Common Name: SALMONBERRY

Scientific Name: Rubus spectabilis

Glenn Otto Park 45 32 166 N 122 22 656 W
Helen Althaus Park 45 32.262 N 122 23.506 W

Height: Salmonberry gets almost ten feet tall and can form dense thickets.

The stem is sparingly branched and has fine prickles on it.

The fruit is orange, large and edible.

Site: Salmonberry is found from moist woods to stream banks to swamps. It is most abundant below 3,000 feet and in the Coast Range.

Range: Alaska to northwest California from the coast to the Cascades

Introduced into cultivation in 1827

This rather ornamental plant with upright stems is difficult to eradicate.
Common Name: SCOT'S BROOM

Scientific Name: Cytisus scoparius

Also Called: Scotch broom

Beaver Creek Trail

A deciduous upright shrub of European origin, Scot's broom is often planted along highways. It has commonly escaped from cultivation into the countryside where it has become a major brush invader in many open fields and recently clearcut forest land west of the Cascades.

Height: Up to 9.8 feet

This plant prefers open sunlight and spreads aggressively in cut over areas, and open coastal beaches. It thrives on dry, sandy or gravelly sites where other shrubs or trees do not easily become established.

Range: West of the Cascades, from British Columbia to California. Also found in central and southern Europe

Showy, with its large yellow flowers, it has long been cultivated and occasionally naturalized in eastern states and on Vancouver Island.

Scot's broom has minor use as floral greenery. Its fine-textured upright spikes lend themselves well to tall floral arrangements. It is placed within the bouquet rather than behind it for background effect. Scot's broom is harvested commercially along the East Coast as well as near the coast in southwestern Oregon and southern Puget Sound regions.
Common Name: SCOUNER’S WILLOW

Scientific Name: Salix scouleriana

Also Called: Black willow
             Fire willow
             Mountain willow

Helen Althaus Park At entrance,
next to play area.

The leaves have mostly rounded ends
and narrowly tapered bases.

The willow is a shrub and occasionally a tree.

They may even grow lying down.

Site: They are found generally in wet or moist places, especially along streams and around bodies of water.

Identification is complicated by the fact that in most willows the flowers appear before the leaves are developed.

The bark contains tannic acid and salicin.

The willows can be readily distinguished by their narrow winter buds which open into Pussy willows.
SEEDLING CHERRY

Scientific Name: Prunus spp.

Glenn Otto Park  45 32 166 N
122 22 725 W

This tree has sweet, edible fruit, but it may not have enough fruit around the pit for you to enjoy it.

This seedling type occurs because the tree comes from a seed instead of from a sprout.

I don’t see a large trunk here so the seed must have come from the orchard which was previously nearby.

SERVICEBERRY

Scientific Name: Amelanchier alnifolia variation semiintegrifolia

Also Called: Shadbush
Shadblow
Sarvis

Beaver Creek Trail
Glenn Otto Park

The Serviceberry often occurs along the forest edge as you see this one is.

These are deciduous and fairly choice ornamental shrubs.

As ornamental shrubs, they are handsome in bloom.
The fruit is edible on this species and is sometimes used for jelly. It can be eaten raw, cooked, dried or made into wine.

Indians dried the berries and pounded them into 10-15 pound loaves for storage and use in stew or to be eaten on trips.

Serviceberry is highly palatable for game and livestock.

Range: In and west of the Cascades, southern Alaska to California, occasionally east of the Cascades in southern British Columbia, north Washington, north Idaho and Montana.

88  SNAG

Beaver Creek Trail
Helen Althaus Park  45 32.233 N
                        122 23.505 W

This remnant of an old tree will last many more years in its present, decaying form.

It is now the home of insects, plants, and fungi. Snags can also house birds and animals.

In times of forest fire, a snag can easily spread embers a half mile away.

Snags are dangerous when they fall because they just fall over without any warning sound.
Common Name: SNOWBERRY

Scientific Name: Symphoricarpos albus

From Greek syn (together) phorein (to bear), karpos (closely clustered fruits)

Also Called: Common snowberry

Beaver Creek Trail
Glenn Otto Park 45 32 223 N
122 22 731 W
Helen Althaus Park 45 32.293 N
122 23.416 W

Height: Up to 3 feet, so some of these are mature

A widespread erect deciduous shrub of thickets, woods, and open slopes.

Twigs of the Snowberry have a hollow pith. The plant has opposite leaves and stems. Curiously, the leaves vary in shape on a single plant, from round to oblong, some with toothy edges, some not. The foliage is very fragrant in the rain.

Its flowers and fruit are white. The berries are edible, but taste like Ivory soap.

Site: The Snowberry is found from the lowlands to 6,000 feet in the mountains. It is deciduous, losing its leaves in the fall. The Snowberry can tolerate seasonal flooding.

Range: In the Pacific Northwest from San Luis Obispo, California to Alaska, and from Nova Scotia to Alberta, south to Minnesota and Virginia

Introduced into cultivation in 1806.

Chiefly ornamentally planted for its white fruit which is conspicuous in the fall and early winter.
The Snowberry is associated with Douglas-fir and with Grand fir in the Blue Mountains of Oregon.

This is an important forage plant in western United States. It also provides game food and cover.

The Snowberry has been used for erosion-control plantings.

90 Common Name: WESTERN SPIREA

Scientific Name: Spirea douglasii

Glenn Otto Park  N 45 32 182 N  W 122 22 725 W

This is a fast-growing deciduous shrub.

Height to 5 feet.

The rose-colored flowers grow in lovely clusters. The flowers might be called hot pink-purple.

The stems are light green.

This plant tolerates sand and seasonal flooding.

Range: Below 6,000 feet from northern California to British Columbia
Common Name: SWEETSCENTED BEDSTRAW

Scientific Name: Galium triflorum

Also Called: Fragrant bedstraw

Beaver Creek Trail
Helen Althaus Park

This perennial herb has square stems and whorled leaves (usually six in a whorl with four on smaller branches)

The leaves are vanilla-scented.

Site: Found in moist woods at low to middle elevations

The stems lie on the ground or, perhaps, scramble over other vegetation.

Found as far east as the Blue Mountains of Oregon, this plant is a close associate of Douglas-fir, Grand fir, and the Violet.

Common Name: SWORDFERN

Scientific Name: Polystichum munitum

Also Called: Holly-fern
Christmas-fern
Western swordfern

Beaver Creek Trail
Columbia Park
Glenn Otto Park 45 32 203 N
This is an evergreen fern with long fronds.

Height: 2-4 feet

Site: Unlike Salal, it reaches its best development in old-growth timber stands of Western hemlock, Western redcedar, Sitka spruce and Douglas-fir along the Pacific Coast of Oregon and Washington where there is heavy rainfall and deep, fertile soil.

The Swordfern is a fine garden subject and deer do not eat this plant.

Used in floral displays. Commercial gathering of Swordfern fronds for floral greenery dates back to 1900 when the Sam Roake Company of Castle Rock, Washington shipped the first samples to a wholesaler in the East. The picking season starts in mid-June and lasts until the succeeding May. Swordfern is relatively durable, as compared with the native eastern ferns, and lends itself well to handling and shipment. Funeral sprays and other massive-type displays are particularly suited to the characteristics of this plant. The peak production year for the Swordfern was 1947, dropping to 1/3 by 1972. Its competitors are the Leatherleaf fern, grown in Florida and Comador palm fronds from Mexico and Guatemala.

Sooty mold develops on the fronds where sugary secretions drip onto the fern from aphids feeding on overhead hardwood leaves.

Site: It grows in moist forests up to 4,000 feet.

Range: The Swordfern is concentrated on the west slopes of the Olympic and Coast Range, but is found readily here in the Cascades.