



# The Acorn

*Serving the South Sound Chapter of the  
Washington Native Plant Society*

**Fall 2010**

## **The Queets Field Trip By Chris Earle**

On August 14, six hardy WNPS members made the trek from Olympia to the Queets Valley to enjoy a day of adventure and botany in sweltering heat under a cloudless sky. The adventure largely consisted of fording the swift and chilly Queets River, feeling our way cautiously across in thigh-deep waters turned milky by glacial flour. The river was much higher than expected, due to delayed snowmelt and due to it having come up noticeably during our hike as the high heat was accelerating snowmelt, which made getting back a bit more difficult than getting in. Because safety is always a first consideration, we did consider forgoing the crossing.

The botanizing consisted of a trek about three miles up the valley through a floodplain forest of Sitka spruce, red alder and bigleaf maple punctuated by clearings left by homesteaders who settled the area in the 1890s; as late as the early 1970s many structures remained and rangers maintained one or two of the locations as backcountry stations. As a result, we encountered a pristine wilderness watershed filled with invasive plants such as Himalayan and evergreen blackberries. Almost as interesting was the suite of

plants that we did not see: no salal, no Oregon grape, no nettles; dozens of common Olympic forest plants are missing from this valley, while in their place species of the Rosaceae and Saxifragaceae dominate the shrub and herb strata. Along the way, we also saw the largest Sitka spruce in the world and the largest Douglas-fir in the United States; resting in the shade of the big Douglas fir we recorded an air temperature of 92 °.

There was some talk about Queets area history on the walk. This is a good link, describing a proper Queets adventure in 1889:

<http://www.windsox.us/PIONEERS/BOOK/P266.html>

Some later history is described here:

<http://www.windsox.us/SWEST/swqueets.html>

Route: Queets campground trailhead to the Douglas-fir big tree, 2.6 miles up the valley.

*Note: During our field trip, Chris prepared a plant list of those plants we encountered, about 90 species. The list will be on the South Sound Chapter's website for botanists to add what they find. Join Chris on the next field trip to Mt. Rainier, Saturday, September 18 (See details in Field Trip Section).*



*Crossing the Queets by Chris Earle*



*End of the Hike by Chris Earle*

# South Sound Chapter Activities

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## Election of Chapter officers

In 2009, with a change in the bylaws, we modified the election procedure for chapter officers to provide for broader participation by providing for e-mail or paper voting for the chapter officer positions. The following procedure will be used:

1. At the October chapter meetings, the proposed slate of officers will be presented by the nominations committee and additional nominations solicited, after which no further nominations will be accepted. The ballot will also allow for a *write-in*.

Currently we have a full slate of nominees from the committee as follows:

Chair - Seth Swanson

Vice Chair (Thurston County) - Bonnie Blessing-Earle

Vice Chair (Pierce County) - Cyndy Dillon

Secretary - Byrna Klavano

Treasurer - Sue Summers

2. By October 20, 2010, an email ballot will be sent to all members for whom we have current email addresses and paper ballot to those without current email addresses on file. If you have not received a ballot by October 26 contact Reba Olsen at [reba.sue@comcast.net](mailto:reba.sue@comcast.net), or 253-531-8652.
3. Paper ballots must be postmarked by November 2 and they must be received no later than November 9 to be counted. Electronic ballots must be received by November 2.
4. Results will be announced at the November meetings, on the chapter website and in the newsletter.

## South Sound Chapter's First Fall Plant Sale, October 16, 9 am to 3 pm.

Mark your calendars for October 16 for the first Fall Plant Sale by the South Sound Chapter of WNPS. The sale will be held at the Remann Hall greenhouses of the YMCA, 5501 6th Avenue, in Tacoma. Remann Hall conducts a horticultural program for youth that need to do community service. We have the use of greenhouses and the entry area for a sale. Proceeds will be shared with that program in return for use of the facility and help in maintaining the plants at the site. Our portion of the proceeds will go to support chapter programs.

For the sale to be a success, we need your help. We need volunteers for: 1) a greenhouse work party and weeding in late September; 2) laminating party to laminate signage for the sale; 3) setting up the day before the sale, October 15; 4) helping during the sale as checkers and providing information to customers about native plants; and 5) breaking down and cleaning up after the sale.

We are also soliciting donations of native plants for the sale in addition to plants we are purchasing wholesale. If you have native plants that you are willing to donate that can be potted for the sale, they will be greatly appreciated. To volunteer and get involved in this fun activity, contact our sale coordinator, Bonnie Blessing-Earle, at [bonnie.blessing@gmail.com](mailto:bonnie.blessing@gmail.com); or Bill Brookreson at [b.brookreson@comcast.net](mailto:b.brookreson@comcast.net) or 253-564-1137.

## Lee Fellenberg Donates a Projector and Two Netbooks By Reba Olsen

Lee Fellenberg has donated a projector for use at our Tacoma meetings, and two netbooks for use with the two projectors, one of which our chapter had earlier purchased. (A netbook is a small, lightweight laptop computer suited for general computing and accessing Web-based applications.) His intention was that we would not need to carry one projector, which is stored in Tacoma or Olympia, between meeting locations and would not have to worry about getting network connection when needed. He hopes the equipment lasts many years, and that we enjoy them. He donated them in memory of Mary Fries.

Lee joined the Washington Native Plant Society in 1976 as one of the charter members. He is the web manager for our chapter, a board position that he has held since January

2004. He also handles all bulk mailings, postal mail and email. He appreciates native plants in the wild and in landscaping sites. He occasionally plants a native that is special to him.

He became interested in wild flowers while camping with his family in his childhood. He also took two years of Field Botany in high school, where he met Gordon D. Alcorn, PhD, a longtime biology professor at the University of Puget Sound, Tacoma. (The entire campus of UPS is named the Gordon Dee Alcorn Arboretum.) Dr. Alcorn told him how to join the Washington Native Plant Society that was then forming.

...continued on next page

## South Sound Chapter Activities

*Lee Fellenberg donation concluded...*

The generosity of WNPS members in general is significant, but Lee's donation to us is amazing. Having the equipment irons out some difficulties with having our monthly meetings in two locations. We will take very good care of the equipment because we appreciate it very much.

Thank you, Lee.

### **Reba Olsen - A Note of Appreciation for a Job Well Done**

Reba Olsen will be retiring as chair of the South Sound Chapter of the Washington Native Plant Society when the election is completed in November. Fortunately, as immediate past chair, Reba will remain as a member of the chapter executive board. Reba became chair about 1½ years ago when Anna Thurston resigned. She was elected chair in November, 2009, when her preference would have been not to run but no other candidates came forward. That is very much like Reba who had for some time worked diligently behind the scenes doing the work of the chapter and becoming a Native Plant Steward. Our member's volunteer efforts are the key to the success of WNPS.

During her tenure, Reba has done an excellent job of leading our chapter. Under her leadership, we were able to revise our outdated bylaws and allow for electronic ballots. We are embarking on our first chapter plant sale in October and we continue with our restoration efforts. Reba still takes care of the details behind the scenes. She is my ace proof reader who seldom misses my errors in the newsletter. She systematizes the tasks of the chapter as she does in this issue for the chair position. She has done her job well in serving our chapter. Thank you, Reba, for a job well done and for all you will continue to contribute.

*From Bill B. and the executive board.*

## WNPS State News

WNPS State Board Meeting, October 16, 2010, at the State WNPS office, 6310 NE 74th Street, Suite 215E, Seattle, WA 98115.

## Plant and Seed Sales

### **Water-wise/Native Plant Sale September 19, 11 am to 4 pm**

The Native Plant Salvage Foundation will offer a water-wise plant sale with an educational twist on Sunday, September 19. Horticulture experts will offer one-on-one advice about the best plants for your landscape to save water, attract birds and butterflies, and reduce maintenance. Hundreds of hard-to-find native and ornamental shrubs, perennials, grasses, and groundcovers will be featured. The event takes place rain or shine at the WSU Extension/County Parks offices at 4131 Mud Bay Rd. W. (formerly McLane Fire Station), Olympia. Call 360-867-2164 or see [www.nativeplantsalvage.org](http://www.nativeplantsalvage.org) for more details and directions.

### **South Sound Chapter's Fall Native Plant Sale October 16, 9 am to 3 pm**

See details under Chapter news.

### **Central Puget Sound Chapter's Fall Native Bulb, Seed and Plant Sale Saturday, October 16, 10 am to 4 pm**

The Central Puget Sound Chapter will hold its annual fall native bulb, seed, and plant sale in Building 30 at Magnuson Park, 6310 NE 74th Street, Seattle. The fall sale features camas and other lily bulbs as well as a big selection of native seeds, trees, shrubs, other plants and native plant books. The list of species will be posted at [www.wnps.org](http://www.wnps.org) in September. Because not all plant orders can be filled by our suppliers, the list is updated right up to the time of the sale. Come early for the best selection! Please bring your own trays or boxes if you can.

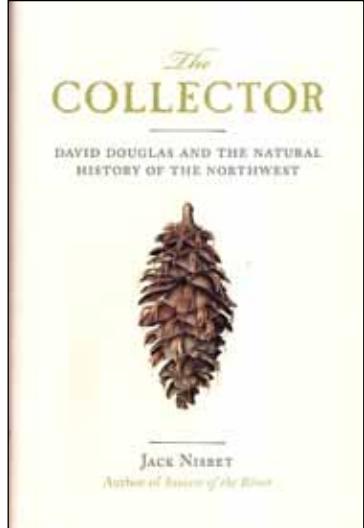
Magnuson Park is located on Sand Point Way. From I-5 north bound take the WA-520 east bound; exit at Montlake, left towards University of Washington; go straight into NE 45th which turns into Sand Point Way NE. Magnuson park is approximately two miles along Sand Point Way.

### **Welcome Our New Members in 2010**

Katie Swickard  Jim & Gail Goedert  Romey Haberle  Karin Strelioff  
Kate Haefele  Joe Rocchio  Peter Hamar  Leslie and Conley Goodwin  
Joan Ashcraft  Marin Palmer  Julie Martinez

# Chapter Meetings

**Meeting Times and Locations:** We are very pleased to offer another series of interesting and educational speakers for our fall meetings. Chapter meetings are 7–9 pm. They are normally scheduled on the second Monday of each month from October through May in Olympia and the second Wednesday in Tacoma. There is a quick review of local items and announcements, and a presentation lasting approximately an hour. Programs are geared for all levels of botanical knowledge. Unless otherwise noted, all Olympia meetings are at Capitol Museum Coach House, 211 21st Avenue SW, Olympia; and all Tacoma meetings are at Tacoma Nature Center, 1919 South Tyler Street, Tacoma. Meetings are free and open to the public. Please contact John Neorr at [presentations@southsoundchapterwnps.org](mailto:presentations@southsoundchapterwnps.org) if you have a suggestion for a future presentation.

October 2010	<p><b>Monday, October 11 (Olympia), Roger Ryno</b> <b>"Mysterious Kingdom: Mushrooms in the Forests of Puget Sound"</b></p> <p>Fungi are the hidden residents of our local forests. From parasite, to saprophyte to symbiotic partner, fungal roles in the forest ecosystem are essential to plant health. Far from being a mere recycler of plant debris, many fungi, including our most popular local edible species, form intricate and mutualistic relationships with plants.</p> <p>Beginning with man's ignorance, wonder and fear of mushrooms, we will examine many of the local edible species of mushrooms that make Puget Sound such a rich location for mushroom hunting. This talk is timed for the height of the local mushroom season and should have many freshly gathered samples for display. Members are encouraged to bring in mushrooms they have found for sharing and identification.</p> <p>Roger Ryno is a ten year resident of Central Kitsap. Before coming to the PNW, he spent 20 years in the agricultural industry as a plant pathologist working to prevent fungal diseases of fresh fruit. His background in fungi led him to burning curiosity over the varied and beautiful display of mushrooms he saw every autumn in the local woods. That curiosity led to involvement in the local mushroom club where he is currently in his first year as chairman of the Kitsap Peninsula Mycological Society.</p>
	<p><b>Wednesday, October 13 (Tacoma) –Roger Ryno</b> <b>"Mysterious Kingdom: Mushrooms in the Forests of Puget Sound"</b></p> <p>See description above.</p>
November 2010	<p><b>Monday, November 8 (Olympia), Jack Nisbet</b> <b>"I can hardly sit down to write: David Douglas and the Flora of the Pacific Northwest, 1825-33"</b></p> <p>From Puget Sound to the Umpqua country to Athabasca Pass, Scottish naturalist David Douglas brought Pacific Northwest flora to life for not only European and American scientific communities, but also for gardeners around the world. This slide presentation will explore how Douglas's rigorous background and boundless enthusiasm meshed with the local knowledge of Northwest tribes and the mixed-blood culture of the fur trade to make his time here so dynamic.</p> <p>Spokane-based teacher and naturalist Jack Nisbet is the author of <i>Purple Flat Top; Singing Grass, Burning Sage; Visible Bones</i>; and two books about fur trader David Thompson: <i>Sources of the River</i> and <i>The Map-maker's Eye</i>. Nisbet's current project, <i>The Collector: David Douglas and the Natural History of the Northwest</i>, explores the interactions of this early Scottish naturalist with the landscape and culture along Thompson's early trade routes. The Pacific Northwest Booksellers Association recently named <i>The Collector</i> one of their 2010 Books of the Year. For more information, visit <a href="http://www.jacknisbet.com">www.jacknisbet.com</a>. Jack will be available to sign books after the presentation.</p>
	

**November 2010**

**Wednesday, November 10 (Tacoma), Bonnie Blessing  
How to Create a Plague of Frogs? Monitoring Wetland Habitat for Amphibians**

One of the most troubling aspects of climatic and environmental change has been the on-going decline in amphibian populations. Bonnie Blessing has been actively engaged in efforts to monitor and preserve these important threatened species. Bonnie will discuss "How to create a plague of frogs: Can we learn anything from the ancient Egyptian records?" She will detail her experiences and the challenges with vegetation monitoring and habitat manipulation in wetlands to enhance the habitat for amphibians in King County, and the challenges for wetland management at a location of rare Oregon spotted frog in Thurston County.

Bonnie Blessing-Earle is not only actively engaged as a volunteer with monitoring amphibians, but also with monitoring of bird populations in the Gulf of Mexico after the BP oil spill. She and her husband Chris Earle are active in Thurston County environmental issues.

**December 2010**

**Wednesday, December 8 (Tacoma)  
Holiday Celebrations and Member Presentations**

Chapter members involved in native plant activities and projects are invited to informally present what they have done or are working on. Presentations can include pictures, slides, or other materials and can be as informal as simply speaking about your work. We request that speakers limit their presentation/talk to no more than 10 minutes. In addition to these member presentations, we hope to have trip leaders present brief overviews of the trip(s) they have led. Beverages will be provided. Bring your favorite hors d'oeuvre to share.

**Monday, December 13 (Olympia)  
Holiday Celebrations and Member Presentations**

See description above.

**January 2011**

**Monday, January 10 (Olympia), Kim Bredensteiner  
"Protecting and Restoring Nisqually River Riparian Forest  
and Other Nisqually Land Trust Projects"**

Take a virtual tour of the Nisqually River watershed as you learn about the ongoing projects on Nisqually Land Trust properties. The Nisqually Land Trust acquires and manages critical lands to permanently protect the water, wildlife, natural areas and scenic vistas of the Nisqually River watershed. Over the past year, over 50,000 native trees and shrubs have been planted on land trust property adjacent to the Nisqually River's main stem and in the Ohop Valley floodplain. Kim will describe NLT's management units – from Hogum Bay to Ashford – and the recent and ongoing habitat projects.

As the Stewardship Coordinator for NLT, Kim manages the stewardship and restoration activities, and coordinates with partner organizations on many other education and restoration projects occurring on land trust property. Kim received her bachelor's degree in biology from Grinnell College and her master's degree in watershed ecology from Oregon State University. She has been working on salmon recovery issues in Washington for the last eight years.

**Wednesday January 12 (Tacoma)  
"Protecting and Restoring Nisqually River Riparian Forest and  
Other Nisqually Land Trust Projects"**

See description above.

# **Conservation Issues**

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## **Keep Summertime Easy for You and Your Backyard Wildlife Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife – Crossing Paths News Notes**

If you want to keep your livin' easy this summer in your Backyard Wildlife Sanctuary, try xeriscaping. Xeriscaping (pronounced "zeer-i-scape-ing"), from the Greek word "xeros" for dry, is landscaping with drought-tolerant plants that, once established, require less water and less overall care. Some call it sustainable landscaping or "stewardship gardening," as in being stewards of natural resources, including water. Less water used on your lawn and garden ultimately means more water for other uses, including fish and wildlife needs.

By definition, native plants manage to thrive on local precipitation and are used by local wildlife for food and cover. So they're a natural for a sustainable, wildlife-attracting landscape. Many other low-water use plants that are adaptable to local soil conditions and climate are also well-used by wildlife. Be sure to research the soil and site needs when planting natives as some prefer sun while others prefer shade.

Standard bluegrass lawns are water hogs, at least if you insist on keeping them bright green throughout the summer. Consider cutting back on the watering, even letting some of it go dormant as grasses are meant to do naturally. Or consider converting some lawn space without foot traffic to bunch grasses or ground cover. Use native, drought-tolerant bunchgrasses like Idaho fescue, bluebunch wheatgrass or Great Basin wild rye, but keep in mind they grow in bunches, not sod-forming networks of roots or rhizomes like

bluegrass, so they're not for walking on. Use low-maintenance ground covers, like bunchberry, kinnikinnick, low Oregon grape or native strawberry.

Perennial flower beds can be just as colorful throughout the growing season as thirstier annuals, with arrangements of native or drought-tolerant species like bee balm, columbine, coral bells, day lilies, lavender, purple coneflower, penstemon or yarrow. Small to large shrubs, both deciduous and evergreen, that add an important layer in the landscape for wildlife and are relatively low-maintenance once established, include basin big sage, chokecherry, currant, elderberry, ninebark, oceanspray, red-osier dogwood, serviceberry, snowberry, sumac and wild rose.

Trees that tend to do well without a lot of attention include Douglas-fir Sitka mountain-ash, Rocky Mountain juniper, Rocky Mountain maple, vine maple and pine.

Although it may be too warm and dry now to plant new stock, it's a great time to visit arboreta and nurseries to look at these and other plants and to find a supplier so you're ready to plant this fall. An increasing number of nurseries across the state are including native and drought-tolerant plant species in their sales stock, and the more gardeners ask for them, the more they'll provide. Some nurseries specialize in these plants and can be found through the Washington Native Plant Society (<http://www.wnps.org/index.html>).

# **Workshops and Conferences**

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## **Shelton Rain Garden Workshop, September 23.**

A free workshop on September 23 from 6:30 to 8:30 pm will teach you how to create and maintain a rain garden, a landscape amenity featuring native plants that allows you to manage and treat your storm water runoff to prevent harm to local waterways and Puget Sound. Erica Guttman of WSU Extension's Native Plant Salvage Project will lead the workshop where you'll find out all the details necessary to make your project a success! Advanced registration is required so you'll know what to bring to the class. Email [erica@nativeplantsalvage.org](mailto:erica@nativeplantsalvage.org) or call 360-867-2167.

## **Free "Naturescaping for Water and Wildlife" Class, November 18**

Thurston County's Stream Team and WSU's Native Plant Salvage Project will offer their popular landscaping workshop on Thursday, November 18th, from 6:30 to 9:30 pm in Olympia. Participants learn design ideas for creating landscapes that are beautiful year round and feature native and waterwise plants; that attract birds, butterflies, amphibians and beneficial insects; and that help protect and conserve our local waterways and groundwater. Learn how to transform your landscape into your home sanctuary, while also saving you time, money and resources. Participants will receive many free handouts to help them in creating more attractive and sustainable landscapes. To register or for more information, please email [nativeplantsalvage@gmail.com](mailto:nativeplantsalvage@gmail.com) or call 360-867-2166.

## **Chair Report**

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### **What the Chair Does for the Chapter By Reba Olsen**

This is the second in my series of articles about board positions for the South Sound Chapter. It provides food for thought toward the election of a new chapter chair in October 2010.

The Webster's Dictionary defines a chair as, "an important or official position." A chair of the board is simply a person who leads a group of decision makers. The chair is seen as a key figure in organizations. Many times, the South Sound Chapter's chair is one of the most visible speakers for the group, conducting interviews and providing expert analysis relating to the chapter and to the mission of the Washington Native Plant Society. For example, the chair might represent the chapter by visiting the site of another group's restoration or conservation work when invited to do so.

Most of the duties of the chair, as specified in the chapter's bylaws, are to preside over chapter and executive board meetings, appoint committee chairs and ad hoc committees, represent the chapter on the Washington Native Plant Society Board of Directors, sign documents and agreements, prepare an annual report, represent the chapter with other organizations and the public, maintain a copy of the Robert's Rules of Order, and perform other duties and responsibilities as may be determined by the executive board.

In addition to the previous duties mentioned, a chair will often also provide a number of other essential functions. Those may include aiding board development and providing financial and legal oversight. In most cases, these duties are designated to other volunteers who, in turn, report back to the executive board. An example of additional duties for the chair might be taking on some of the responsibilities of a board position that is currently vacant.

Being in "an important or official position" means that the chair has much responsibility, but also has a certain amount of freedom, the freedom of leadership. The chair can assert her or his own expertise and creativity in ways that can be rewarding, always keeping in mind the interests of the chapter and its members.

## **Volunteer Opportunities**

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### **Green Tacoma Day 2010**

#### **Saturday, Sept. 25, 9 am to 12 pm, Tacoma**

Discover Tacoma's natural treasures at the third annual Green Tacoma Day to be held in conjunction with National Public Lands Day. Help protect and restore your favorite local park, gulch, and shoreline or learn more about your favorite recreation destination from experienced habitat stewards. Family friendly activities will be held at the Tacoma Nature Center throughout the day. Visit [www.greentacoma.org](http://www.greentacoma.org) to learn more and to find an event location near you! Please take advantage of these great opportunities! Green Tacoma Partnership, 1119 Pacific Avenue, Suite 1300, Tacoma WA 98402; phone: (253) 383-7245, email: [greentacoma@cascadeland.org](mailto:greentacoma@cascadeland.org). The Green Tacoma Partnership works to engage the Tacoma community in the restoration and maintenance of viable, healthy natural spaces by connecting stewardship groups, providing resources and training, and organizing public outreach.

### **Tacoma Nature Center Work Parties Fridays, Oct. 8 and 22, 9 am-noon**

Come and assist in removal of invasive plants and maintenance of the WNPS stewardship site at the Tacoma Nature Center. For more information or to volunteer, contact Cyndy Dillon at [cpdillongh@comcast.net](mailto:cpdillongh@comcast.net).

### **Woodland Trail Work Parties Thursdays, Sept. 23, Oct. 7 and Oct. 21 All work parties are 9 am-1 pm**

The South Sound Chapter's restoration site, on the Woodland Trail in Olympia, needs weeding and maintenance until our native plants are firmly established. Water and snacks furnished. For more information or to volunteer, contact Bill Brookreson at 253-564-1137 or [b.brookreson@comcast.net](mailto:b.brookreson@comcast.net).

### **Meadow Park Golf Course Work Party Saturday, Sept. 25, 9-noon**

Members of the Green Tacoma Partnership invite everyone to get outside and explore local parks and natural areas on Green Tacoma Day! Come and assist in the removal of invasive plants and maintenance on the site of a WNPS/GTP stewardship project. For more information or to volunteer, contact Trish Willebrand at [cnuttallii@live.com](mailto:cnuttallii@live.com) or 360-893-6389.



# Field Trips

## Saturday, September 18: Mount Rainier

We will spend the day driving and doing several day hikes within Mount Rainier National Park. The day will be focused on ecosystem processes that can be seen on the mountain, such as an ancient Douglas-fir forest developed on a lava flow, a subalpine forest-tundra parkland, several examples of old-growth forest, and the effects of floods and fires on forest composition. In the process we will visit several sites from Longmire to Sunrise. Hiking will amount to about 5 or 6 miles, with some steep uphill and downhill sections, mostly on good trails. Bring lunch, water, and be prepared for damp or chilly weather: we will be at some fairly high elevations. Please register beforehand with Chris Earle ([earlecj@gmail.com](mailto:earlecj@gmail.com); 425-269-7691) and indicate if you are interested in camping Saturday night near the park. We will meet at 7 am at the north end of the Sears store in Lacey (651 Sleater Kinney Road SE; 47.0446N, 122.8361W) and carpool from there. Folks from the Tacoma area might wish to arrange carpooling at the SR512 Park & Ride in Lakewood, and arrange a meeting place near the entrance to the park. There is a fee of \$10 per car to enter the park, unless you have a park-issued pass.

## More Cheap Dates for a Botanist

This section is intended to give you places to go when you have only a few hours to enjoy the outdoors and our beautiful native plants. I am always looking for more ideas (suggestions solicited).

### Chambers Creek Park

The Chambers Creek Trail is a fairly well-traveled, 1½-mile one way, natural surfaced trail through a mature forest just minutes from downtown Tacoma. The park itself is about 195 acres that is intended to stay in its natural state with limited improvements in the future for better parking, restrooms and improved pedestrian trails.

Near the entrance, you will likely encounter a number of young people enjoying the waters of the creek near the bay. They are quickly left behind. The walk is pleasant although the trail is a bit rough and steep in places. It is best to take the trail to the top in dry weather. Several trails drop down to Chambers Creek and give some excellent views of a delightful riparian area. You will not encounter any unusual plants but there is a good selection of our lowland natives. It makes an excellent walk, all or part way.



The actual address is 10000 Chambers Creek Rd W, University Place, WA 98467  
Cross Streets: Near the intersection of Chambers Creek Rd W and 64th St W.

**How to Get There:** From 1-5 northbound, take exit 119 and head north on the Dupont-Steilacoom Hwy. Follow Chambers Creek Road to just before it crosses Chambers Bay. Look on the right for a pullout and sign-posted footpath into the forest. From I-5 southbound, take exit 129. Go west on 74th Street then go another 1.2 miles and turn right onto Steilacoom Blvd. Follow it into the town of Steilacoom. Turn right on Main Street, then turn right again onto Lafayette Street. Look on the left for a pullout and sign-posted footpath into the forest. **Limited Parking.**

## More Cheap Dates for Botanists...



### Lewis and Clark State Park - Old Growth Trail and the Trail of the Deer

Located just a few miles south of Olympia in Clark County, Lewis and Clark State Park provides a delightful place to picnic, camp and walk its eight miles of trails. The park consists of 621 acres in one of the remaining old growth forest stands, primarily Douglas fir and red cedar, in western Washington. The park also includes streams, wetlands, wet prairie, and some fine old buildings constructed by the Civilian Conservation Corps and still in use. The park began in 1922 as a "public camp" for automobile tourists. The old north spur of the Oregon Trail that went up to Tumwater went directly through the site.

Although the old growth stand was extensively damaged in the Columbus Day storm of 1962 (almost two-thirds of the stand was blown down and the park closed for three years), the walk along the Old Growth Trail still presents a half-mile walk through an old growth forest that is easily accessible for hikers of all ages and abilities. The Trail of the Deer, the other major trail, is a longer but equally enjoyable hike. For a botanical afternoon, there is an extensive plant list for the park on the WNPS website at [http://www.wnps.org/plant\\_lists/counties/lewis/lewis\\_county.html](http://www.wnps.org/plant_lists/counties/lewis/lewis_county.html). Two things to especially keep an eye out for are *Euonymus occidentalis* (western burning bush or western wahoo) and *Taxis brevifolia* (Pacific yew). You'll find the park a delightful place to spend an afternoon with friends and family. The park address is 4583 Jackson Highway, Winlock, WA 98596. From I-5: Take exit # 68, and head east on Highway 12 about 2.5 miles. At Jackson Highway, turn right, heading south. Continue about two miles to park entrance.

## Native Plant Resources

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### "Native Plants for the Lively Garden in Puget Sound Country" Seattle Audubon Society

With the fall planting season rapidly approaching us, are you looking for a quick and handy guide to help in selecting plants for your garden to enhance bird and wildlife activity? If you are, the Seattle Audubon Society may have just the answer in a quick guide to "Native Plants for the Lively Garden in Puget Sound Country" that they have on the web at [http://www.seattleaudubon.org/sas/Portals/0/Conservation/Urban\\_Habitat/Neighborhood\\_Greening/Seattle%20Audubon%20Native%20Plant%20list.pdf](http://www.seattleaudubon.org/sas/Portals/0/Conservation/Urban_Habitat/Neighborhood_Greening/Seattle%20Audubon%20Native%20Plant%20list.pdf). This gives typical growing conditions, wildlife values and landscape qualities of 102 different native trees, shrubs and groundcovers.

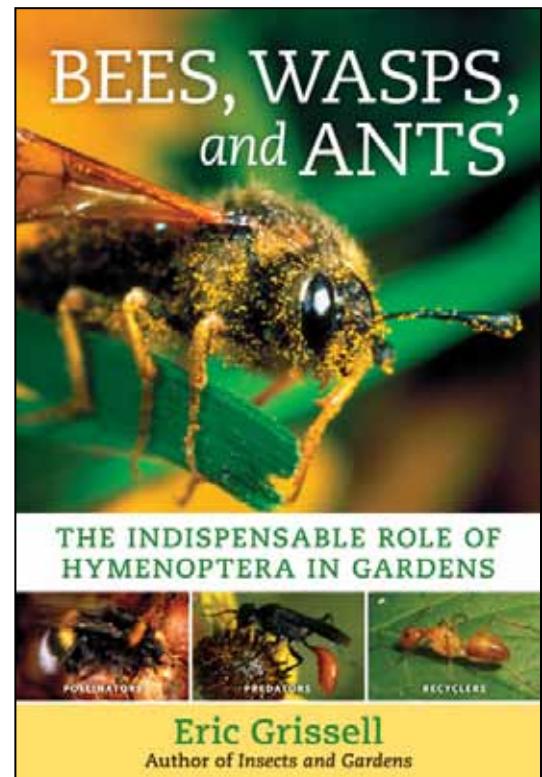
### ***Bees, Wasps and Ants: The Indispensable Role of Hymenoptera in Gardens* by Eric Grissell, Timber Press, Portland, 2010, \$27.95**

As a gardener or out enjoying the outdoors, you too may have found insects like bees, wasps and ants, annoying or worse. At times like these, we seldom stop to think how important these insects are for our gardens and our native plants. These insects are important not just for pollination of fruits, vegetables and flowers but also in maintaining a garden's biological balance and recycling nutrients in the soil. *Bees, Wasps and Ants* explores the role of these Hymenoptera and how we can encourage or discourage them in our gardens.

The book is divided into two sections. Part 1, *An Overview of Bees, Wasps and Ants* provides a Hymenoptera overview of their biology and their role in the garden. Part 2, provides a more in depth look at the individual Hymenoptera. For those interested in learning more about these important insects, the book should provide an excellent overview.

Eric Grissell is a well known garden writer and member of entomological and horticultural societies. He brings three decades as a research entomologist to the table. He is also author of *A Journal in Thyme*, and *Insects and Gardens: In Pursuit of Garden Ecology*.

Used with permission. From *Landscaping for Wildlife in the Pacific Northwest*, by Russell Link.



## Wild Recipes

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In our search for new ideas to try, John Neorr suggested a column for "Wild Recipes." Do you have a favorite you'd like to share? Send it in to [newsletterediting@southsoundchapterwnps.org](mailto:newsletterediting@southsoundchapterwnps.org).

### **Blackberry Vinegar**

This can be used for salads, or in a cup of hot water for colds and flu.

#### **Ingredients**

2 cups of blackberries  
1 tablespoon of sugar  
2 cups of white wine vinegar

#### **Directions**

Place the blackberries in a glass jar and sprinkle with the sugar; then stir for about 60 seconds to release a bit of juice. Pour the white wine vinegar over the blackberries, cap the jar and allow it to sit on a dark shelf for about a month. Pour the mixture through a fine strainer to remove the berries and seeds. Transfer the strained blackberry vinegar to bottles.

Recipe compliments of Northwest Natural Resource Group's Director of Operations and Finance Shelly French.

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