

# Grand Fir



Needles: 2 flattened rows, dark yellowish-green and grooved, 2 white lines beneath.

Cones: Erect, 4-6" long and disintegrate on the tree.

Branches: Flat sprays of lustrous needles.



Bark: On younger trees greyish brown, usually with white mottles, smooth with resin blisters. Bark becomes ridged and scaly with age.



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PNW Native Plant

*Abies grandis*

Evergreen Tree **Fragrant!**

## Cultural Uses:

Needles can be boiled and used as a medicinal tea for colds. A brown dye can be made from the bark and used in basketry. Occasionally used as a fuel, incense and canoes.

Full shade

Moist soils

## Ecology:

Dry to moist coniferous forest in rainforest areas. Usually found with Douglas fir from low to mid elevations.

## General:

Its dark-green needles and strong fragrance make it a popular choice for a Christmas tree. Its stately appearance, tall and straight, makes it a popular choice for landscaping, as it can grow up to 250 feet. It is also used to make plywood and paper, like other true firs.

# Noble Fir



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**Bark:** Young bark is gray and smooth with resin blisters. Older bark breaks into furrows with flat, narrow ridges.

**Needles:** It's easy to identify Noble Fir by looking at the underside of a twig. The needles are shaped like hocky sticks, and sweep away from the twig uniformly, giving them a combed appearance. The needles are blue-green with white on both surfaces.



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**Cones:** The cones sit upright on the branch near the tree top, like other firs. But Noble Fir cones have distinctive whiskery bracts that stick out beyond the scales. Since the cones fall apart at maturity, you are not likely to find any under the tree. However, you may be able to find some of the scales with their unique bracts on the ground.



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PNW Native Plant

*Abies procera*

## Evergreen Tree Christmas Tree

### General Uses:

The wood is valued for lumber due to its strength and fine grain. It has been used in airplanes and ladders because it is strong and light. Noble Fir lumber was once sold as Oregon Larch. Since fir wood had little commercial value as lumber, Noble Fir was marketed as the more highly prized larch. Several peaks called Larch Mountain are named after this tree. Noble Fir is also popular Christmas tree and often planted as an ornamental. It is arguably the most attractive of the native firs because of its symmetrical form, bluish color, and the elegant, well-groomed appearance of its needles.

### Cultural Uses:

Like other firs, noble fir leaves, bark, and resin are used to build immunity, fight infection, and heal wounds.

Shade  
tolerant

Thrives in  
moist areas

### Description

Needles: Bent like hocky sticks  
Cones: 4-6" long, up-right at tree top, whiskery bracts  
Bark: Gray-brown becoming furrowed  
Where: Above 2000 ft. in western Oregon and Washington



# Big Leaf Maple

Fall colors



Spring buds and flowers



Leaves opposite, palmate, 5 lobed, 8-12 inches long



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*Acer macrophyllum*

PNW Native Plant

Large deciduous multi-stemmed tree at low to mid elevation

Mossy branches

**Cultural Uses:** A light soft wood used in making furniture. First nations used it for paddles and various other instruments giving it the name "paddle tree." Sap can be used to make maple syrup.



Shade tolerant

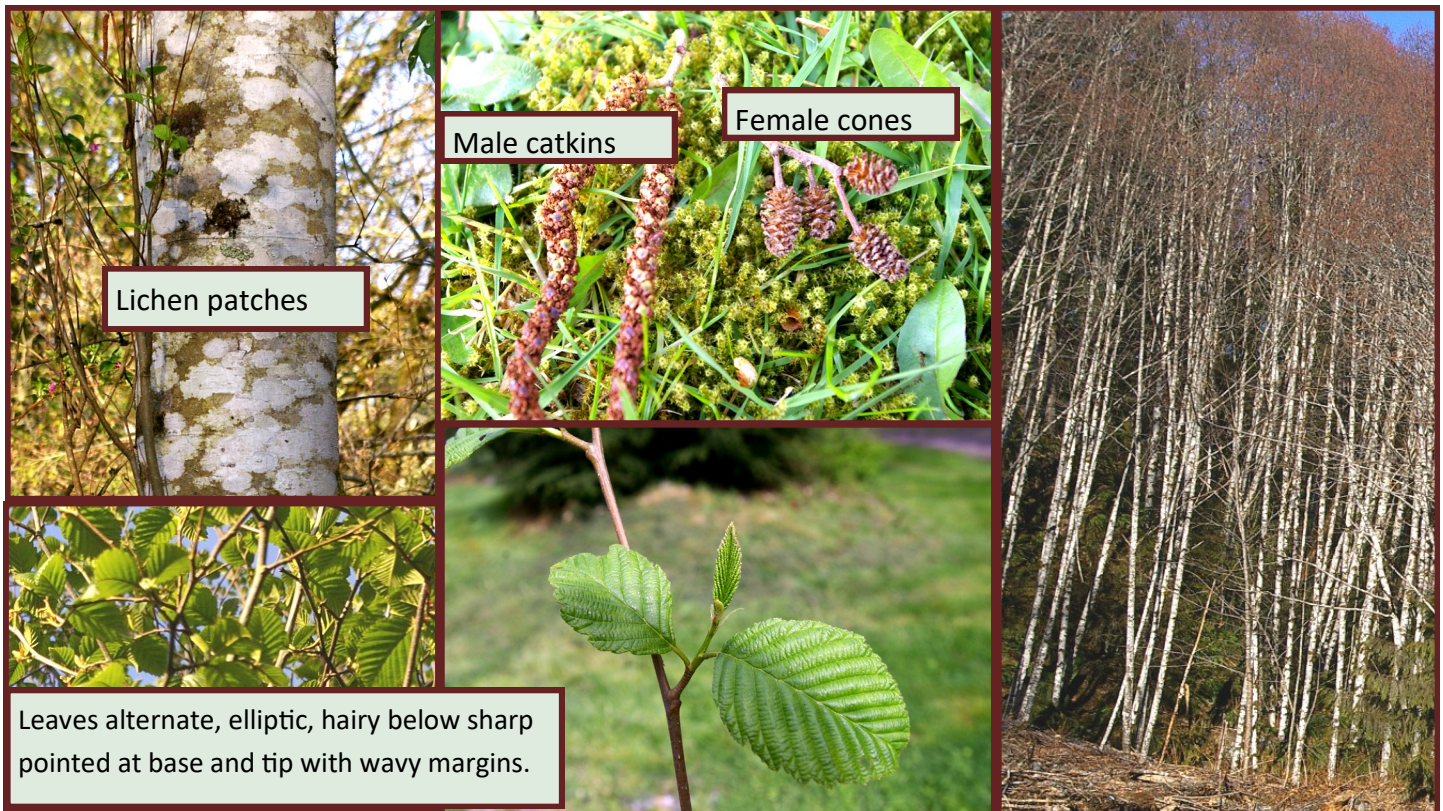
**Ecology:** Dry to moist sites, often disturbed, mixed with western Washington trees

## **Restoration and Landscape Uses:**

This is a medium sized tree, growing to about 60-80 ft. tall. It needs plenty of room but offers year round interest providing beautiful fall colors and spring flowers that attract bees and birds. The branches carry a heavy load of moss and other plants such as licorice fern and can be completely obscured. They are considered a strong competitor to conifer seedlings. The seeds are v-shaped and carried by the wind to repopulate.



# Red Alder



Lichen patches

Male catkins

Female cones

Leaves alternate, elliptic, hairy below sharp pointed at base and tip with wavy margins.

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PNW Native Plant

*Alnus rubra*

## Deciduous Tree *Salmon Smoker*

### Cultural Uses:

Red-alder wood is considered the best fuel for smoking salmon and fish. When inner bark is exposed to air it turns bright red making it valuable as a dye. The inner bark of red alder is eaten in spring by the Straits Salish and is valued for its medicinal qualities.

### Mostly Sunny



Moist soils

Ecology: Moist woods, stream-banks, flood-plains, slide tracks

### Restoration and Landscape Uses:

Red Alder prefers mostly sunny conditions. It likes moist soil and forms dense stands and is the first tree to appear after logging. It can grow up to 130 feet tall but usually reaches 30-50 feet in height. The bark is gray, smooth and thin with distinctive patches of white lichen. As the tree ages the bark appears scaly at the base. Red Alder is a nitrogen fixer.



# Madrone or Madrona



Famous for its young smooth chartreuse bark that peels away after turning brownish-red.



Leaves are alternate, oval, dark shiny green on top and white green below, thick and leathery. Flowers are urn like and fragrant, 6-7mm long in large drooping clusters.



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PNW Native Plant

## *Arbutus menziesii*

Small to medium broadleaf evergreen tree with heavy branches,

## Stunning Bark

### Restoration and Landscape Uses:

This beautiful tree is known for its chartreuse and smooth young bark that peels away turning brownish-red. It has beautiful orange-red berries in the fall with white flowers in the spring. These trees can be found along the western shore from San Diego to the Georgia Strait.

Full sun



**Dry rocky SOILS**

**Ecology:** Dry rocky sites, rock bluffs and canyons, low to mid elevation found with Douglas fir and Garry Oak.

### Cultural Uses:

Mostly known for a few medicinal uses. Some tribes in California have been known to eat the berries but they do not taste good. They are a valuable food source for robins, varied thrushes and band-tailed pigeons. In Latin *Arbutus* means “strawberry tree” which refers to the bright red berries in the fall.



# Sitka Spruce



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PNW Native Plant

*Picea sitchensis*

Conifer found from sea level to 1000ft elevation

Unique Bark

## Restoration and Landscape Uses:

Sitka Spruce prefers moist conditions and does well in full to partial sun light. Due to the sharp needles deer tend to avoid this sapling so a good choice to plant in areas with deer. The Spruce is a great tree for wetland areas but too large for a landscape setting. The tree can grow up to 200 feet tall.



**Ecology:** Mostly found on moist sites, marine terraces and avalanche tracks

**Cultural Uses:** The roots are used to make water-tight hats and baskets and the pitch is chewed for pleasure or medicinal plasters, keeping a wound clean while healing. Roots can be heated, pounded and made into cordage. The spruce tips are edible and nutritious and used to make tea. It is considered to be uplifting and invigorating.



# Western White Pine



Needles are in bundles of 5, 2-4 inches long, light bluish-green, slender and flexible with white lines of stomata on 2 of 3 sides



White Pine  
Blister Rust



Pollen cones



Seed cones

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PNW Native Plant

*Pinus monticola*

Highly susceptible to  
white pine blister rust!

Mountain-dweller

## Cultural Uses:

White Pine was used as a medicine by the Quinault, Lummi, Skagit, Hoh and Quileute. A tea was made from the bark for medicinal uses. Pine is said to be uplifting, strengthening, and refreshing. Today it is an important timber tree with light-weight straight grained wood.

Full sun



Part shade

Moist soils

**DRY SOILS**

**Ecology:** Grows from sea level to 3,000 ft. in western Washington. It is present in numerous habitat types.

## Restoration and Landscaping:

White pine is a conical shaped, medium sized fast growing tree up to 40m tall. It tolerates many soil types and shade conditions. It takes 3 growing seasons for seeds to mature. Western white pine is very susceptible to white pine blister rust although new more resistant strains are available at nurseries today.

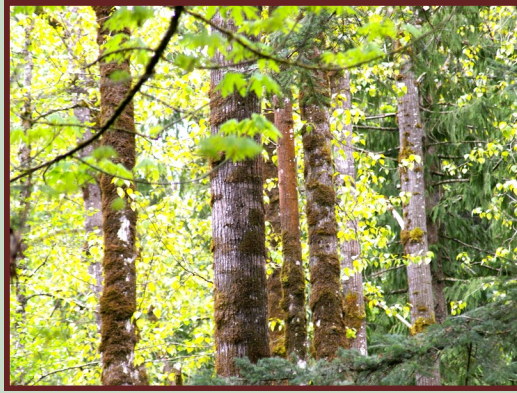


# Black Cottonwood

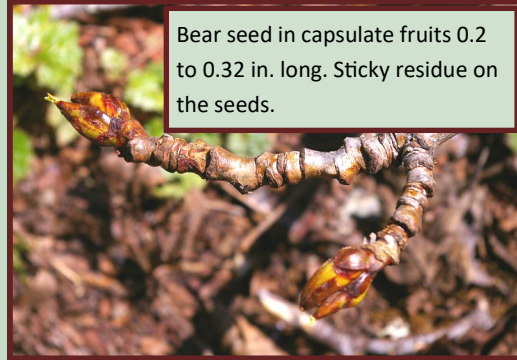
Leaves oval with rounded to heart shaped base, alternate and thick



Flowers in catkins are different for males and females, long when mature.



Bear seed in capsulate fruits 0.2 to 0.32 in. long. Sticky residue on the seeds.



Old bark deeply furrowed, dark grey.

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*Populus balsamifera*

PNW Native Plant

## Deciduous Tree *Tall and Straight*

### Cultural Uses:

Cottonwood is an excellent fuel for cooking fish and has many uses. The sticky buds are used medicinally and the leaves are boiled and used in baths for body pains. Young shoots are used to make sweat lodge frames.

Mostly Sunny



Moist to wet soils

### Ecology:

Low to medium elevation forming extensive stands.

### General:

This tall and fast growing deciduous tree grows up to 50m tall. The buds of the tree are sticky and fragrant and the bark becomes deeply furrowed and grey as it ages. The leaves are alternate, thick and oval with heart shaped base. Cottonwoods rarely grow far from water and serve as a great nest site for bald eagles.



# Douglas Fir



Bottom of needles



Top of needles

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*Pseudotsuga menziesii*

PNW Native Plant

Big and abundant, one of the PNW's truly majestic tree species.

Strong, straight and fast

General: Douglas Fir is a large coniferous tree that is fast growing. It can grow up to 300 feet tall. is a great back drop tree and good for screening. Needs open space, about a 15 foot diameter, to provide good circulation. Douglas fir has thick bark which allow them to survive moderate surface fires. It prefers sun and is shade intolerant.

Full sun to part shade

Moist to dry soils

## Ecology:

Extremely dry elevation sites as well as moist montane sites.

Cultural Uses: Douglas Fir is the Pacific Northwest's chief crop and export tree. Douglas Fir is used as fuel, to make spear handles, spoons, salmon weirs by native peoples and the boughs of the fir are used in the sweat lodge by the Swinomish. It is also used as a medicinal by boiling needles, bark and bud tips in water for teas. The pitch was used for sealing joints for harpoon heads and fish hooks.



# Western Red Cedar



Scale-like leaves, closely pressed to stem



Seed cones green when immature, turning brown



Buttressed base

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*Thuja Plicata*

PNW Native Plant

Generous Evergreen Tree

Tree of Life

## Cultural Uses:

Cedar wood is a culturally important resource, known as “the cornerstone of Northwest Coast Indian culture.” The many uses of Cedar wood include; house planks, boxes, dugouts, arrow shafts , and posts. The bark is used more often and the uses include; clothes, ceremonial head bands, dishes, mats, baskets, sails and cooking pit liners. It also had many medicinal uses from chewing the buds to boiling the leaves for coughs.

Part sun

Moist to wet soils

## Ecology:

Shaded forests, grows best on seepage, bogs, and bottomlands

## General:

Western Red Cedar grows mostly on low, moist or wet bottomlands and is shade tolerant. This tall and straight large tree can reach up to 200 feet tall and grow 3 to 5 feet in diameter. Its branches spread horizontally, tips up-turned; then, below, they take a down curve. Mature trees often fluted and buttressed at the base. Red Cedars range from sea level to 4500', growing from Alaska down into Northern California.



# Western Hemlock



New needle growth



Bark



Floppy top



Pollen cones

Immature seed cones



Mature seed cones



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PNW Native Plant

*Tsuga heterophylla*

Evergreen tree grows to  
180 feet tall

Washington State Tree

## Cultural Uses:

The "State Tree of Washington" is a really important tree. Due to its high tannin content it is used for tanning, pigment and cleansing solutions. The Coast Salish use a red dye made from the bark and as a facial cosmetic. It is easily carved into spoons, spits, combs, spear shafts and wedges. The branches are used for bedding and spawn collection. It is used extensively as medicine by most groups of the Pacific Northwest.

Part sun

Full shade

Moist to dry soils

## Ecology:

Common on low to mid elevations, shade tolerant and well adapted to grow on decaying wood

## General:

The Western Hemlock is shade tolerant coniferous tree but grows best on moist, humus soils. The tree grows well in shade and is a very large tree that can grow up to 180 feet tall. The wood is soft, weak and prone to splitting. A species more likely to be found growing on old nurse logs, snags and root wads. Mountain Hemlock is less shade-tolerant, has larger cones, grows to 40m tall and is found in subalpine regions. mainly in subalpine