

Washington Native Plant Society - South Sound Chapter
Native Plant Hike

Date: Tuesday, May 2, 2017

Title/Location: Chase Gardens, 16015 26th St E, Orting

Hike Leader: Cyndy Dillon Contact Information: cpdillongh@comcast.net, cell 253 225-9284

Departure Time: 10am

Estimated Return Time: 12pm

Departure location: Chase Gardens parking area Number of people: 12, please RSVP

Hike Description: This will be one of the last opportunities to visit the garden as it will be sold in June. Called "one of the ten most beautiful gardens in America," the Chase Garden is a 4 ½-acre garden that artfully combines Japanese and midcentury design with the naturalistic look of a Pacific Northwest woodland landscape. Sitting on a bluff overlooking the grand vista of the Puyallup River Valley, forested Cascade foothills, and an unforgettable view of Mount Rainier, the Chase Garden is the perfect destination. For over forty years, starting in the 1960's, Emmott and Lone Chase built a creative interpretation of the natural landscape, with drifts of rock garden plants inspired by Mount Rainier's storied "Paradise" wildflower fields. In addition to native shrubs, carpets of trillium, fawn lilies, and vanilla leaf, in the woodland of second-growth Douglas fir trees, you will find an artful patchwork of unusual groundcovers and perennials against a backdrop of Japanese maples, colorful rhododendrons, and conifers.

Any special requirements: Please RSVP to cpdillongh@comcast.net in case we need to cancel. Dress for the weather; trails may be muddy. Water and cookies will be provided.

Driving directions: From I-5 North or South, take Highway 512 East toward Puyallup. From 512, take the Canyon Road exit (fourth exit) and turn right (south) on Canyon Road. Continue for about 4.1 miles to 176th Street East. At this major intersection, turn left (east) and continue about 3 miles to Meridian Avenue East. Stay in the right hand lane and turn right (south) onto Meridian Avenue east (Highway 161). Continue south for 5.6 miles, going through Graham and over a steep hill to 264th Street East. Turn left (east) onto 264th Street East and continue about 3.5 miles. The Chase Garden driveway will be on the left, marked by a sign that says "Chase Garden" at 16015. Take the drive on the right down to the visitor's center.