



Great Plant Picks: Shrubs

S: Shade Garden, D: Drought-tolerant Plant, W: Wildlife Benefit: Birds, Bees, Butterflies, Hummingbirds

| Name | S/D/W | 10 Year | Maturity | Sun/Shade | Outstanding Features |
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| Glossy Abelia Abelia x grandiflora | W | 6' x 7' | 8' x 9' | Full sun to light shade | Semi-evergreen with fragrant pink flowers from early spring to fall. |
| Gold Variegated Abelia Abelia x grandiflora ‘Kaleidoscope’ | W | 4' x 5' | 5' x 6' | Full sun to light shade | Semi-evergreen with gold, green, and yellow foliage. Small white blooms from summer to fall. |
| Glossy Abelia ‘Edward Goucher’ Abelia ‘Edward Goucher’ | W | 6' x 7' | 7' x 8' | Full sun to light shade | Multi-stemmed with dark foliage. Pink blooms from summer to fall. |
| Strawberry Tree Arbutus unedo | W | 10' x 10' | 18' x 18' | Full sun or light to open shade | Autumn flower and fruit with year-round attractive foliage and bark. |
| Compact Strawberry Tree Arbutus unedo ‘Compacta’ | W | 8' x 8' | 15' x 15' | Full sun to light open shade | Autumn flower and fruit with year-round attractive foliage and bark. |
| Autumn Magic Black Chokecherry Aronia melanocarpa ‘Autumn Magic’ | | 5' x 4' | 7' x 6' | Full sun | A 4-season shrub in compact form with flowers, fruits, and attractive bark. |
| Variegated Japanese Aucuba Aucuba japonica ‘Mr. Goldstrike’ | S | 6' x 6' | 8' x 7' | Dappled to deep shade | Year-round bold, gold-splashed foliage. |
| Rozannie Japanese Aucuba Aucuba japonica ‘Rozannie’ | S | 4' x 4' | 6' x 6' | Dappled to deep shade | Year-round glossy green foliage with bright red fruit in fall. |
| Sawtoothed Japanese Aucuba Aucuba japonica ‘Serratifolia’ | S | 6' x 6' | 8' x 7' | Dappled to deep shade | Year-round bold, shiny foliage. |
| Darwin’s Barberry Berberis darwinii | S, D, W | 5' x 4' | 6' x 6' | Full sun or light shade | Red/orange buds open to orange flowers in spring. |

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| Warty Barberry <i>Berberis verruculosa</i> | S, D | 4' x 5' | 6' x 6' | Full sun to light shade | Small evergreen leaves with yellow flowers in spring. |
| Bob Hope Camellia <i>Camellia japonica</i> 'Bob Hope' | W | 8' x 6' | 15' x 12' | Light to open shade | Glossy, dark evergreen foliage with semi-double red blooms. |
| Victoria California Lilac <i>Ceanothus</i> 'Victoria' | W | 6' x 4' | 12' x 15' | Full sun | Hardest California lilac from trials with dark green leaves and indigo blue flowers. |
| White Rockrose <i>Cistus x hybridus</i> | D | 3' x 5' | 4' x 6' | Full sun | Hardest and the most reliable cistus for our region with white flowers in spring. |
| Ivory Halo Red Twig Dogwood <i>Cornus alba</i> 'Bailhalo' IVORY HALO | W | 6' x 6' | 8' x 8' | Full sun, light or open shade | Mint green and creamy white foliage with flowers in spring and autumn color in fall. |
| Red Twig Dogwood <i>Cornus alba</i> 'Elegantissima' | W | 8' x 8' | 10' x 10' | Full sun, light to dappled Shade | A work-horse shrub with variegated white-green leaves, fall color, and red stems during the winter. |
| Black Stem Dogwood <i>Cornus alba</i> 'Kesselringii' | S, D, W | 8' x 8' | 10' x 10' | Full sun, light or open shade | Unique, shiny deep purple-black stems. Spring foliage emerges flushed in inky purple and retains a hint of dark coloring through the growing season. |
| Red Osier Dogwood <i>Cornus sericea</i> 'Baileyi' | W | 8' x 8' | 10' x 10' | Full sun, light to dappled Shade | Classic shrub dogwood with white flowers in spring, white berries in summer and fall, bright red stems in the winter. |
| Variegated Red-twig Dogwood <i>Cornus sericea</i> 'Hedgerows Gold' | W | 8' x 8' | 10' x 10' | Full sun, light to dappled shade | Bright golden-yellow foliage on red stems makes this shrub appealing. Fruits are attractive to birds. |
| Purple Smokebush <i>Cotinus coggygria</i> 'Royal Purple' | W | 8' x 7' | 15' x 12' | Full sun or light shade | Rich burgundy foliage and tiny flowers that expand to lacey seed clusters, make the shrub appealing. |
| Purple Smokebush <i>Cotinus</i> 'Grace' | W | 15' x 12' | 20' x 15' | Full sun to light shade | Light red to dark red foliage with masses of pink flowers in spring and glorious fall color. |
| Compact Cotoneaster <i>Cotoneaster adpressus</i> 'Little Gem' | W | 2' x 3' | 3' x 5' | Full sun to light shade | Dense, semi-evergreen to deciduous shrub with red berries. It can be used as a foundation plant or cascade over the retaining wall. |
| Bearberry Cotoneaster <i>Cotoneaster dammeri</i> | S, W | 6" x 6' | 6" x 10' | Full sun to light or open shade | Easy to grow, dense semi-evergreen shrub that produces red berries. |
| Gray-leaf Cotoneaster <i>Cotoneaster glaucophyllus hort.</i> | W | 2' x 4' | 3' x 6' | Full sun, light to open shade | Smokey gray-green foliage makes an excellent low hedge. White flowers in spring, followed by red berries summer through winter. |

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| Darley Heath <i>Erica x darleyensis</i> 'Darley Dale' | W | 1' x 3' | 1.5' x 4' | Full sun | Produces abundant, shell-pink flowers that darken to medium pink as the season progresses. |
| Darley Heath <i>Erica x darleyensis</i> 'Kramer's Rote' | W | 1' x 3' | 1.5' x 4' | Full sun | Upright bushy heath with reddish purple flowers from December to April. |
| Darley Heath <i>Erica x darleyensis</i> 'Silberschmelze' | W | 1' x 3' | 1.5' x 4' | Full sun | 'Molten silver' forms a sea of small, bell-shaped, silvery-white flowers, from December to May, that smother its evergreen, needle-like leaves. |
| Darley Heath <i>Erica x darleyensis</i> 'White Perfection' | W | 1' x 3' | 1.5' x 4' | Full sun | The brightest white flowers of almost any heath. Blooming from December to April, its small, bell-shaped flowers are set atop bright green leaves that have yellow tips in spring. |
| Winter Heath <i>Erica carnea</i> 'Myretoun Ruby' | W | 1' x 3' | 1.5' x 4' | Full sun | Hundreds of small, urn-shaped flowers that open dusty rose and deepen magenta to ruby-red. They cover this low-spreading, evergreen shrub from January through May. |
| Winter Heath <i>Erica carnea</i> 'Springwood White' | W | 1' x 3' | 1.5' x 4' | Full sun | It has hundreds of small, urn-shaped, grey-white flowers from December until May, on an evergreen shrub with a low, spreading to trailing habit. |
| Winter Heath <i>Erica carnea</i> 'Vivellii' | W | 1' x 3' | 1.5' x 4' | Full sun | Hundreds of small, urn-shaped, purplish-pink flowers that darken to magenta cover this evergreen shrub of a low, spreading habit. |
| Japanese Fatsia <i>Fatsia japonica</i> | S | 6' x 5' | 7' x 6' | Open shade to deep shade | The most distinctive of all evergreens with large palmate leaves for the shade garden. The lobed leaves can reach 16 inches across. |
| Camouflage Japanese Fatsia <i>Fatsia japonica</i> 'Murakumo nishiki' CAMOUFLAGE | S | 5' x 4' | 7' x 6' | Open shade to deep shade | Bold palmate leaves, up to 16 inches across, are light yellow at the base, then splashed with various shades of green to the leaf edge. |
| Variegated Forsythia <i>Forsythia</i> 'Fiesta' | W | 6' x 6' | 8' x 8' | Full sun | Compact forsythia cultivar with variegated leaves and yellow flowers in spring. |
| Convex Leaf Japanese Holly <i>Ilex crenata</i> 'Convexa' | S, D | 4' x 5' | 6' x 6' | Full sun to light shade | Fast growing evergreen which makes an excellent candidate for hedge. |
| Dwarf Japanese Holly <i>Ilex crenata</i> 'Dwarf Pagoda' | D | 3' x 2' | 4' x 2' | Full sun, light to open shade | This unusual Japanese holly is very dense and dwarf. |
| Japanese Holly <i>Ilex crenata</i> 'Green Island' | S, D | 4' x 5' | 6' x 6' | Full sun to dappled shade | Dark, fine textured evergreen leaves with a spreading habit. |

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| Marie's Columnar Japanese Holly <i>Ilex crenata</i> 'Mariesii' | S, D | 4' x 1' | 8' x 2' | Full sun, light to open shade | 'Mariesii' heads straight for the sky, creating a dark green exclamation point in the garden. |
| Northern Beauty Japanese Holly <i>Ilex crenata</i> 'Northern Beauty' | S, D | 4' x 5' | 6' x 6' | Full sun to dappled shade | A vigorous evergreen shrub with dense branching and dark green leaves which are larger than most other cultivars. |
| Curly-leaf Japanese Privet <i>Ligustrum japonicum</i> 'Rotundifolium' | | 3' x 2' | 5' x 3' | Full sun to light or open shade | Dense evergreen shrub with thick, dark green leaves. |
| Boxleaf Honeysuckle <i>Lonicera ligustrina</i> var <i>pileata</i> | | 3' x 5' | 4' x 6' | Full sun to light, open, dappled shade | Evergreen boxwood-like foliage on a low-spreading shrub that has small white flowers followed by purple berries. |
| Golden Boxleaf Honeysuckle <i>Lonicera nitida</i> 'Baggensen's Gold' | S | 4' x 6' | 6' x 8' | Full sun to dappled shade | Mound of arching branches covered in dainty golden leaves. |
| Hybrid Mahonia <i>Mahonia x media</i> 'Arthur Menzies' | S, W | 6' x 5' | 8' x 6' | Full sun to dappled shade | Dramatic, frond-like leaves that grow in whorls. Great sprays of gold flowers appear in winter, developing into clusters of wax-coated black berries by late summer. |
| Hybrid Mahonia <i>Mahonia x media</i> 'Charity' | W | 6' x 5' | 8' x 6' | Full sun to dappled shade | Statuesque, evergreen shrub for the winter garden. Sprays of soft yellow flowers in the winter. |
| Hybrid Mahonia <i>Mahonia x media</i> 'Winter Sun' | S, W | 6' x 5' | 8' x 6' | Full sun to dappled shade | Evergreen shrub with frond-like leaves and yellow fragrant blooms in late fall or early winter. |
| Cascade Oregon Grape <i>Mahonia nervosa</i> | S | 2' x 4' | 3' x 6' | Full sun to deep shade | PNW native. Ground cover with yellow flowers in May. |
| Creeping Oregon Grape <i>Mahonia repens</i> | S | 1' x 3' | 1' x 5' | Full sun to deep shade | PNW native. Late winter to early spring, tight clusters of bright canary yellow flowers burst forth to welcome garden pollinators. |
| Compact Heavenly Bamboo <i>Nandina domestica</i> 'Gulf Stream' | | 3' x 2' | 4' x 3' | Full sun to light or open shade | Bushy compact evergreen shrub with outstanding foliage for year-round interest. |
| Burkwood's Sweet Olive <i>Osmanthus x burkwoodii</i> | S, D | 5' x 5' | 10' x 10' | Full sun to light to deep shade | This tough, evergreen shrub makes a great screening plant, for it grows in almost any position. |
| Sweet Olive <i>Osmanthus delavayi</i> | S, D, W | 6' x 5' | 12' x 8' | Full sun to light to deep shade | Tiny, very dark green leaves and small, fragrant, tubular white flowers, this evergreen shrub provides year-round interest. |

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| <u>Variegated False Holly <i>Osmanthus heterophyllus</i> 'Goshiki'</u> | S | 5' x 5' | 8' x 8' | Full sun, light to deep shade | Tough variegated evergreen shrub with fragrant fall flowers. |
| <u>Purple Leaf False Holly <i>Osmanthus heterophyllus</i> 'Purpureus'</u> | S, W | 6' x 5' | 12' x 8' | Full sun, light to deep shade | Tough and versatile evergreen shrub. Chosen for its intense, deep-purple new growth in spring. |
| <u>Variegated False Holly <i>Osmanthus heterophyllus</i> 'Variegatus'</u> | S, W | 6' x 5' | 12' x 8' | Shade – light, open, deep shade | Bright cream-edged foliage holds up well in sun or shade. Use it to brighten a shady corner. |
| <u>Mock Orange <i>Philadelphus</i> 'Belle Etoile'</u> | S | 6' x 5' | 8' x 8' | Full sun to light shade | Shrub with abundant white fragrant flowers in late spring. |
| <u>Alpine Mint Bush <i>Prostanthera cuneata</i></u> | | 2' x 3' | 3' x 4' | Full sun to light shade | Mounding shrub with white flowers. Leaves have a mint fragrance. |
| <u>Dwarf English Laurel <i>Prunus laurocerasus</i> 'Mount Vernon'</u> | S | 1.5' x 4' | 1.5' x 8' | Full sun to deep shade | Dwarf evergreen laurel that is not invasive and makes an excellent ground cover. |
| <u>Firethorn <i>Pyracantha</i> 'Mohave'</u> | | 8' x 8' | 12' x 12' | Full sun | White flowers in spring and red-orange berries in mid-August to winter. |
| <u>Flowering Currant <i>Ribes sanguineum</i></u> | | 6' x 5' | 7' x 6' | Full sun is best, does fine in shade | PNW native. Currant with fragrant pink blooms in early spring. |
| <u>Flowering Currant <i>Ribes sanguineum</i> 'King Edward VII'</u> | | 6' x 5' | 7' x 6' | Full sun is best, does fine in shade | Deep, pinkish-red flowers in spring and blue-black berries in summer. |
| <u>Flowering Currant <i>Ribes sanguineum</i> 'Pulborough Scarlet'</u> | | 6' x 5' | 7' x 6' | Full sun is best, does fine in shade | Cardinal-red flowers open to a rich, rose red. The early spring flowers have a spicy fragrance and are a favorite of over-wintering hummingbirds. |
| <u>Flowering Currant <i>Ribes sanguineum</i> 'Ulbric' WHITE ICICLE</u> | | 6' x 5' | 7' x 6' | Full sun is best, does fine in shade | White flowers in early spring and blue-black berries in summer. |
| <u>Double Yellow Old-Fashioned Rose <i>Rosa</i> 'Autumn Sunset'</u> | | 8' x 8' | 12' x 12' | Full sun | The blossoms of this shrub rose are fully double and loosely formed, in apricot color with touches of yellow and orange. |
| <u>Semi-Double White Rambling Rose <i>Rosa</i> 'Darlow's Enigma'</u> | | 10' x 5' | 20' x 10' | Full sun, tolerates light shade | An easy to grow, vigorous, large, disease resistant rose, with a bevy of pure white flowers with golden centers and fragrance to knock your socks off! |

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| Single Yellow Modern Rose <i>Rosa 'Golden Wings'</i> | | 5' x 4' | 8' x 6' | Full sun | Large clear, almost single, pale golden flowers, with marmalade stamens. Sweetly scented, the flowers appear from June until October. |
| Double Pink Old-Fashioned Rose <i>Rosa 'Hansa'</i> | | 4' x 4' | 6' x 6' | Full sun | Fragrant, long blooming, drought tolerant and produces great hips. Very tough. |
| Double Orange Modern Rose <i>Rosa 'KORwest' WESTERLAND</i> | | 6' x 4' | 12' x 6' | Full sun | Vivid copper-orange, strongly fragrant flowers burst forth from June until frost. |
| Single Pink Modern Rose <i>Rosa 'Sally Holmes'</i> | | 7' x 5' | 9' x 7' | Full sun | Compact with an upright habit and glossy foliage. Can be grown in a container, as a hedge or trained against a wall or pillar. |
| Julia Child Shrub Rose <i>Rosa 'WEKvosutono' JULIA CHILD</i> | | 3' x 4' | 5' x 5' | Full sun | Delectable buttery golden flowers are borne profusely throughout the growing season along with a strong spicy fragrance of licorice and cloves. |
| Creeping Taiwan Bramble <i>Rubus rolfiei</i> | W | 0.5' x 6' | 0.5' x 9' | Full sun to light to open shade | A labor-saving, ground-hugging shrub of great utility. Has small white flowers and golden fruits. |
| Dwarf Purple Osier <i>Salix Purpurea 'Nana'</i> | | 3' x 3' | 5' x 5' | Full sun to light open shade | Dwarf, round-shaped shrub with purple stems and gray green leaves. |
| Purple Cutleaf Elderberry <i>Sambucus nigra 'Eva' BLACK LACE</i> | | 8' x 8' | 10' x 10' | Full sun | Lacy purple foliage and early summer flowers. |
| Purple-Leaf Black Elder <i>Sambucus nigra 'Gerda' BLACK BEAUTY</i> | | 15' x 12' | 18' x 15' | Full sun | BLACK BEAUTY retains its deep burgundy-purple foliage color from spring to fall. |
| Cutleaf Black Elder <i>Sambucus nigra f. laciniata</i> | | 15' x 12' | 18' x 15' | Full sun best, tolerates shade | A robust, deciduous shrub that creates a dramatic effect in the landscape. Deep green, finely divided leaves attractively frame the fragrant, white, Queen-Ann's-lace-like flowers in late spring. |
| Purple Stem Sweet Box <i>Sarcococca hookeriana var. digyna 'Purple Stem'</i> | | 3' x 4' | 3' x 6' | shade | Inconspicuous flowers bring a sweet scent in winter. Attractive, dark green, semi-glossy evergreen foliage is grown on purple stems. |
| Dwarf Sweetbox <i>Sarcococca hookeriana var. humilis</i> | S | 1.5' x 4' | 1.5' x 6' | Dappled sun - deep shade | Tiny fragrant flowers in winter along with year-round dark green foliage. |
| Paliban Dwarf Korean Lilac <i>Syringa meyeri 'Palibin'</i> | | 4' x 5' | 5' x 7' | Full sun | A lilac with all the beauty and fragrance of typical lilacs, but in a compact form and resistant to diseases. |

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| Dwarf Korean Lilac <i>Syringa pubescens</i> ssp. <i>patula</i> <i>'Miss Kim'</i> | | 4' x 5' | 7' x 9' | Full sun | Fragrant spring flowers and autumn color. |
| Evergreen huckleberry <i>Vaccinium ovatum</i> | S | 4' x 4' | 6' x 6' | Full sun to deep shade | PNW native. Evergreen shrub with white flowers in spring and blue-black berries by late summer. |
| Pink Dawn Viburnum <i>Viburnum x bodnantense</i> <i>'Dawn'</i> | | 8' x 6' | 12' x 8' | Full sun to light, open shade | Fragrant flowers in mid-winter to spring and autumn foliage color. |
| Burkwood's Viburnum <i>Viburnum x burkwoodii</i> | W | 6' x 6' | 8' x 8' | Full sun | In early-spring, pink buds open to white clusters of tiny flowers which exude a spicy floral fragrance against a backdrop of glossy dark green foliage. |
| Korean Spice Viburnum <i>Viburnum carlesii</i> <i>'Aurora'</i> | W | 6' x 6' | 8' x 8' | Full sun to light, open shade | Cushions of dark pink buds open to pastel pink and impart a wonderful fragrance in early spring. |
| David's Viburnum <i>Viburnum davidii</i> | | 3' x 4' | 5' x 7' | Full sun to light, open shade | This low-growing viburnum is noted for its deeply veined, leathery evergreen leaves that provide textural contrast for other garden plants. |
| Doublefile Viburnum <i>Viburnum plicatum</i> f. <i>tomentosum</i> <i>'Mariesii'</i> | | 8' x 8' | 12' x 15' | Sun | A large, wide-spreading shrub, it is one of the best multi-season shrubs. It develops a branching pattern with strong horizontal layers as it matures, creating an interesting winter framework. |
| Adam's Needle <i>Yucca filamentosa</i> | W | 3' x 3' | 3' x 5' | Full sun | Architectural plant with sword-like leaves and tall flower spikes in the summer. |
| Bright Edge Variegated Yucca <i>Yucca filamentosa</i> <i>'Bright Edge'</i> | D, W | 3' x 3' | 3' x 5' | Full sun | This variegated evergreen shrub is grown for its architectural quality, as its striped, sharp-tipped, sword-shaped leaves stand out in any border or as a specimen container plant. |
| Color Guard Variegated Yucca <i>Yucca filamentosa</i> <i>'Color Guard'</i> | D, W | 3' x 3' | 3' x 5' | Full sun | This variegated evergreen shrub is grown for its architectural quality, as its striped, sharp-tipped, sword-shaped leaves stand out in any border or as a specimen container plant. |
| Variegated Yucca <i>Yucca filamentosa</i> <i>'Variegata'</i> | D, W | 3' x 3' | 3' x 5' | Full sun | 'Variegata' has blue-green leaves with white margins, during winter, the leaves take on an attractive pink tinge. |
| Adam's Needle <i>Yucca flaccida</i> | D, W | 3' x 3' | 3' x 5' | Full sun | A shrub with sharp-tipped, sword-shaped leaves that stand out in a spiky sphere and make a strong statement in any border or specimen planting. |

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| Golden Sword Variegated Yucca Yucca flaccida 'Golden Sword' | D, W | 3' x 3' | 3' x 5' | Full sun | The leaves have a central golden stripe with variable blue-green stripes along their margins. |
| Curve-Leaf Yucca Yucca recurvifolia | D, W | 6' x 5' | 6' x 7' | Full sun | The long slender foliage, blue-green in color, often gracefully bends or slightly droops from the tips, and forms a stately specimen as it matures. |

Great Plant Picks (GPP) is the primary educational program of the Elisabeth C. Miller Botanical Garden. In 2001 the first list debuted with recommendations for building a comprehensive palette of outstanding plants for the maritime Pacific Northwest. To date over 1,000 exceptional plants have been selected for gardeners living west of the Cascade Mountains from Eugene, Oregon, USA to Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada.

GPP plants selected for this list meet these criteria: can live in a variety of soils, need moderate or less supplemental water, can tolerate heat, are cold hardy in USDA zone 7, are not prone to disease/pest problems, and offer more than 1-season of interest in the garden. Many GPP plants also offer ecological benefits (pollinators, bird food, habitat for wildlife, etc.)

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