

2021 Spring Plant Sale

Ferry Conservation District Event to Offer Natives, Fruit Trees, Berries, Grapes and Rhubarb. New this year: Lavender

Planting trees, shrubs and edibles on your property provides multiple benefits. Plants will beautify your property and add to its value. The foliage and fruits of many plants provide food for wildlife and for your family. Flowering shrubs attract pollinators, such as butterflies and bees, enhancing the entire ecosystem. Trees can provide shade or act as a windbreak. Reforestation trees enhance the landscape and provide timber and firewood for harvest in the future. Planting in riparian areas (river and stream banks and lakeshores) helps protect the banks, preventing erosion and degradation of water quality.

This year, for the first time, we are offering lavender. Lavender has a beautiful blue to purple fragrant flower that can be gathered and put in sachets. The fragrance is very pleasing and has relaxing effects, making it a good sleep enhancer. In addition, lavender is edible and can be used in some sauces and in baking. It is easy to grow, and tolerant of poor soil, though it needs full sun and well-drained soil. This perennial plant will last for several years and will be great addition to your garden.

All plants selected will grow in our local climate (Most of the plants chosen will thrive in Plant Hardiness Zones 2-5. Most of Ferry County is Zone 5, with microclimates ranging from Zone 3-6). Plants are sold as bare-root, plugs, crowns (rhubarb) or potted (see each description below.)

Wholesale nurseries in Washington and Oregon supply healthy, hardy planting stock grown in the Northwest. By purchasing in bulk, the District can provide excellent plants at good prices.

Natives: Trees and Shrubs

Native plants have always been an important part of the annual sale. Because they naturally occur in an area, native plants are adapted to the local climate and soil conditions and once established, need less irrigation and fertilization than non-native plants. They are more resistant to pests and disease and will better provide food and shelter for local wildlife. This year's selections include two native conifer trees for reforestation and one native shrub.



The **Ponderosa pine (*Pinus ponderosa*)** grows abundantly in our area on dry south-facing slopes and is very tolerant of high summer temperatures. This tree, a major source of timber in our region also provides important wildlife habitat, recreation use and aesthetic value. The very thick bark of mature trees makes them fire resilient, though they are not truly fire resistant. Deer-resistant. Zone 4+. Mature size: height 60-100 ft+, canopy spread 25-30 ft. Plugs.

Our only native deciduous conifer, the **Western larch (*Larix occidentalis*)**, may grow to 150 feet with a trunk up to 3 ft. in diameter. The needles of the larch (also known as tamarack) turn a beautiful golden color in October and drop off in November. A popular reforestation tree, it thrives in deep, moist, porous soils with northern or western exposure. The larch is the conifer least prone to disease and pest issues in our area. The very thick bark of mature trees makes them fire resilient, though they are not truly fire resistant. Deer-resistant. Zones 4-8. Mature size: height 100+ ft., canopy spread 25-30 ft. Plugs

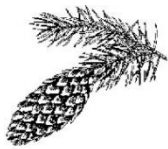


Mock orange (*Philadelphus lewisii*) produces large clusters of attractive white blossoms. Because of its pleasant fragrance (similar that of orange blossoms), consider planting near a walkway or driveway. The nectar-rich blossoms of this native deciduous shrub will attract pollinators. The mock orange will tolerate partial shade but may blossom more profusely in full sun. Once established, it will tolerate dry soil conditions. Mature size: height 6-12 ft., width 6-12 feet. Fire-resistant. Zone 4. Plugs

The **Woods rose (*Rosa woodsia*)** is a native deciduous shrub. The pink flowers and red fruit (hips) attract birds, mammals and pollinators. The hips, which were used by Native Americans, are a good source of vitamin C and can be made into jams and jellies. This rose, named after botanist Joseph Woods, tolerates a variety of soil conditions, and prefers moderate to full sun. It spreads by suckers, so it can be very aggressive in your landscape. Fire-resistant. Provides pollinator habitat. Mature size: height 3-6 ft., width 3-5 feet. Deer resistant. Zone 3. Plugs



Non-Native Trees and Perennial Flowers



The **Colorado blue spruce (*Picea pungens*)** has a distinctive bluish-green color and generally even conical shape which makes it an attractive ornamental. Blue spruce trees thrive in full sun to partial shade and moist, well-drained soil. Deer-resistant. Zones 3-7. Mature size: height 50-75 ft., canopy spread 10-20 ft. Plugs.

Lavender- We are offering three varieties of **English lavender (*Lavandula angustifolia*)**. The English lavender is best suited for cooler climates (Zones 5-8). Best to plant it in full sun and make sure not to overwater.



Folgate lavender— One of the best oil producers and is considered the best for producing high-yield crops for culinary uses. With its violet-blue flowers and sweet fragrance, it is perfect for cut flowers. Grows up to 30 inches tall and 30-36 inches wide. Plugs.

Melissa lavender — This smaller variety features tightly compact pink and white spike that bloom longer than other pink lavender plants. It can be used for ornamental or hedging purposes or for a variety of culinary uses. Grows to 24 inches tall and 24-30 inches wide. Plugs.





Royal velvet lavender - One of the best English lavenders. Its deep purple flowers and foliage are highly aromatic. It is a great oil producer and excellent for culinary uses. It has long-lasting blooms and is great for cut flowers. Grows to 24-30 inches tall and 30-36 inches wide. Plugs.

Fruit Trees

(Expected range of mature heights and widths are given. All four varieties may be held to desired height and width by pruning.)



King Russet Bosc Pear (*Pyrus communis*). The King Russet Bosc is a better more full colored version of the Golden Russet Bosc. The fruit of this tree is long and symmetrical with a uniform golden russet color overlaying yellowish-white flesh. Requires cross-pollination. The King Russet Bosc Pear is grown on an OHxF-87 rootstock, which is an excellent producer and is tolerant to blight and decline. It will reach 12'-14' feet in height and width. (Hardiness Zones 5-9). Bare-root.

Granny Smith apple (*Malus domestica*). The Australian apple that became an American standard, Granny Smith is in a class all its own. Apple lovers like it for its tart, crisp, juicy flavor, and firm texture. It has outstanding keeping quality. The tree is extremely precocious and will set crops early in its life. The Granny Smith apple is grown on EMLA-111 rootstock, which is tolerant of drought conditions and widely adapted to most soil conditions. It will reach about 12'-17' and in height and width. Because it is late blooming, it should not be planted in a Zone 4 or colder. Bare-root.



The Red McIntosh apple (*Malus domestica*). The "Mac" is the national apple of Canada. An all-purpose red and green skinned apple with a tart flavor, it is suitable both for cooking and eating raw. It was discovered by John McIntosh in Canada in 1811. The Macintosh line of personal computers was named after the fruit. Hardiness zones 4-8. Bare-root.*

Snowdrift crab apple (*Malus domestica*). White flowering variety. Very attractive to bees. The small orange-red fruit stay on the tree over the winter, attracting birds. Will pollinate other apple varieties. Hardiness zones 4-8. Bare-root.*



*(*The Red McIntosh and Snowdrift crab apple are grown on EMLA-7 rootstock which is very winter hardy and does well in a variety of soils [prefers well-drained soil] and is moderately disease tolerant. Trees on this rootstock will reach 10'-15' in height and width.)*

Berries

This year we are offering two **raspberry (*Rubus idaeus*)** varieties, one a summer bearing variety (one crop midseason) and the other an everbearing variety (a midseason crop followed by a fall crop)

The **Canby raspberry** is a thornless summer-bearing red raspberry with very large, sweet, firm, juicy, bright red berries of fine quality. It is great for freezing, canning, cooking, and fresh eating. The canes are vigorous and productive growers. Canby does show a high level of virus resistance and aphid immunity. It is sensitive to root rot and not adapted to heavy soils, so good soil drainage is required. Canby shows excellent winter hardiness in Zones 4-7. Bare-root.



The **Caroline red raspberry** is a red raspberry that keeps bearing! Caroline is considered one of the superior red raspberries that fruits from early summer through fall. It produces lots and lots of large, firm raspberries. It has very vigorous canes and is very tolerant of root rot and yellow rust. Hardy in Zones 4-7. Bare-root.

Grapes

Kettle Falls resident (formerly of Rose Valley here in Ferry County) and vintner Joe Barreca will again provide Himrod grape plants. With our cold winters and short growing season in mind, Joe has suggested this table grape for its hardiness and early ripening characteristics. In addition to providing fruit for table consumption and wine making, grape vines have great ornamental value in a garden or landscape.



The **Himrod (*Vitis vinifera*)** is a seedless grape which makes wonderfully sweet raisins with a little bite to them. The wine from this variety is light and dry. The plant is extremely vigorous, growing up to 20 feet in a year, so allow plenty of room. Zone 5-11. Potted.

Rhubarb

Crimson cherry rhubarb (*Rheum x Hybridum*). This rhubarb variety produces brightly colored red stalks. Hardy and easy to grow, rhubarb is good for eating, baking, jellies and jams. Zones 4-8. Height: 2-4 ft, Spread: 3-4 feet. Crowns.



Tree Tubes and Coffee Sacks

As usual, we are carrying protective plastic mesh **tree tubes**. These tubes are intended to provide protection from hungry deer and are for conifer trees only: Ponderosa pine, Douglas fir and Colorado blue spruce. See below for more information on deer protection.

This year we are selling **burlap coffee sacks**. Local Coffee roaster Scott Brothers Coffee, in an effort to upcycle this packaging material, has provided them to us for sale. These strong sacks are made of natural jute fiber, making them 100% biodegradable. Use them to block weeds in your garden or replace flimsy plastic trash bags for storing heavy items like glass for recycling. With the various coffee supplier designs, they can be used decoratively, as well. Their uses are limited only by your imagination. Dimensions: Approx. 27" X 38".

Plants which are fire resistant, deer resistant, and plants that provide pollinator habitat are designated as such. Though fire-resistant does not mean fire-proof, careful use of these plants along with other "firewise" practices may reduce your risk from wildfire. Neither is the designation of "deer

resistant” a guarantee. All trees and shrubs are vulnerable to deer damages until they reach about 4 feet in height. Protective mesh tubes will help protect reforestation trees while they are getting started. The best deer-proofing is a proper deer fence. The Washington Dept. of Fish and Wildlife website (<http://wdfw.wa.gov/living/deer.html>) provides some good information on the subject.

To order plants, look for a flyer in the mail or visit the District website at www.ferrycd.org. Complete the form and mail or email it back to the District without payment by January 31, 2021. Orders will be filled on a first come-first served basis. Confirming invoices will be sent out detailing the plants ordered and the cost. Payment is due by April 3. Plants arrive as dormant, bare-root stock or plugs. Plants will be available for pickup at the Ferry County Fairgrounds on Friday, April 16 from 10 am – 4 pm and on Saturday, April 17, from 9am – 2pm. If we change to a home delivery option because of COVID-19 restrictions, we will let you know. If you have any questions regarding plant availability or what type of plant(s) would best suit your needs, please contact the District at 775-3473 (ext. 100).

Ferry Conservation District is a non-regulatory agency. Our services are available to all without discrimination.