



# The Acorn

Serving the South Sound Chapter of the  
Washington Native Plant Society  
Summer 2013

## Volcanoes and Valleys, Experience the South Cascades Native Plant Study Weekend, June 28–30, 2013

This year's study weekend, hosted by the South Sound Chapter will be at the delightful Cispus Learning Center outside of Randle, WA. The details for the weekend are in the latest *Douglasia* and are available on line at <http://www.wnps.org/study-weekend-2013/index.html>.

No Study Weekend can happen without the volunteers who make it possible. Dan and Pat Montague have done a remarkable job handling the registration. We owe a large debt to our speakers, David Biek, Susan McDougall and Dr. John Bishop. The key to every Native Plant Study Weekend are the wonderful trip leaders - Jim Riley, Linda Swartz, Jim Prichard, Frank Knight, Joe Arnett, Lou Whiteaker, Cyndy Dillon, Chris Earle, Rod Gilbert, Clay Antieau, Ed Lisowski, Fred and Ann Weinmann, Kenya Burger, Ray Yurkewycz, Phyllis Sturgis. Don Knoke, David Wilderman, Paul Slichter, Kevin Flores, and Dana Bressette. The special thanks go to Jim Riley and Linda Swartz whose help and advice have been invaluable. We hope to see many of you at Cispus.



## WNPS Chapter Meetings

---

Because plant lovers like to botanize while the days are long, chapter meetings are not scheduled during summer months (June-August). The fall meetings will be announced in our next addition of the *Acorn* newsletter, arriving in September. Meetings are normally scheduled on the second Monday in Olympia of each month from October through May and the second Wednesday in Tacoma. Starting at 7 pm, each meeting consists of a quick review of local items and announcements, and a presentation lasting approximately an hour. Again this year we will have a special September "Kickoff Meeting" at a central location. Watch for details in the Fall 2013 newsletter and monthly updates.

Programs are geared for all levels of botanical knowledge. Unless otherwise noted, all Tacoma meetings are at Tacoma Nature Center, 1919 South Tyler Street, Tacoma. All Olympia meetings are at Capitol Museum Coach House, 211 21st Avenue SW, Olympia. 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. We hope to see you (and your guests) at future gatherings! Have a good summer botanizing.

## Other South Sound Chapter Activities

### WNPS South Sound Chapter Education Outreach Committee By Jane Ostericher

We are currently in the process of forming an educational outreach program for the South Sound Chapter. A core committee has begun the process by meeting with University of Puget Sound Slater Museum of Natural History director Peter Wimberger and gleaned from their experience with Natural History Kits that are currently being piloted in Tacoma Public Schools. The consensus from that meeting was that we should consider partnering with a non-school district entity such as the YMCA Camp Seymour program. We are in need of more volunteers to help with this effort. Please contact Jane at [janelo55@yahoo.com](mailto:janelo55@yahoo.com).

**Grants Report.** Using proceeds from our plant sales, in 2012, we made two grants, one to the Center for Natural Lands Management (CNLM) and one to the New Market Skills Center. The CNLM ([www.cnlm.org](http://www.cnlm.org)), a non-profit land trust, works to conserve prairies, oak woodlands and freshwaters in the South Sound and coordinates the South Sound Prairie Landscape Working Group ([www.southsoundprairies.org](http://www.southsoundprairies.org)). The New Market Skills Center is a consortium of twenty-five high schools in ten districts providing career and technical education (formerly vocational) to high school students interested in employment after high school and/or preparation for entering college or apprenticeship.

Our grant to the New Market Skills Center's Environmental Exploration program was for planting native plants as part of the school property's landscape and for establishing a prairie plant demonstration garden.

The effort was led by student Clint Cole and instructor Craig Baker. SSC Chapter member, Bonnie Blessing, consulted on the project. The project involved forty students in the Environmental Exploration program and was completed in December. Both common and unusual plants such as red currant, evergreen huckleberry, balsamroot, prairie huckleberry, camas, shooting stars and prairie grasses were installed. The plants are currently doing well, several of the prairie plants are pushing up from their winter's nap and shrubs are showing new growth. Serving as a native plant laboratory, the demonstration garden and the native plants in the school's landscape will continue to be studied and monitored by future classes.



Helen Engle's garden and viewing the wonderful flowers and plants that she has collected and nurtured. Delightful flowers, wonderful scones and Helen's hospitality are hard to top.

**Chapter supports recycled paper use.** There was a change for the environment beginning with the April Monthly Update mailed issues. This is the first regular mail version to use 100% post-consumer content recycled paper for the printed sheet and envelope. Prior mailings were 100% for printed sheet and 30% for the envelope.

Our grant to CNLM will be used to fund a spring field trip to the Glacial Heritage Preserve by elementary student from Littlerock Elementary School. Staff and volunteers from CNLM will work with students to identify native prairie plants and discuss the natural history of the prairies and how native plants have adapted to the prairie ecosystem. They will assist the students in conducting restoration activities such as removing invasive scotch broom. During this trip students will also sketch prairie plants in field notebooks.

**A Visit to Helen Engle's Garden.** On Thursday, April 4, members of the chapter got the pleasure of visiting the

## Volunteer Opportunities

---

**Volunteer Appreciation by Cyndy Dillon.** Viva 2013 Volunteers! We thank Capitol Museum work party crews (Bill, Karen, Alex, Sharon, Dan and Pat, Linda, and Bob), which made a tremendous difference to the grounds, and to Tacoma Nature Center crews (Lin, Bill, TCC and UPS students, and other nature lovers) who have been diligently weeding and planting natives. Also, we appreciate the kick-off work of the new Education Committee (John, Jane O, Bill and Bonnie); studious application review by the Grant Committee (John, Bill, Bonnie and Jane E); and spring plant sale preparation by the Plant Sale Committee (Lee, Bill, Bonnie, John, Jane O and Jane E). Bravo to our newsletter and webpage team (Lee, Bill and Margaret) for their timely communications and to the Study Weekend group (Bill, Dan and Pat) for their superb organizing efforts. Finally, we thank our sterling monthly presentation speakers and John for lining them up.

### **Volunteer Opportunity in Natural History.**

Skin a seabird, teach a lesson on lion teeth or give a tour of the turtle collection! At the Slater Museum of Natural History at University of Puget Sound they rely on volunteer docents to keep the museum running. Docents receive training in specimen preparation, museum interpretation and collections use. They customize the museum experience for visitors. This is crucial for an institution that draws visitors from K-12 students to prominent ornithologists. Docents also teach in our Nature in the Classroom program, which sends museum specimens into 4th- and 5th-grade classrooms. If you are excited about natural history and love to learn, this is the place for you! Docents of all ages are welcome.

Visit their website at <http://tinyurl.com/crcqubp>, and contact us at [slatermuseum@pugetsound.edu](mailto:slatermuseum@pugetsound.edu) or at (253)-879-335 .

**WNPS-SSC Restoration Projects.** Watch the monthly updates for schedules.

## Conservations Issues

---

### **Rethinking Conservation and Advocacy**

With the next State Board meeting of WNPS on April 26, the organization will be reviewing how we deal with conservation and advocacy issues. Clay Antieau has volunteered to lead the discussion. The chapter will be represented by Cyndy Dillon (our chair), John Neorr (state board member) and Bill Brookreson (member of the state Conservation Committee). The last strategic planning exercise by WNPS set three priority issues - Garry oak, shrub steppe and invasive species. WNPS has done a reasonably good job focusing on these issues. The question now is, "Are these still the priority issues?"

Our chapter has been moderately involved in a number of conservation and advocacy issues from the cross-base highway, to land use planning and to the funding of the Natural Heritage Program in DNR. Our primary tool for getting issues before the membership has been the Conservation Issues article in the *Acorn*. The *Acorn* is issued three times per year - winter, summer and spring issues. Articles have covered a number of issues such as funding for the Natural Heritage Program, the role that local land use planning ordinances play in preserving endangered habitats such as South Sound Prairies, and the role of Noxious Weed Boards. The primary intent is to

encourage the membership to be involved. Because the *Acorn* is published only three times per year, we also send out a *Monthly Update* in which we can highlight breaking issues, which is particularly useful during the legislative session.

Although there are statewide issues that should be handled at that level, there are certainly issues that are of great interest at the chapter level. For the South Sound chapter, the preservation of our South Sound prairies is certainly a high priority. That is closely tied with such issues as agricultural and forestry practices, habitat fragmentation, and invasive species that have statewide significance. Since the last strategic planning exercise, the issues of biofuels and climate change have certainly gained much more attention.

WNPS is a small organization with limited resources that we need to use wisely and effectively. We are most effective when we involve more of our members and partner with like-minded organizations. We are in challenging times with complex issues. WNPS's strategic planning process, our members' involvement in its outcomes and our own individual efforts can make a big difference. We look forward to sharing it with you.

**Know Your Grasses: the Identification and Appreciation of Grass.** The Washington Native Plant Society and the University of Washington Herbarium at the Burke Museum are co-sponsoring the Know Your Grasses Workshop. The workshop will be held in Room 246, Hitchcock Hall at the University of Washington. The workshop will run from 9:00 am Wednesday, June 12 to 1:00 pm Friday June 14, 2013. The workshop will be taught by Clayton Antieau, a horticulturist, botanist and environmental scientist who has been teaching grass identification for more than twenty years. The workshop fee is \$350 (\$300 for WNPS and Burke Museum members). Registration deadline is June 5.

The Workshop consists of an intensive, hands-on approach that blends one-and-a-half days of classroom work with one day of field study using a combination of lectures, guided examination of live and pressed plant specimens (with and without stereo-microscopes), and use of technical identification keys. Participants learn the grass language and distinguishing features of the grass family, its major taxonomic subdivisions, and many grass genera and species. The Workshop also connects you with useful on-line tools such as identification keys and photo resources. Each day starts with a lecture followed by lab work or field visits. Field study in a variety of upland habitats provides study material for lab and opportunity to discuss many species and their habitats. Keying exercises involve instructor-led group keying and paired or individual keying mostly in the lab. For more information, go to [www.wnps.org/grass-workshop/index.html](http://www.wnps.org/grass-workshop/index.html).

**Botanical Rambles.** With the publication of the WNPS blog, *Botanical Rambles*, the Native Plant Society has taken a step into the age of social media. The blog has been the creation of Catherine Hovanic and Sarah Gage, the editor. The posts were launched on November 7, 2012, and new ones are issued weekly. Posts cover a wide range of topics from plant profiles to interesting sites to visit. To learn more and to subscribe, visit the WNPS website <http://www.wnps.org/blog/>.

**Botany Washington, May 31-June 2, 2013.** This year's Botany Washington, *Spring Diversity in the Lower Grand Coulee*, is again cosponsored by WNPS and the University of Washington Herbarium at the Burke Museum. The base camp will be at Camp Delany at Sun Lakes State Park. Again this year, the weekend will have three tracks: taxonomic study of the *Boraginaceae* (Saturday) and early flowering *Asteraceae* (Sunday); keying with Hitchcock; and Central Washington wildflowers - the more informal setting. Deadline for registration is May 1. For more information go to <http://tinyurl.com/83fu7de>



### Chair Report: Study Weekend is Just Around the Corner. By Cyndy Dillon

As you know, our chapter is hosting the annual WNPS Study Weekend this year based at the Cispus Learning Center south of Randle, June 28-30. The end of June will be here before we know it, so you may want to sign up soon for your preferred hikes in the Mt Rainier-Mt St Helens-Mt Adams area. Dan and Pat Montague are busily recording registrations. Bill Brookreson did a stellar job in selecting field trip opportunities and leaders, so there are almost too many exciting tours from which to choose. He offered me two that feature my favorite attractions: old growth conifers, falls and wildlife. I'm looking forward to returning to these trails with plant lists from the WNPS website in the next several weeks for some reconnaissance before the study weekend.

Having just heard a talk on mosses and lichens by Kitsap Master Gardener Phoebe Goit,

I want to try to identify local mosses and lichens, particularly on 1000-year-old trees in the Grove of the Patriarchs. Will I find the Oregon beaked moss (*Eurhynchium oregonum*), Menzies' tree moss (*Leucolepis acanthoneuron*) and hooded bone lichen (*Hypogymnia physodes*) common around Puget Sound and in the mountains? Maybe I will discover the wavy leaved cotton moss (*Buckiella undulate*) and lungwort lichen (*Lobaria pulmonaria*) typical of primary forests. Hopefully, with a pair of binoculars at the ready, I will also identify some native birds. I certainly will miss participating in the other hikes, but can learn about those adventures in the evenings around the intriguing talks on Mt Adams flora and Mt St Helen's recovery and perhaps try some of those walks independently in the future. See you there!

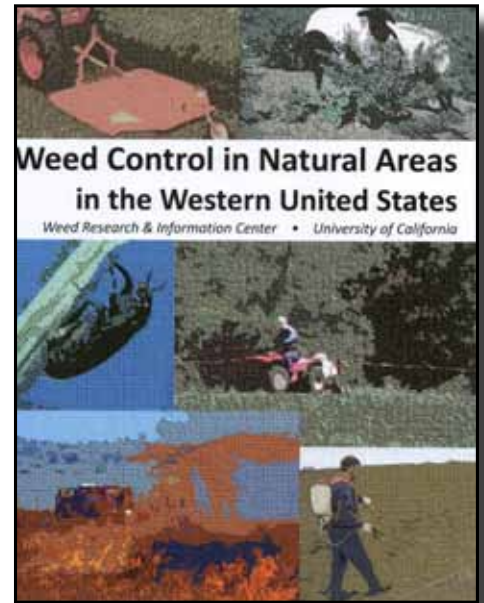
## Native Plant Resources

***Weed Control in Natural Areas in the Western United States*** by Dr. Joseph M. DiTomaso *et al.*  
Weed Research and Information Center, University of California, 2013, \$40.

When you are an old weed warrior, it is not often that a new book on weed control catches your attention. *Weed Control in the Natural Areas in the Western United States* is an exception. It is the first book that I have seen that focuses on weed control options for invasive plant species in natural areas. The scope of the book is thirteen western states - Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, New Mexico, Nevada, North Dakota, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, Washington and Wyoming. The species chosen were those that were on the state noxious weed lists of the western states, as well as other non-crop weeds that are frequently problematic in the natural areas. The fifteen authors of the book, led by Dr. Joe DiTomaso of UC Davis and including our own Dr. Tim Miller of WSU Mt. Vernon, have compiled control methods on 240 species. For each, they include the chemical, mechanical, biological and cultural control methods -- not only those discussed in the literature but also those with which they are familiar from personal experiences. For those interested in integrated pest management, in dealing with invasive plant issues in natural areas, this is a good resource.

The stated goal of the authors is to provide as many options as possible. For those dealing with invasive plants in natural areas, you will find information on a range of control techniques and equipment in natural areas, safety and environmental considerations, herbicide characteristics, and even a list not only of biological control agents currently available but also those under development.

The book, however, is not an answer to all weed issues. Covering thirteen states, not all our weed problems are addressed. Yellow archangel (*Lamiastrum galeobdolum*) and policeman's helmet (*Impatiens glandulifera*), for example, are not addressed at all. Butterfly bush (*Buddleja davidii*) and old man's beard (*Clematis vitalba*) receive limited coverage in the tables rather than a full write-up. The limitations aside, it is still worth consideration. The book is available on line at <http://www.cal-ipc.org/resources/booksandcds/weedcontrol.php>.



***Forest Trees of the Pacific Slope*** by George Bishop Sudworth  
U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, 1908.

Reviewing a book that is 103 years old may seem like an odd choice. When you look at the book, however, you will understand why it is still being reprinted. When you read the book you will be struck by at least two things. First, the forest descriptions and extensive information on over 150 species of trees are eloquent. Sudworth notes for each species its distinguishing characteristics, extreme and average size, its range in detail, its habitat and morphology, commercial value, and length of life.

Second, you will also be struck by the magnificent line drawings for almost every species. For most, the drawings picture a leaf, seed, branch, and fruit or flower drawn to actual size. A student is encouraged to hold a sample up to the drawing to confirm identification. After 103 years, the book is still one of the finest field guides available for Pacific-slope trees.

According to the US Forest Service History, "George Sudworth began his forestry work in 1886 when he entered the Division of Forestry. At the time of his death in 1927, he was Chief Dendrologist of the Forest Service, dean of the forestry profession in the United States and a distinguished authority on American Trees. For the last 15 years of his life he was an active member of the Federal Horticultural Board."

"Mr. Sudworth penned numerous publications on dendrology and other phases of forestry. . . . (He) discovered and named a large number of new species and varieties of American trees. His dendrological work was based on wide exploration and an intimate knowledge of the forest regions, many of which he travelled on foot."

The book has been reprinted several times and may be found on line from a number of sources at about \$25.

## Hikes and Field Trips

**Girl Scout Camp at St. Albans Hike, Wednesday, May 15, 2013, 10 am to about noon.** Join Kit Ellis and Jan Strong to explore Camp St. Albans at Lake Deveraeux between Allyn and Belfair in Mason County, and experience spring in a delightful lowland forest environment. Kit and Jan will lead two hikes at the same time. The shorter hike will be around the main camp, the Friends of St. Albans Arboretum, and the young native butterfly garden and pollinator condo. The longer hike, over two miles, covers the length of the camp adding the Frog Pond and the waterfront. Dress for the weather and bring a lunch if you want to linger after the hike. Don't forget cameras.

The camp is located at 251 E. Lake Devereaux Road, Allyn, WA. Participants can meet at the Purdy Park and Ride to car pool at 9:30 am, or go directly to the camp for the 10 am start. From Tacoma: take West 16 twenty miles to Gorst. Take South 3/Belfair Exit on SR3 to Belfair. Go through Belfair on SR3 three miles to E. Lake Devereaux Road (mile post 23). Turn right and go 200 feet, turn left into St. Albans. From Olympia I-5, take Exit 104 to North SR101 (Bremerton). Stay in the right lane on SR101 where SR8 to Aberdeen starts. Follow SR101 north. Take the first Shelton exit, go through downtown Shelton. Take SR3 toward Bremerton. Go 18 miles on SR3 to Allyn. Stay on SR3 through Allyn for 2 miles to E. Lake Devereaux Road. Turn left and go 200 feet, turn left into St. Albans.

To reserve a spot or get more information, contact Kit Ellis at [kitellis@centurytel.net](mailto:kitellis@centurytel.net), cell 253-209-0105.



### Opportunities with Audubon.

**Adriana Hess Wetland Park.** Tacoma Audubon volunteers will lead guided bird walks on Monday, May 13 and June 10 from 12-1 pm when you can walk the Donna Cooper Pepos native plant trail, observe the wetlands habitat, and learn about plants that attract wildlife. Bring binoculars, water bottles and sturdy shoes. On May 8, 10:30 -12:00, volunteers will lead a backyard habitat and native plant walk. RSVP is requested but not required at 253-565-9278. Adriana Hess Wetland Park is located at 2917 Morrison Road W., University Place, WA.

**Second Sundays at Morse.** The public is invited to visit the Morse Wildlife Preserve, 25415 70<sup>th</sup> Ave E, Graham, WA, the second Sundays from April through October (May 12, June 9, July 14, August 11, September 8, and October 13). It is a great opportunity to walk the trails, appreciate the forest and prairie, and visit the wetland on the boardwalk and explore the extended loop trails. To RSVP, for directions and more information, contact Tacoma Audubon at 253-565-9278.

**Chance to Volunteer.** Audubon is also currently recruiting for volunteers to help co-lead the bird and plant walks. They have descriptions posted on [www.volunteermatch.org](http://www.volunteermatch.org) for guided walk leaders, as well as for volunteers to join the Adriana Hess Park Committee in planning and managing the outdoor spaces.



### Coastal Peregrinations By Bonnie Blessing

If you plan to visit the coast anytime soon, there are some great winter plant walks near Ocean Shores where one can get a taste of coastal vegetation communities. Plant surveys published by the Pacific Biodiversity Institute can guide your trip to Damon Point, Griffith-Priddy State Park, Pacific Beach State Park and Ocean City State Park. Go to <http://tinyurl.com/d3v6213> for the "Rare Plant and Vegetation Surveys of Damon Point, Griffith-Priddy, Ocean City and Pacific Beach State Parks" by the Pacific Biodiversity Institute. Plant communities include shore pine/carex and Sitka spruce/evergreen huckleberry. Native native beach grass communities occur at all these sites. Two new plant communities tentatively identified by PBI including the *Armeria maritima*/*Polygonum paronchia* community at Damon Point and the *Elymus mollis*/*Festuca rubra*/*Grindelia integrifolia* at Griffith-Priddy along the Copalis River. Don't forget to stop by the Ocean Shores Interpretive Museum near Damon Point for local natural history information!

# Chapter & State Contacts

## Chair – Cyndy Dillon

[chair@southsoundchapterwnps.org](mailto:chair@southsoundchapterwnps.org)

253-857-4003

3110 Judson Street, #246

Gig Harbor, WA 98335

## Vice Chair (Pierce County meeting)

Jane Ostericher

[vicechair.pierce@southsoundchapterwnps.org](mailto:vicechair.pierce@southsoundchapterwnps.org)

## Vice Chair (Thurston County meeting)

Bonnie Blessing-Earle

[vicechair.thurston@southsoundchapterwnps.org](mailto:vicechair.thurston@southsoundchapterwnps.org)

## Secretary – Byrna Klavano

[secretary@southsoundchapterwnps.org](mailto:secretary@southsoundchapterwnps.org)

## Treasurer – Jane Ely

[treasurer@southsoundchapterwnps.org](mailto:treasurer@southsoundchapterwnps.org)

360-491-0115

## Immediate Past Chair – Vacant

## Chapter Botanist – Vacant

## Conservation Committee Chair - Vacant

## Field Trip Committee Chair - Vacant

## Editorial Committee Chair - Bill Brookreson

[newsletterediting@southsoundchapterwnps.org](mailto:newsletterediting@southsoundchapterwnps.org)

702 Columbia Ave

Fircrest, WA 98466

253-564-1137

## Publicity Committee Chair - Jane Ostericher

## Volunteers Committee Chair - Cyndy Dillon

## Education Committee Chair - Jane Ostericher

## Grants Committee Chair - John Neorr

## Chapter Web Manager - Lee Fellenberg

[webmanager@southsoundchapterwnps.org](mailto:webmanager@southsoundchapterwnps.org)

## WNPS Statewide:

### President – Dean Longrie

[deanpl@aol.com](mailto:deanpl@aol.com)

### Executive Director - Catherine Hovanic

6310 N.E. 74th St., Ste 215E

Seattle, WA 98115-8171

[wnps@wnps.org](http://wnps@wnps.org)



## Washington Native Plant Society South Sound Chapter

[www.southsoundchapterwnps.org](http://www.southsoundchapterwnps.org)

## Washington Native Plant Society State Chapter

[www.wnps.org](http://www.wnps.org) 206-527-3210

### WNPS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_

#### Chapter Affiliation

- Central Puget Sound (Seattle)
- Central Washington (Yakima, Ellensburg)
- Columbia Basin (Tri-Cities)
- Koma Kulshan (Bellingham)
- NE Washington (Spokane)
- Okanogan
- Olympic Peninsula
- Salal (Mt. Vernon, Skagit Valley)
- San Juan Islands
- South Sound (Olympia, Tacoma)
- Wenatchee Valley
- At-Large
- Palouse (inactive)
- Suksdorfia (inactive)
- Each membership includes affiliation with one chapter. Add \$5.00 for each additional chapter.

#### WNPS POSTER

“Wildflowers Across Washington”  
A beautiful 24” x 36” full-color poster featuring  
36 native species, \$8 (members \$6)  
Shipping \$2.50 each poster

#### Membership Category

- \$35 Individual Rate
- \$45 Family
- \$65 Club/Institution
- \$20 Budget
- \$50-99 WNPS Friend
- \$100-499 WNPS Special Friend
- \$500 WNPS Best Friend
- \$1,000 WNPS Sustaining
- \$5,000 WNPS Patron

#### ENCLOSED ARE:

My dues: Please Sign me up! \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Chapters (\$5 each) \_\_\_\_\_

\$8 for each poster (\$6 members) \_\_\_\_\_

Shipping (\$2.50/poster) \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to WNPS and mail to:  
Washington Native Plant Society, 6310 NE 74th St., Ste 215E  
Seattle, WA 98115



**South Sound Chapter WNPS**

**6220 N 50th St**

**Tacoma WA 98407-2119**



***Printed on acid-free, 30 percent  
post-consumer fiber recycled paper.***



*The mission of  
the Washington  
Native Plant  
Society is to  
promote the  
appreciation and  
conservation of  
Washington's  
native plants and  
their habitats  
through study,  
education, and  
advocacy.*

**Chocolate lily  
on the left, fawn  
lily on the right.  
Both photos  
taken at Fort  
Steilacoom Park,  
April 18, 2013 by  
B. Brookreson**

