Native Fire-Resistant Plants of Columbia County, Oregon

Fire-resistant plants are plants that contribute minimal fuel to the landscape by low retention of dead materials (leaves or branches), have loose and open branching patterns, low amount of sap, resin, or volatile oils, and leaves that are wide, flat, moist, and supple. No plant is “Fireproof”, fire-resistant plants do not readily ignite and tend to produce fewer embers and can still be damaged or killed by fire. All plants can burn under the right conditions. Plant design, spacing, and maintenance are essential for fire-resistance of all species. The following is a list of plants native to Columbia County that are fire-resistant from the OSU Extension Publication, “Fire-Resistant Plants for Home Landscapes”, and “Fire Smart Yard” from Fire Safe Marin.

Ground Cover

Broad-leaved stonecrop (*Sedum spathulifolium*)
Coastal strawberry (*Fragaria chiloensis*)
Kinnikinnick (*Arctostaphylos uva-ursi*)
Oregon stonecrop (*Sedum oreganum*)
Woodland strawberry (*Fragaria vesca*)

Forbs/Sedges

Bigleaf lupine (*Lupinus polyphyllus*)
Blanket flower (*Gaillardia aristata*)
Broad leaved penstemon (*Penstemon ovatus*)
Coast penstemon (*Penstemon serrulatus*)
Common yarrow (*Achillea millefolium*)
Douglas' aster (*Symphyotrichum subspicatum*)
Giant goldenrod (*Solidago gigantea*)
Nodding onion (*Allium cernuum*)
Pacific bleeding heart (*Dicentra formosa*)
Pacific lupine (*Lupinus lepidus*)
Red columbine (*Aquilegia formosa*)
Riverbank lupine (*Lupinus rivularis*)
Sea thrift (*Armeria maritima*)
Sedges (*Carex obnupta, densa,* or *stipata*)
Sickle-keeled lupine (*Lupinus albicaulis*)
Two-color lupine (*Lupinus bicolor*)
Western goldenrod (*Solidago lepida*)
Woodland beard tongue (*Nothochelone nemorosa*)

Ferns

Deer fern (*Blechnum spicant*)
Licorice fern (*Polypodium glycyrrhiza*)
Western sword fern (*Polystichum munitum*)

Shrubs

Blue elderberry (*Sambucus cerulea*)
Douglas spirea (*Spiraea douglasii*)
Dwarf Oregon-grape (*Mahonia nervosa*)
Golden currant (*Ribes aurenum*)
Mockorange (*Philadelphus lewisii*)
Oceanspray (*Holodiscus discolor*)
Pacific ninebark (*Physocarpus capitatus*)
Pacific rhododendron (*Rhododendron macrophyllum*)
Pacific willow (*Salix lucida*)
Red currant (*Ribes sanguineum*)
Red-osier dogwood (*Cornus sericea*)
Salal (*Gaultheria shallon*)
Scouler willow (*Salix scouleriana*)
Snowberry (*Symphoricarpos albus*)
Tall Oregon-grape (*Mahonia aquifolium*)
Vine maple (*Acer circinatum*)

Trees

Bigleaf maple (*Acer macrophyllum*)
Black hawthorn (*Crataegus douglasii*)
Cascara (*Frangula purshiana*)
Chokecherry (*Prunus virginiana*)
Oregon white oak (*Quercus garryana*)
Red alder (*Alnus rubra*)

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

Fire Smart Yard resources at
https://firesafemarin.org/create-a-fire-smart-yard/

Columbia Soil & Water Conservation District
Clean Water, Healthy Earth

www.columbiaswcd.com