

Orca Recovery Week - A SUCCESS!

Thank you to the over 200 individuals who participated in our Orca Recovery Events in October & November!

With the help of our partners, including Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe, Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe, Quileute Tribe, and Clallam County Department of Community Development, we hosted **5 educational programs** and **5 volunteer restoration** events throughout the Olympic Peninsula to bring awareness to the plight of the southern resident Orca whale, and aid in salmon recovery.

Accomplishments include:

- **2,100 trees** planted along the Elwha and Quillayute Rivers by 65 volunteers to help accelerate restoration of fish habitat.
- **1,200 beach plants** installed on Ediz Hook by 30 volunteers.
- **116 participated** in 5 educational events focused on the Dungeness River, Elwha River, Indian Creek, Little River and on Pacific lamprey.



Volunteers loading bags of trees to plant on the Elwha River while Owen the Orca supervises.

For more photos and highlights from Orca Recovery Week visit our website at <https://clallamcd.org/orca-recovery>. To be notified of future volunteer events sign-up at: <https://clallamcd.org/volunteering>.

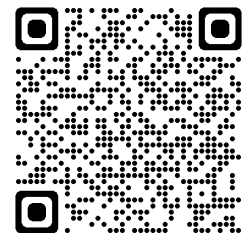
2023 Board of Supervisor Election

Each conservation district in Washington State is overseen by a board of five supervisors. Three supervisors are elected by registered voters within the district, and two are appointed by the Washington State Conservation Commission. The term of office for each supervisor is three years. They meet once a month to discuss district business, oversee district finances, and provide guidance on district activities.

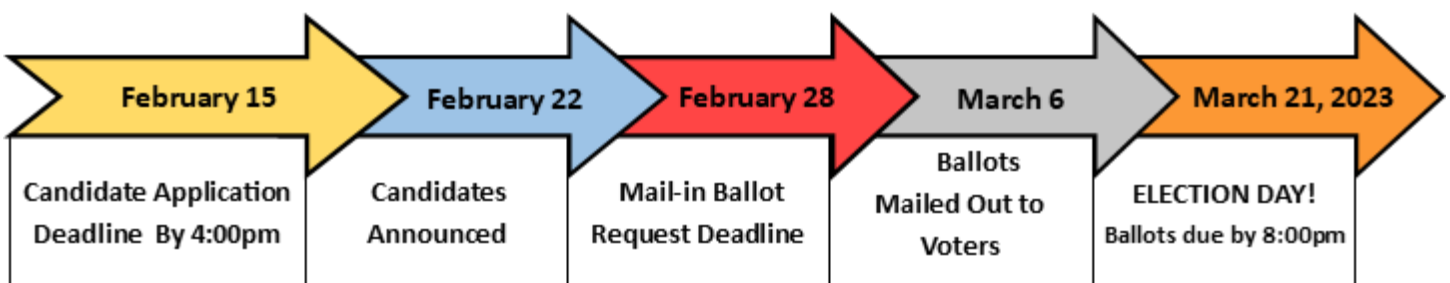
Conservation districts are political sub-divisions of state government that conduct their own elections. State statute RCW 89.08.190 requires all conservation district elections be held in the first quarter of the year.

The term of office currently held by elected supervisor Robert Beebe on the Clallam Conservation District board will expire in May of 2023. All potential candidates for this position must be registered voters residing in Clallam County.

This year's election will be held on March 21, 2023 and Candidate Applications are due February 15, 2023, according to the 2023 Election Resolution passed at our regular board meeting in October. Clallam County voters may vote in person or request a mail-in ballot online. For more information see our website at clallamcd.org/elections-appointments or click on the QR code.



Elections webpage



Planning Your Native Landscape

Many gardeners spend the winter thumbing through seed and plant catalogs and daydreaming about spring planting. If you fall into that category, then we got you covered! Clallam Conservation District's bare root native plant sale is OPEN. Below are tips to help you decide which plants will work best in your landscaping.

Make a plan before you place an order. Just like a trip to the grocery store, avoid impulse buying by making a list of the plants you need and want by preparing a landscape plan. Your landscape plan doesn't have to be elaborate or pretty, but it does need to be practical.

Before working on your plan, **make a list of your objectives.** What do you want from your landscape? Low maintenance and low water-demand are probably on everyone's list. Do you want to attract birds, butterflies and other pollinators? Is growing your own vegetables and fruit important? Do you need space for children or grandchildren to play? What about pets? Are there certain "must have" plants on your list? By going through the exercise of writing down your objectives, it helps you prioritize what's really important.

Next, **figure out what nature has given you to work with.** In other words, analyze your site. It's helpful to have a sketch of your property to make notes on. You can make a base map and print several copies for note taking or use transparency paper. This site has a great video of how to make a base map of your property: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YYkYkonjqos>



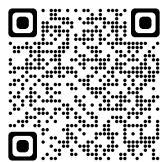
- **Note the locations of structures, driveways, utilities, septic and other infrastructure, and streams and ditches** on your base map. These aren't going anywhere, so you're going to have to work around them.
- **Determine the texture of your soil.** Dig a few holes around your property to find out if you have a sandy-gravelly soil, clay, loam or a variety, and where each is. Soil texture affects drainage and water retention, thus the types of plants you can easily and successfully grow.
- **Identify existing vegetation** that you either want to preserve or that you need to remove or control. If a tree needs to be taken down, consider leaving part of it as a snag to provide valuable habitat.
- **What's your microclimate?** Note areas that receive lots of sun, shady spots, areas that are exposed to the wind, and sheltered areas. Also note places where you'd like to make microclimatic modifications, such as protection from the wind or to create summer shade.
- **Take stock of your views.** This may sound obvious, but there's a bit more to it. Note both the desirable views you want to preserve and the undesirable views you'd like to screen
- Remember if you have some acreage (a half-acre or more), the entire acreage doesn't have to be landscaped like a city lot. Consider **leaving open space and habitat** that requires minimal to no care.

Once you've laid out a general plan for your landscape, with different spaces identified, you can get into the nitty gritty of designing those spaces. Focus on one space at a time as you develop your detailed designs and plant lists.

When deciding on plants, always keep in mind their mature size. Do you want a tree or a shrub? Do you want it to be evergreen or deciduous? Deciduous trees provide summer shade but allow light in winter. Evergreens are good for visual screens and windbreaks and liven up drab winter.

Garden dreaming can help chase away any winter blues. Just think, in about a month the daylight hours will be increasing but, for now happy garden dreaming.

For more information on plant heights and descriptions, and ideas for attracting wildlife check out the resources at the bottom of the Native Plant page on our website at: clallamcd.org/native-plants.



Native Plants

Another excellent resource is the recorded versions of our Native Plant Landscaping Courses available on our website at: clallamcd.org/past-webinars.



Past Webinars



2023 NATIVE PLANT SALE

Since 1990, Clallam Conservation District has held an annual Native Plant Sale, enabling over 410,000 native plants to find homes with thousands of Clallam County residents.

PLANT INFORMATION

Most plants are 1 to 2 year-old **bare-root seedlings** (no soil on the roots) ranging in size from 8” to 24”. Conifer trees are sold in bundles of 25, and most deciduous trees and shrubs are sold in bundles of 10. Visit <https://clallamcd.org/native-plants> for additional information on native plants and a photo gallery of the plants available, and <https://clallamcd.org/past-webinars> to view webinars on topics such as natural landscaping, choosing native plants for birds and pollinators, site preparation and protecting plants from animal damage.

We also sell a **Native Pollinator Seed Mix**. The mix is formulated to cover 100 square feet at a density of 40 seeds per square foot, and designed to attract bees, butterflies, hummingbirds, and beneficial insects. The mix includes annual and perennial wildflowers and grasses, species details can be found on our website using the link above.

Why is Our Sale in the Winter?

The nursery in Bow, WA we purchase plants from can't begin pulling plants from the ground until dormant. They need 300-400 hours of temperatures below 40 degrees F to ensure deep dormancy. This means harvest usually begins in early December.

PLANT AVAILABILITY

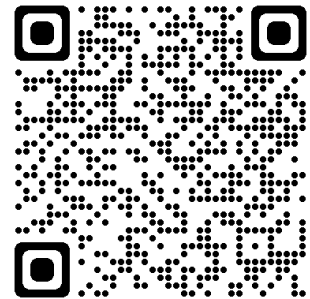
All plants are sold on a **first-come, first-served basis**. Plants must be pre-ordered by **January 23, 2023**. Quantities are limited this year, so please place your order as soon as possible if there are certain species you are hoping to purchase.

ORDERING INFORMATION

Please place your order through our online store at:

<https://clallamcd.org/native-plants>

If you are unable to purchase through our website, please call us at (360) 775-3747.



Native Plant webpage

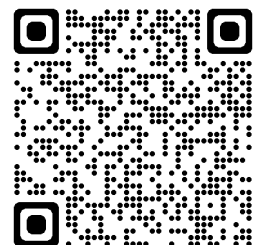
PICKING UP PLANTS

Plants will be available for pick-up on the **3rd and 4th of March 2023** (Friday & Saturday) at **Lazy J Tree Farm** (located between Port Angeles and Sequim at 225 Gehrke Road). To help with the flow of traffic, pick-up times will be staggered again this year. Customers will choose a timeslot for pick-up of their plants during the order checkout process online. A reminder notice in the form of a brightly colored postcard with your order number will be mailed out two weeks prior to pick-up day. Please bring the postcard with you when picking up your plants to help aid in quicker pick-up.

Unless prior arrangements are made, any orders not picked up may be donated to restoration projects. Refunds will not be given for plants not picked up.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We need volunteers the last week in February and first week in March to help package and distribute orders. If you are interested, and aren't already on our volunteer email list, please register at <https://clallamcd.org/volunteering>. We will send out an email mid-February with the dates and times that we need volunteer assistance. Without volunteers our plant sale wouldn't be possible, so we appreciate the help!



Volunteer webpage

Clallam Conservation District 2023 Native Plant Sale

SPECIES	Mature Height	PLANT DESCRIPTION & USE	HABITAT
EVERGREEN TREES			
Douglas Fir <i>Pseudotsuga menziesii</i>	200'	Pyramid shaped with straight trunk & blue/green needles. Fast growing. Used for windbreaks, firewood & lumber.	Prefers full sun. Grows in all but the wettest conditions. Drought tolerant.
Grand Fir <i>Abies grandis</i>	140'-200'	Straight, stately, fast growing conifer. Glossy, dark green flat needles. Popular, fragrant Christmas tree.	Full sun to partial shade. Tolerant of varying soils and moisture conditions.
Shore Pine <i>Pinus contorta</i> "contorta"	15-100'	Relatively short conifer with variable form & crooked to straight trunk. Pine nuts favored by squirrel & song birds.	Full sun. Tolerates varying soils and moisture conditions from wet to well-drained.
Sitka Spruce <i>Picea sitchensis</i>	200'	Giant among trees. Stiff, sharp-pointed, pale green needles & droopy branches. Tolerance to salt spray.	Full sun to partial shade. Prefers deep, moist, well-drained soils.
Western Hemlock <i>Tsuga heterophylla</i>	140'-180'	Graceful, down-sweeping branches & feathery foliage.	Prefers shade. Grows best in deep, moist, well-drained soil, high in organic matter.
Western Red Cedar <i>Thuja plicata</i>	200'	Grand & long lived tree. Drooping branches hold flattened, spray-like branchlets with scaly leaves.	Prefers shade when young. Tolerates saturated soils and seasonal flooding.
DECIDUOUS TREES			
Big Leaf Maple <i>Acer macrophyllum</i>	40-100'	Large, short trunked tree noted for giant leaves that provide shade in summer and turn golden yellow in the fall.	Full sun to partial shade. Moist to somewhat dry, well-drained soils.
Pacific Crabapple <i>Malus fusca</i>	40'	Slender tree or large shrub. Fragrant white to pink blossoms in spring. Crisp, sour, juicy pomes in fall.	Full sun to partial shade. Moist sites. Tolerates saturated soil.
Red Alder <i>Alnus rubra</i>	120'	Fast growing, short-lived tree. Fixes nitrogen. Often used for firewood. Speckled bark shows well in winter.	Full sun to partial shade. Adaptable to poor soils. Tolerates flooding and drought.
Vine Maple <i>Acer circinatum</i>	10-30'	Large shrub or small deciduous tree. Interesting bark coloration & vibrant fall color. Small red/purple flowers.	Full sun to partial shade. Dry to somewhat moist sites.
SHRUBS			
Blue Elderberry <i>Sambucus caerulea</i>	20'	Flat-topped clusters of creamy-white flowers. Ripe berries are dark blue & can be used for making pies, jams & wine.	Full sun to partial shade, moist to dry soils. Mostly found in clearings.
Indian Plum (Osoberry) <i>Oemleria cerasiformis</i>	16'	Heralds early spring with pendant shaped, greenish white clusters of flowers. Purple fruits are favored by birds.	Full sun to full shade. Prefers partial shade. Moist to dry sites with well-drained soils.
Mock Orange <i>Philadelphus lewisii</i>	5-10'	Loosely branched shrub with bright green leaves. Showy white flowers, with a citrusy scent, appear in late spring.	Full sun to partial shade. Moist, well-drained to dry soils.
Nootka Rose <i>Rosa nutkana</i>	8'	Robust, thorny rose. Large, fragrant, pink flowers in spring, bright red berries in winter. Great for hedgerows.	Full sun to partial shade. Fairly dry to wet sites. Tolerates saturated soil.
Oceanspray <i>Holodiscus discolor</i>	15'	Bushy shrub with showy white, cascading flower clusters. Seeds persist into winter season.	Full sun to partial shade. Dry to moist sites with well-drained soil. Drought tolerant.
Oregon Grape Tall <i>Mahonia aquifolium</i>	8'	Broadleaved evergreen shrub with holly-like leaves. Clusters of yellow flowers and dark blue berries.	Full sun to partial shade. Dry to moist sites with well-drained soil.
Pacific Ninebark <i>Physocarpus capitatus</i>	13'	Multi-stemmed shrub with white pom-pom like flowers favored by bees & butterflies. Seeds feed songbirds.	Full sun to partial shade. Moist to wet sites, often near streams or wetlands.
Red Elderberry <i>Sambucus racemosa</i>	10-20'	Arching stemmed shrub with white flower clusters and red berries. Attractive to butterflies & birds.	Full sun to partial shade, moist to somewhat dry sites.
Red Flowering Currant <i>Ribes sanguineum</i>	4-12'	Deciduous shrub with brilliant display of ornamental carmine red flowers that attract butterflies and hummingbirds.	Full sun to partial shade. Well-drained, dry to somewhat moist soils.
Red Osier Dogwood <i>Cornus sericea</i>	15'	Many-stemmed shrub. White flowers & blue/white berries. Red-purple leaves in fall. Red twigs in winter.	Full sun to partial shade, moist, well-drained soil. Tolerates seasonal flooding.
Serviceberry <i>Amelanchier alnifolia</i>	10-25'	Multi-stemmed shrub/tree with clusters of showy white flowers. Dark purple fruit loved by birds. Nice fall color.	Full sun to partial shade, moist to dry sites with well-drained soil. Drought tolerant.
Snowberry <i>Symphoricarpos albus</i>	5-6'	Delicate but dense, twiggy, spreading shrub. Small clusters of pink flowers in spring & white berries in summer.	Full sun to partial shade. Dry to wet sites.
Thimbleberry <i>Rubus parviflorus</i>	2-10'	Soft velvety leaves, large white flowers, & tasty red berries. Favored food for birds, squirrels & chipmunks.	Full sun to partial shade. Intolerant of saturated soils.
Twinberry <i>Lonicera involucrata</i>	12'	Woody, branching shrub with conjoined yellow tubular flowers & glossy black berries framed by maroon bracts.	Sun or shade. Commonly found in moist sites near streams or wetlands.
NATIVE POLLINATOR SEED MIX - Please visit our website at https://clallamcd.org/native-plants for seed mix details.			
SURPRISE SPECIES - We have very limited quantities of the following plugs: Mountain hemlock (<i>Tsuga mertensiana</i>), Salal (<i>Gaultheria shallon</i>), and Pacific rhododendron (<i>Rhododendron macrophyllum</i>). Visit our website for more details on these plants.			

Checklist: Weathering Winter on Farms

- ✓ **Remove livestock from wet pastures.** When animals begin to leave hoof prints in the soil and/or when the stubble height is down to 3-4 inches it's time to pull them off the pasture.
- ✓ **Confine animals in a winter feeding area** located away from waterways. Hogfuel, concrete and gravel can be used to help keep areas mud-free.
- ✓ **Fence livestock away** from streams, wetlands, and ponds to protect water quality, minimize soil erosion, and protect native vegetation and wildlife habitat.
- ✓ **Properly manage manure** to ensure that manure generated on your farm is a useful resource rather than a risky liability that can pollute nearby waterways.
 - ◆ Collect manure every 1-3 days from winter pens and store manure in a dry, covered location at least 100 feet away from wells, streams, and other water features.
 - ◆ Do not spread manure during the winter months when the grass is dormant and nutrients can cause runoff concerns.
 - ◆ Maintain a grassy buffer strip around manure storage areas to help filter runoff.
- ✓ Ensure that **culverts, overflows, and spillways are clean** and free of debris to minimize flooding and erosion during storms.
- ✓ **Check gutters and downspouts** to ensure they are securely attached to buildings and free of debris.
- ✓ **Put native plants to work on your farm.**
 - ◆ Plant native trees and shrubs along streams and waterways to restore riparian habitat.
 - ◆ Use native trees and shrubs to create windbreaks and hedgerows that provide shade for livestock in the summer and protection from wind and rain in the winter.
 - ◆ Native plants can create a great screen around areas like manure storage bins.



Conservation Planners are able to help with making sure your farm is ready for the winter. Contact us at info@clallamcd.org or at 360-775-3747 if you would like assistance on your farm.

Riparian Buffers

Riparian buffers, the vegetated area next to a waterway, play an important role in making stream habitat more livable for fish. The shade provided by these trees and shrubs help keep river temperatures cool, especially during the hot months of the year. Overtime trees falling in the waterway can make the stream system complex, slowing down the river and creating pools, great for spawning fish looking to rest.

A vegetated bank can also reduce erosion along the streambank, and can help shade out unwanted invasive weeds. This vegetated zone can also attract pollinator species, which can be good for your garden or farm. These areas are also great wildlife habitat, as the flowers and fruit of these plants can attract more wildlife such as mammals, amphibians, reptiles, and birds.

Now is a great time to plan for planting a riparian buffer since our plant sale is now OPEN, and is filled with native plant species that are excellent for planting in riparian buffers. If you are interested in planting a riparian buffer on a waterway on your land, contact us at info@clallamcd.org or by phone at 360-775-3747. District staff are available to help you with selecting species most suited to your site, and grant funding may also be available to help you with purchasing plants and covering the costs of planting crews.



A riparian buffer being planted along the Quillayute River.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- ⇒ Open for Orders - Annual Native Plant Sale
- ⇒ Upcoming 2023 Board of Supervisor Elections
- ⇒ Orca Recovery Week
- ⇒ Tips for Winter Livestock Management

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS:

SOIL TESTING: We are accepting soil tests the first and third Wednesday of each month. Please refer to our website at: <https://clallamcd.org/soil-testing> for instructions and information on the quantity of soil needed for testing.

NEWSLETTERS: We are only printing and mailing two newsletters per year. To subscribe to our monthly eNewsletter visit: clallamcd.org/#subscribe or call 360-775-3747.

Clallam Conservation District is a sub-division of state government created to promote the stewardship and conservation of natural resources in Clallam County. Public meetings are held at 3:00 p.m. the second Tuesday of each month. Please check our website, clallamcd.org for updates on how to attend.

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For Assistance
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