

FIRE-RESISTANT NATIVE PLANTS OF WESTERN MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

Fire-resistant plants are known to have moist and supple leaves; low amounts of sap, resin, or volatile oils; and low amounts of retained dead material like leaves and branches. These plants won't add significant fuel to a fire and therefore won't lead to increased fire intensity. They are not "fire proof" plants, but they're thought to be safer near a home on a forested property than other landscaping options. The following is a list of native plants taken from the Oregon State University Extension publication, "Fire-Resistant Plants for Home Landscapes." Most of the species below are readily available from various native plant nurseries in the Willamette Valley and NW Oregon and they'll compliment other common objectives of local landowners who wish to provide wildlife and pollinator habitat.

Ground Cover	
Kinnikinnick (<i>Arctostaphylos uva-ursi</i>)	These grow low on the ground and don't take up much space. When you plant a wild strawberry, it's the size of a quarter. Plant these species 1-2' apart.
Woodland strawberry (<i>Fragaria vesca</i>)	
Oregon stonecrop (<i>Sedum oregonum</i>)	
Broad-leaved stonecrop (<i>Sedum spathulifolium</i>)	
Forbs/Sedges	
Red columbine (<i>Aquilegia Formosa</i>)	Wildflowers are small and won't take up much space. Sedges need to be planted in wet areas. Plant 1-3' apart.
Large-leaved lupine (<i>Lupinus polyphyllus</i>)	
Common yarrow (<i>Achillea millefolium</i>)	
Nodding onion (<i>Allium cernuum</i>)	
Narrowleaf onion (<i>Allium amplexans</i>)	
Sedges (<i>Carex obnupta, densa, or stipata</i>)	
Shrubs	
Persistent or evergreen leaves	
Tall Oregon-grape (<i>Mahonia aquifolium</i>)	Plant most shrubs 3-6' apart. Salal and dwarf Oregon-grape can be more dense. Rhododendron and vine maple can be a bit less dense.
Dwarf Oregon-grape (<i>Mahonia nervosa</i>)	
Salal (<i>Gaultheria shallon</i>)	
Pacific rhododendron (<i>Rhododendron macrophyllum</i>)	
Deciduous leaves	
Pacific serviceberry (<i>Amelanchier alnifolia</i>)	wetter areas wetter areas, except Scouler's willow which can grow in upland areas
Red-osier dogwood (<i>Cornus sericea</i>)	
Oceanspray (<i>Holodiscus discolor</i>)	
Mockorange (<i>Philadelphus lewisii</i>)	
Red-flowering currant (<i>Ribes sanguineum</i>)	
Snowberry (<i>Symphoricarpos albus</i>)	
vine maple (<i>Acer circinatum</i>)	
Douglas spiraea (<i>Spiraea douglasii</i>)	
willow (<i>Salix species</i>)	
Trees	
Oregon crabapple (<i>Malus fusca</i>)	If planting a forest, these can be planted at 10' spacing. If scattered in more of a yard or landscaped setting, plant at 25-50' spacing
Oregon white oak (<i>Quercus garryana</i>)	
chokecherry (<i>Prunus virginiana</i>)	
bigleaf maple (<i>Acer macrophyllum</i>)	
red alder (<i>Alnus rubra</i>)	
black hawthorn (<i>Crataegus douglasii</i>)	

Access the Fire-Resistant Plants for Home Landscapes publication at <https://catalog.extension.oregonstate.edu/pnw590>

