer of mulch, 2"-4" thick, to help hold in moisture and prevent weeds.

STEP 6: MAINTENANCE

Water your plants until they are established. Typically that's during two summers, and as needed after that. Pull weeds regularly until the plants are established enough to out-compete the weeds.



Find Springfield's entire collection of Clean Water Garden brochures at bit.ly/cleanwatergarden.