

Resources

Salmon

- **Salmon Recovery Plans**, Snohomish County Public Works, www.Salmon.surfacewater.info
- **SalmonScape Interactive Map**, Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife, <http://wdfw.wa.gov/mapping/SalmonScape>

Native Plants

- **Grow Your Own Native Landscape**, WSU Extension Publication MISC0273, <https://pubs.wsu.edu>
- **Native Plant Guide**, www.kingcounty.gov/gonative
- **Washington Native Plant Society**, www.wnps.org

Natural Yard Care

- **Natural Lawn & Garden Guides**, www.NaturalYardCare.surfacewater.info
- **Safer Garden Products**, www.GrowSmartGrowSafe.org
- **Soils for Salmon**, www.SoilsForSalmon.org
- **WSU Snohomish County Master Gardeners**, (425) 357-6010, MG.help@wsu.edu

How to be
a Salmon
Friendly
Gardener

Why Make a Change?

Welcome back a good neighbor

Salmon are the ultimate in loyal neighbors. They swim thousands of miles through the ocean, past predators and fishing nets, around locks and other barriers, to return where they hatched and spawn a new generation...right in our backyards! Unfortunately, when salmon arrive they may find their spawning areas washed away, filled with silt from erosion, replaced by lawns or contaminated with pesticides. Our landscaping practices are an important part of the changes around Puget Sound that threaten salmon with extinction. The way we garden can make a real difference in providing our salmon neighbors with a healthy place to come home.

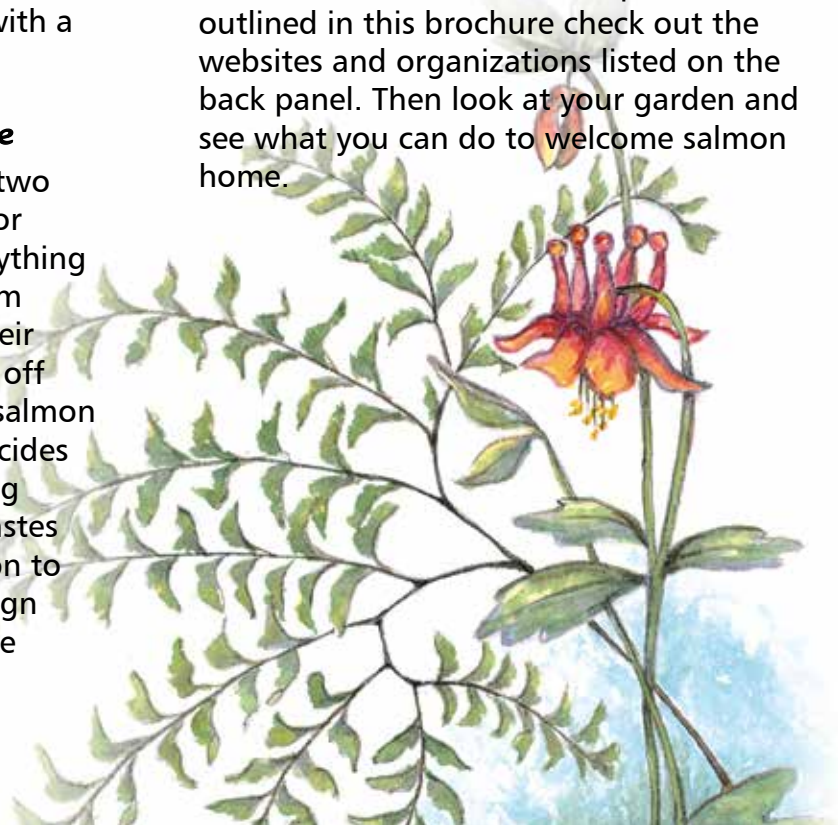
Every gardener can make a difference

Whether your garden is two feet or two miles from the nearest stream, lake or Puget Sound, it affects salmon. Everything that runs off your property into storm drains eventually washes through their habitat. Excess storm water running off pavement or compacted soil harms salmon habitat. Residues of fertilizers, pesticides and other chemicals may harm young salmon. And inefficient irrigation wastes water, leaving less in rivers for salmon to swim and spawn. Better garden design and care can preserve habitat, reduce

runoff, keep harmful chemicals out of the water and conserve water. Every time we plant, mow, fertilize, water or control pests in our gardens we can choose methods that aid salmon recovery.

Salmon Friendly Gardens are beautiful, healthy and easy to maintain

Salmon Friendly Gardens work with natural processes to grow healthy plants with minimal irrigation, fertilizer and pesticides. In addition to keeping the water clean and protecting habitat, Salmon Friendly Gardens can save you time and money. For more information on the practices outlined in this brochure check out the websites and organizations listed on the back panel. Then look at your garden and see what you can do to welcome salmon home.



How Your Gardening Practices Can Help Salmon

Build healthy soil with compost

Compost helps grow healthy plants using less water, fertilizer and pesticides. It helps soil absorb and store water, and purifies runoff.

- Mix two to four inches of compost into the top six to eight inches of soil when planting.
- Mulch garden beds annually with compost, leaves or wood chips.
- Topdress and aerate lawns. Spread up to one-half inch of compost on lawns. Core aerate to get compost and water down to roots.
- Leave clippings on the lawn.
- Compost garden and kitchen wastes at home. (See "Resources" to learn how.)

Choose the right plant for the right place

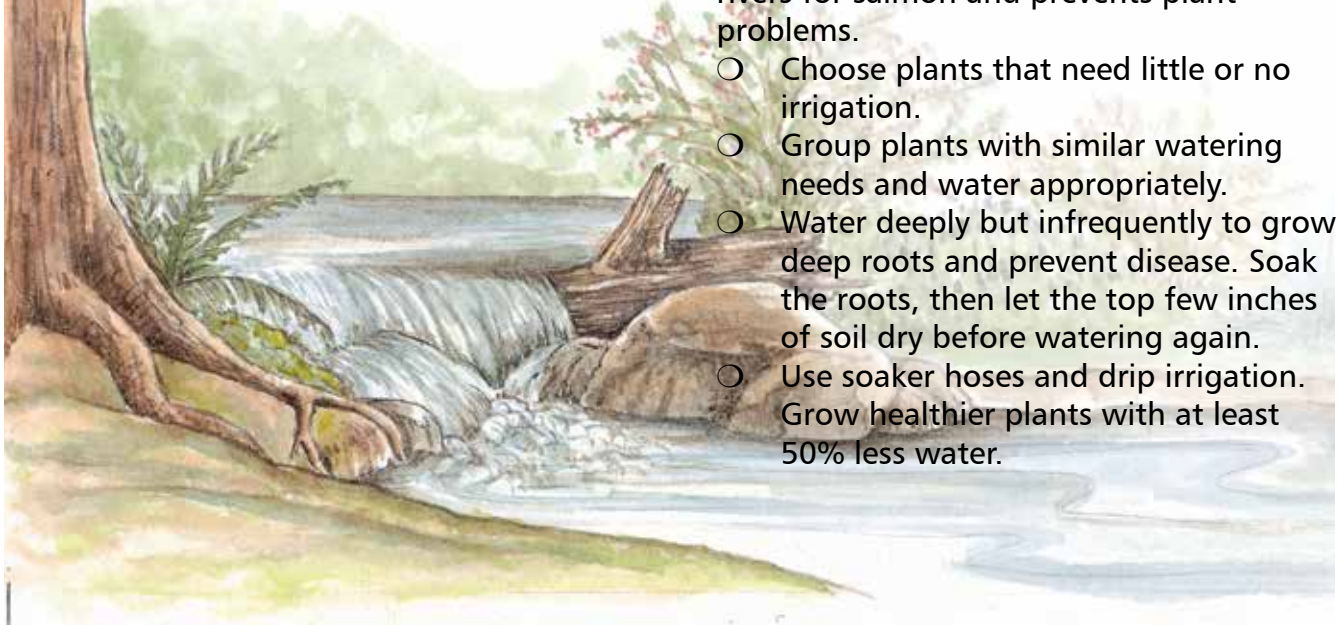
Proper plant selection will enhance habitat and reduce your need to irrigate or use chemicals.

- Choose plants adapted to your garden conditions.
- Plant pest and disease resistant varieties to reduce the need for chemicals.
- Go Native! Native plants thrive with little care, in the right conditions.
- Minimize lawn areas. Most trees, shrubs and groundcovers need less water and fertilizer.
- Fold down this page for some suggestions!

Use water wisely

Efficient irrigation keeps water in lakes and rivers for salmon and prevents plant problems.

- Choose plants that need little or no irrigation.
- Group plants with similar watering needs and water appropriately.
- Water deeply but infrequently to grow deep roots and prevent disease. Soak the roots, then let the top few inches of soil dry before watering again.
- Use soaker hoses and drip irrigation. Grow healthier plants with at least 50% less water.



How Your Gardening Practices Can Help Salmon

Use natural fertilizers and pest controls

Nurture soil and garden life that keep plants healthy.

- Use “natural organic” or “slow-release” fertilizers. They last longer, enhance soil life and don’t wash off into streams as easily.
- Manage bad bugs with traps, barriers and “least toxic” pesticides to protect natural predators and other essential garden life.
- Think twice before using “weed and feed” and other herbicides. Pull weeds or “spot spray” to minimize herbicide use.

Direct rain water appropriately

Enhance your garden’s ability to filter pollutants and prevent excessive runoff.

- Use porous materials in place of pavement. Gravel paths and drives, stepping stones in grass, bricks or flagstones in sand and wood decks all reduce runoff.
- Direct runoff into grassy swales, lawns, garden beds or rain gardens to percolate into the soil.
- Plant trees! Trees catch rain and let it evaporate before it reaches the ground.
- Save native soil! Disturb as little native soil as possible during new construction. Stockpile topsoil when grading or excavating and reuse it for planting.

Protect shoreline habitat

Preserve and enhance natural vegetation and beaches to create conditions salmon prefer.

- Plant and preserve a buffer of native trees, shrubs and groundcovers near streams and lakes. They prevent erosion, attract beneficial insects, and provide shade and shelter for salmon. Wider buffers are better, especially where slopes are steep.
- Preserve streams and their buffer as part of new landscapes.
- Minimize bulkheads, docks and other structures. Structures degrade habitat and often worsen erosion.
- Consult professionals. Plan erosion controls with a civil engineer, hydrologist or landscape architect. Sometimes native plants are the best solution for stabilizing slopes.

Title VI: Interpreter and translation services for non-English speakers are available upon request. Call Snohomish County Surface Water Management, 425-388-3464. For questions regarding Public Works’ Title VI Program, contact our Title VI Coordinator via email at spw-titlevi@snoco.org, or phone 425-388-6660. Hearing/speech impaired call 711.

A solicitud, se dispone de servicios de intérprete y traducción para personas que no hablan inglés. Llame a Snohomish County Surface Water Management, 425-388-3464. Para preguntas concernientes al Programa del Título VI de Obras Públicas, póngase en contacto con nuestro Coordinador del Título VI mediante correo electrónico a spw-titlevi@snoco.org, o llame por teléfono al 425-388-6660. Las personas con deficiencia auditiva o del habla, llamen al 711.

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Sample Plants for Salmon Friendly Gardens

This list is just a sampling of the many native plants that can benefit salmon. Native species are especially important along streams and shorelines. They attract insects that salmon thrive on, and help maintain a balanced ecosystem in the delicate aquatic environment. Many Northwest gardens include plants that are both native and non-native to Western Washington. Away from the water, non-native plants can be woven in with natives to provide beautiful patterns and textures. Visit your local nursery for more ideas.

Latin Name	Common Name	Stabilizes slopes	Adapts to edges of lakes, streams, wetlands	Provides Wildlife Habitat: food, cover, nesting	Foliage Type: E - Evergreen D - Deciduous	Flower or Fruit Sp - spring Su - summer F - fall W - winter	Light Exposure FS - full sun PS - part shade S - shade E - either	Soil Moisture M - moist D - dry E - either
TREES								
Acer circinatum	Vine maple	X	X	X	D	Sp-Su	E	E
Alnus rubra	Red alder	X	X	X	D	Sp	FS - PS	E
Picea sitchensis	Sitka spruce		X	X	E		FS-PS	M
Populus tremuloides	Quaking aspen	X	X	X	D	F	FS	M
Pseudotsuga menziesii	Douglas fir		X	X	E		FS - PS	E
Frangula purshiana	Cascara	X	X	X	D	Su	FS - PS	E
Thuja plicata	Western red cedar		X	X	E		FS - PS	E
Tsuga heterophylla	Western hemlock		X	X	E		PS - S	D
SHRUBS								
Amelanchier alnifolia	Serviceberry		X	X	D	Sp - Su	FS - PS	E
Cornus sericea	Redtwig dogwood	X	X	X	D	F - W	E	M
Gaultheria shallon	Salal	X	X	X	E	Sp - Su	PS - S	E
Holodiscus discolor	Oceanspray		X	X	D	Su	FS - PS	E
Mahonia aquifolium	Oregon grape	X	X	X	E	Sp - Su	FS - PS	E
Mahonia nervosa	Low Oregon grape	X		X	E	Sp - Su	PS - S	E
Myrica californica	California wax myrtle			X	E	Sp	FS-PS	E
Myrica gale	Sweet gale		X	X	D	Sp	FS-PS	M
Philadelphus lewisii	Mock orange			X	D	Su	FS	D
Physocarpus capitatus	Pacific ninebark	X	X	X	D	Sp-Su	FS-PS	E
Ribes sanguineum	Red-flowering currant		X	X	D	Sp	FS - PS	E
Rosa gymnocarpa	Bald-hip rose	X	X	X	D	Sp - Su	FS - PS	E
Rosa nutkana	Nootka rose	X	X	X	D	Sp - Su	FS - PS	E
Rubus spectabilis	Salmonberry	X	X	X	D	Sp - Su	PS	M
Salix scouleriana	Scouler willow	X	X	X	D	Sp	FS - PS	E
Symphoricarpos albus	Snowberry	X	X	X	D	F - W	FS - PS	E
Spiraea douglasii	Hardhack		X	X	D	Su	FS	M
Vaccinium ovatum	Evergreen huckleberry			X	E	Sp - Su	PS	D
GROUNDCOVERS								
Arctostaphylos uva-ursi	Bearberry, Kinnikinnick	X		X	E	Sp-Su	FS	D
Cornus unalascensis	Bunchberry		X	X	D	Sp - F	PS - S	M
Fragaria chiloensis	Beach strawberry			X	E	Sp - Su	FS - PS	D
Maianthemum dilatatum	False lily-of-the-valley		X	X	D	Sp - Su	PS - S	E
Vancouveria hexandra	Inside-out flower		X		D	Sp	PS - S	M
PERENNIALS								
Adiantum pedatum	Maidenhair fern		X		D		PS - S	M
Aquilegia formosa	Western columbine			X	D	Su	FS-PS	E
Aruncus dioicus	Goatsbeard	X	X	X	D	Sp	FS - PS	M
Aster subspicatus	Douglas' aster	X	X	X	D	Sp - Su	FS	E
Blechnum spicant	Deer Fern		X		E		PS - S	M
Juncus effusus	Soft rush	X	X	X	E		FS - PS	E
Polystichum munitum	Sword fern		X		E		E	E
Solidago canadensis	Goldenrod	X	X	X	D	Sp - Su	FS	E

