

Common yarrow*Scientific:* Achillea millefolium L.*Primary category:* Ground cover, flower*Habitat:* Dunes and beaches, Grasslands*Description (by Bosky Dell Natives):*

Perennial (1/2 - 2 ft.) with flat-topped inflorescences of white flowers and fern-like, aromatic green foliage. Good dried flower.

Yarrow also attracts beneficial insects to the garden. Yarrow swiftly, sometimes aggressively, covers ground. Good lawn substitute. Deciduous in winter.

Sun/part sun, low water (drought tolerant), poor soil.

Images of Achillea millefoliumbing.com/images[See all images >](#)*Lewis and Clark's journal entries (by Bosky Dell Natives):*

Vanilla leaf

Scientific: Achlys triphylla

Primary category: Ground cover, flower

Habitat: Forests

Description (by Bosky Dell Natives):

Perennial (1 ft.) with a single three-bladed leaf per stem. Dainty white flower spikes appear in spring. Vanilla leaf spreads by rhizomes, and can form a lush groundcover.

Winter deciduous.

Shade, regular water, rich soil.

Images of Achlys triphylla

bing.com/images



See all images >

Lewis and Clark's journal entries (by Bosky Dell Natives):

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Nodding onion*Scientific:* Allium cernuum*Primary category:* Ground cover, flower*Habitat:* Grasslands*Description (by Bosky Dell Natives):*

A wild onion (12") common along coastal bluffs. It has nodding pink & white flowers in spring.

Good choice for rock garden.

Sun, moderate-regular water, well-drained soil.

Images of Allium cernuum

bing.com/images

[See all images >](#)
Lewis and Clark's journal entries (by Bosky Dell Natives):

Blank area for journal entries.

Western pearly everlasting, pearly everlasting

Scientific: Anaphalis margaritacea (L.) Benth.

Primary category: Ground cover, flower

Habitat: Dunes and beaches, Grasslands

Description (by Bosky Dell Natives):

1-2 foot perennial that quickly spreads by underground roots. The wooly flowers are actually flower heads of tiny disc flowers subtended by papery white bracts; flowers appear mid-summer. Attractive dried flower. Good erosion control.

Excellent butterfly plant; it is one of the Painted Lady's host plants, and suspected to be used by the West Coast Lady as well.

This nectar source is seen here in a photo by Larry Everson, feeding a Green Comma (*Polygonia Faunus*).

Sun/part sun, low-moderate water (drought resistant).

(See www.BoskyDellNatives.com for photos.)

Images of Anaphalis margaritacea

bing.com/images



[See all images >](#)

Lewis and Clark's journal entries (by Bosky Dell Natives):

Pacific aster, Aster chilensis, Pacific aster

Scientific: Aster chilensis

Primary category: Ground cover, flower

Habitat: Grasslands

Description (by Bosky Dell Natives):

Slender, sprawling perennial (1.5-4 ft.) with blue, violet, or white (ray) flowers with yellow centers (disc flowers) in late summer-fall. Pacific aster will spread quickly by rhizome. Good choice for dry, sunny slopes. Flowers attract bumblebees.

Sun, low-moderate water.

Images of Pacific Aster

bing.com/images



See all images >

Lewis and Clark's journal entries (by Bosky Dell Natives):

Empty text area for journal entries.

Coast boykinia*Scientific:* Boykinia elata*Primary category:* Ground cover, flower*Habitat:* Forests*Description (by Bosky Dell Natives):*

Woodland perennial (12-18") with clusters of white flowers in summer. Its smaller size and rounded, lobed leaves differentiate it from Boykinia major. Another good waterside plant.

Shade/part shade, regular water.

Images of Boykinia Elata

bing.com/images



[See all images >](#)

Lewis and Clark's journal entries (by Bosky Dell Natives):

Great camas*Scientific:* Camassia leichtlinii*Primary category:* Ground cover, flower*Habitat:* Wetlands*Description (by Bosky Dell Natives):*

Bulbous perennial (2-3ft.) with long, narrow leaves and gorgeous creamy white to blue flowers in spring. Camas generally grows in the deep, moist soil of grassy meadows and slopes, but requires a less water after blooming.

Sun, winter wet (allow the bulbs to dry out after flowering), heavy soil ok.

Images of Camassia leichtliniibing.com/images[See all images >](#)*Lewis and Clark's journal entries (by Bosky Dell Natives):*

Small camas, common camas*Scientific:* Camassia quamash (Pursh) Greene*Primary category:* Ground cover, flower*Habitat:* Wetlands*Description (by Bosky Dell Natives):*

Bulbous perennial (8-24"), smaller than Great Camas (*Camassia leichtlinii*), with grass-like leaves and brilliant pale blue to deep purple flowers in spring.

Common Camas is widespread on both sides of the Cascades, most commonly found in areas that are wet in winter. A large drift of camas is an incredibly beautiful sight!

Sun, winter wet (allow the bulbs to dry out after flowering), heavy soil ok.

Images of Camassia quamashbing.com/images[See all images >](#)*Lewis and Clark's journal entries (by Bosky Dell Natives):*

The bulb was an important food source for Native Americans, and diary entries from Lewis and Clark remark on the beauty, abundance and significance of this North American native.

Northwestern Indian paintbrush, indian paintbrush

Scientific: Castilleja angustifolia (Nutt.) G. Don

Primary category: Ground cover, flower

Habitat: Grasslands

Description (by Bosky Dell Natives):

Images of Castilleja angustifolia

bing.com/images



See all images >

Lewis and Clark's journal entries (by Bosky Dell Natives):

Farewell to spring

Scientific: Clarkia amoena

Primary category: Ground cover, flower

Habitat: Dunes and beaches, Grasslands

Description (by Bosky Dell Natives):

Showy annual (3" to 3') with pale rose to deep magenta flowers (summer).

Reseeds. Sun, low-moderate water, poor soil ok.

Images of Clarkia amoena

bing.com/images



See all images >

Lewis and Clark's journal entries (by Bosky Dell Natives):

Siberian springbeauty, candy flower*Scientific:* Claytonia sibirica L. var. sibirica*Primary category:* Ground cover, flower*Habitat:* Forests*Description (by Bosky Dell Natives):*

Herbaceous perennial (8 to 30"). The striking reds & yellows are the bracts that subtend the flowers, not the petals themselves.

This semi-parasitic perennial grows on a wide range of plants, and looks beautiful with lupines, penstemons, & sedums. Sun, low-regular water.

Images of Claytonia sibiricabing.com/images[See all images >](#)*Lewis and Clark's journal entries (by Bosky Dell Natives):*

Common names:

120

Beadily

Scientific: Clintonia uniflora

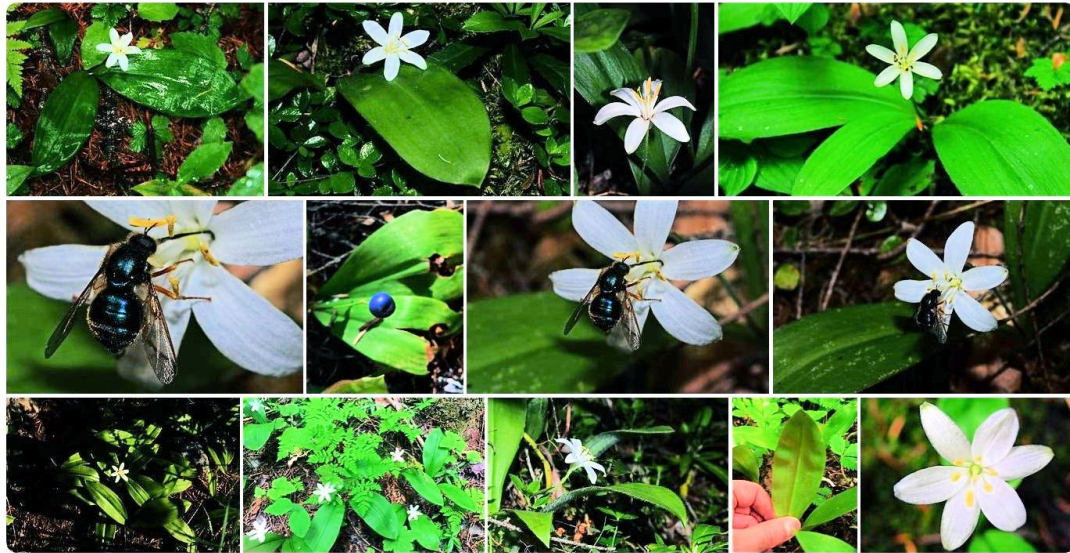
Primary category: Ground cover, flower

Habitat: Forests

Description (by Bosky Dell Natives):

Images of Clintonia uniflora

bing.com/images



[See all images >](#)

Lewis and Clark's journal entries (by Bosky Dell Natives):

Purple foxglove, foxglove (non-native)

Scientific: Digitalis purpurea L.

Primary category: Ground cover, flower

Habitat: Grasslands

Description (by Bosky Dell Natives):

Empty text box for description.

Images of Digitalis purpurea

bing.com/images



See all images >

Lewis and Clark's journal entries (by Bosky Dell Natives):

Empty text box for journal entries.

Beach daisy*Scientific:* Erigeron glaucus*Primary category:* Ground cover, flower*Habitat:* Grasslands*Description (by Bosky Dell Natives):*

A low growing (12"), showy perennial with purple (ray) and yellow (disc) flowers throughout the summer and even into autumn.

It will spread, but not aggressively, to form a mound.
Good butterfly plant.

Sun, moderate water during summer, well-drained soil.

Images of Erigeron glaucusbing.com/images[See all images >](#)*Lewis and Clark's journal entries (by Bosky Dell Natives):*

Common names:

123

Coast buckwheat

Scientific: Eriogonum latifolium

Primary category: Ground cover, flower

Habitat: Dunes and beaches, Grasslands

Description (by Bosky Dell Natives):

Images of Eriogonum latifolium

bing.com/images



[See all images >](#)

Lewis and Clark's journal entries (by Bosky Dell Natives):

Oregon sunshine

Scientific: Eriophyllum lanatum

Primary category: Ground cover, flower

Habitat: Grasslands

Description (by Bosky Dell Natives):

A species of variable form (dense to floppy) with consistent bursts of yellow flowers to brighten the garden late spring to summer.

The foliage is green and woolly, and the plants generally stay below 12-18".

Sun/part sun, low water, well-drained soil.

Images of Eriophyllum lanatum

bing.com/images



See all images >

Lewis and Clark's journal entries (by Bosky Dell Natives):

[Empty text area for journal entries]

Trout lily*Scientific:* Erythronium oregonum*Primary category:* Ground cover, flower*Habitat:* Forests*Description (by Bosky Dell Natives):*

This beautiful wildflower (12") has mottled leaves that resemble the backs of fawns (aka fawn lily). Spring brings lustrous white to pale yellow flowers.

Plant fawn lilies with Trillium ovatum to create an exquisite garden.

Shade/part shade, moderate-regular water (no water when dormant), well-drained soil.

Images of Erythronium oregonumbing.com/images[See all images >](#)*Lewis and Clark's journal entries (by Bosky Dell Natives):*

California poppy

Scientific: Eschscholzia californica Cham.

Primary category: Ground cover, flower

Habitat: Grasslands

Description (by Bosky Dell Natives):

Images of Eschscholzia californica

bing.com/images



See all images >

Lewis and Clark's journal entries (by Bosky Dell Natives):

Beach strawberry, coastal strawberry*Scientific:* Fragaria chiloensis (L.) Mill.*Primary category:* Ground cover, flower*Habitat:* Dunes and beaches, Grasslands*Description (by Bosky Dell Natives):*

Evergreen groundcover with glossy green leaves and white flowers (spring, early summer) followed by edible fruit.

Coastal strawberry usually gets 6" tall, but spreads over a large area quickly.

Sun/part sun, moderate-regular water, well-drained soil.

Images of *Fragaria chiloensis*bing.com/images[See all images >](#)*Lewis and Clark's journal entries (by Bosky Dell Natives):*

Wood's strawberry

Scientific: Fragaria vesca

Primary category: Ground cover, flower

Habitat: Brushfields, Forest, Grasslands

Description (by Bosky Dell Natives):

A deciduous groundcover (2-8") that is especially nice in woodland gardens. Its leaves are a duller green than those of the coastal strawberry.

Flowers (spring, early summer) are white to pink; scrumptious fruit follows.

Part sun, regular water.

Images of *Fragaria vesca*

bing.com/images



[See all images >](#)

Lewis and Clark's journal entries (by Bosky Dell Natives):

Largeleaf avens, large-leaved avens*Scientific:* Geum macrophyllum Willd.*Primary category:* Ground cover, flower*Habitat:* Wetlands*Description (by Bosky Dell Natives):*

A perennial wildflower (to 30") with small yellow flowers (summer) followed by seed heads that look like tiny pincushions.

The terminal leaflet of the pinnately compound leaves is quite large, hence the name large-leaf avens.

Sun/part sun, regular water.

Images of Geum macrophyllumbing.com/images[See all images >](#)*Lewis and Clark's journal entries (by Bosky Dell Natives):*

Common cowparsnip, *Heracleum lanatum*, cow parsnip

Scientific: *Heracleum maximum* W. Bartram

Primary category: Ground cover, flower

Habitat: Dunes and beaches, Grasslands

Description (by Bosky Dell Natives):

Scientific name could be *Heracleum lanatum*. striking perennials (3-9 ft.) with large palmately lobed leaves and lots of creamy white flowers in flat-topped umbels (summer).

Sun/part sun, regular-moderate water.

Images of *Heracleum maximum*

bing.com/images



[See all images >](#)

Lewis and Clark's journal entries (by Bosky Dell Natives):

Toughleaf iris, oregon iris

Scientific: Iris tenax Douglas ex Lindl.

Primary category: Ground cover, flower

Habitat: Grasslands

Description (by Bosky Dell Natives):

A rhizomatous perennial (12") with grass-like, deciduous leaves and flowers in many shades of lavender (spring). Yellow or white flowers do occasionally appear.

This beauty will perform well in both meadows and woodland gardens.

Sun/part sun, some summer water.

Images of Iris tenax

bing.com/images



See all images >

Lewis and Clark's journal entries (by Bosky Dell Natives):

[Empty text area for journal entries]

Tiger lily*Scientific:* Liliu columbianu*Primary category:* Ground cover, flower*Habitat:* Brushfields*Description (by Bosky Dell Natives):*

Gorgeous orange lily (2-4 ft.) with recurved tepals (petals) with maroon spots. Each plant has 2 to 20 blooms in late spring/early summer.

This plant will transform a shady garden into a woodland paradise! Protect the bulbs with wire baskets if gophers are a problem.

Part sun/light shade, no to low summer water, well-drained soil.

Images of Liliu columbianubing.com/images[See all images >](#)*Lewis and Clark's journal entries (by Bosky Dell Natives):*

Large-leaved lupine

Scientific: Lupinus polyphyllus

Primary category: Ground cover, flower

Habitat: Grasslands, Wetlands

Description (by Bosky Dell Natives):

A large (4 ft. round) perennial with tall spires of fragrant purple flowers and robust, palmate leaves. Good bee & butterfly plant.

Nitrogen-fixing nodules on the roots enrich the soil. Big-leaf lupine grows in wet meadows and sandy streambanks.

Sun/part sun, low-regular water (will tolerate less), well-drained soil.

Images of Lupinus polyphyllus

bing.com/images



[See all images >](#)

Lewis and Clark's journal entries (by Bosky Dell Natives):

False lily of the valley

Scientific: Maianthemum dilatatum

Primary category: Ground cover, flower

Habitat: Forests

Description (by Bosky Dell Natives):

An aggressive groundcover for moist shade. Short stems (2-4") hold up glossy, heart-shaped leaves and racemes of tiny, white flowers in spring. The plant disappears in winter.

Shade, regular water.

Images of Maianthemum dilatatum

bing.com/images



[See all images >](#)

Lewis and Clark's journal entries (by Bosky Dell Natives):

Seep monkeyflower, yellow monkeyflower*Scientific:* Mimulus guttatus DC.*Primary category:* Ground cover, flower*Habitat:* Wetlands*Description (by Bosky Dell Natives):*

A long-blooming monkeyflower (spring through fall) with brilliant yellow flowers and rounded, green leaves. Its height is variable (3 to 30") and it will spread outward by rhizomes; it also reseeds.

It is native to streams and wet, seepy areas from Alaska to Mexico and east to the Great Plains. Good waterside plant.

Part sun/sun, regular water.

Images of Mimulus guttatus

bing.com/images



[See all images >](#)

Lewis and Clark's journal entries (by Bosky Dell Natives):

Lewis collected a specimen of yellow monkey-flower on July 4, 1806. He and his party of nine men had recently parted ways, temporarily, with Capt. Clark. They were travelling from near present-day Missoula, Montana, to a campsite recorded in the journals as being along "a river they called Cokahlarishkit, or the river of the road to baffaloe."

Eveningi primrose

Scientific: Oenothera hookeri

Primary category: Ground cover, flower

Habitat: Dunes and beaches

Description (by Bosky Dell Natives):

The Evening Primrose is a short-lived perennial or biennial with many showy, yellow flowers blooming in spring and summer.

They range from two to six feet high. It re-seeds, providing plenty of seedlings for the garden and food for the birds. Hawkmoths love the flowers.

Sun, low-moderate water.

Images of Oenothera hookeri

bing.com/images



[See all images >](#)

Lewis and Clark's journal entries (by Bosky Dell Natives):

Cascade penstemon, coast penstemon*Scientific:* Penstemon serrulatus*Primary category:* Ground cover, flower*Habitat:* Grasslands*Description (by Bosky Dell Natives):*

Semi-woody penstemon (8 to 28" tall) with deep blue to pink or purple flowers in summer. Easy to grow! It usually grows in moist areas in spring, but still requires well-drained soil.

Coast penstemon, of course, grows well at the coast. NW Oregon, west of Cascade crest.

Sun/part sun, moderate-regular water.

Images of Penstemon serrulatusbing.com/images[See all images >](#)*Lewis and Clark's journal entries (by Bosky Dell Natives):*

Empty text area for journal entries.

Coltsfoot

Scientific: Petasites frigidus var. palmatus

Primary category: Ground cover, flower

Habitat: Forests

Description (by Bosky Dell Natives):

Herbaceous perennial with maple-like leaves (1-2 ft. high) and heads of white to pink flowers that appear very early in spring.

Winter dormant. Coltsfoot spreads by rhizomes and can cover a large area very quickly.

Shade, summer water.

Images of Petasites frigidus

bing.com/images



[See all images >](#)

Lewis and Clark's journal entries (by Bosky Dell Natives):

Empty text area for journal entries.

Beach knotweed*Scientific:* Polygonum paronychia*Primary category:* Ground cover, flower*Habitat:* Dunes and beaches*Description (by Bosky Dell Natives):*

A prostrate perennial (6-8") for sandy sites. It has wiry stems and evergreen, needle-like leaves. Clusters of pink to white flowers bloom in summer.

Beach knotweed is a charming selection for coastal gardens or inland rock gardens.

Sun/part sun, low-moderate water, well-drained soil.

Images of Polygonum paronychiabing.com/images[See all images >](#)*Lewis and Clark's journal entries (by Bosky Dell Natives):*

Pacific silverweed (area not specified)*Scientific:* Potentilla pacifica*Primary category:* Ground cover, flower*Habitat:* Not specified*Description (by Bosky Dell Natives):*

Low-growing perennial (6") with pinnately compound green leaves with silvery undersides. The yellow, saucer-shaped flowers appear late spring through summer.

Potentilla spreads very quickly and makes a lovely groundcover in moist areas.

Sun, regular water.

Images of Potentilla pacifica

bing.com/images



[See all images >](#)

Lewis and Clark's journal entries (by Bosky Dell Natives):

Fairybell

Scientific: *Prosartes smithii*

Primary category: Ground cover, flower

Habitat: Dunes and beaches, Wetlands

Description (by Bosky Dell Natives):

Images of *Prosartes smithii*

bing.com/images



[See all images >](#)

Lewis and Clark's journal entries (by Bosky Dell Natives):

Common selfheal, self-heal

Scientific: Prunella vulgaris L.

Primary category: Ground cover, flower

Habitat: Dunes and beaches, Grasslands, and Forests

Description (by Bosky Dell Natives):

Images of Prunella vulgaris

bing.com/images



[See all images >](#)

Lewis and Clark's journal entries (by Bosky Dell Natives):

Blue-eyed grass

Scientific: Sisyrinchium bellum

Primary category: Ground cover, flower

Habitat: Grasslands

Description (by Bosky Dell Natives):

A dainty beauty (8-12") with a profusion of small, dark purple flowers (late spring, summer).

Blue-eyed grass does well in many situations: rock garden, meadows, borders.

Sun/part sun, moderate water (drought tolerant).

Images of Sisyrinchium bellum

bing.com/images



See all images >

Lewis and Clark's journal entries (by Bosky Dell Natives):

[Empty text area for journal entries]

Yellow-eyed grass

Scientific: Sisyrrinchium californicum

Primary category: Ground cover, flower

Habitat: Dunes and beaches, Wetlands

Description (by Bosky Dell Natives):

This species has yellow flowers (late spring, summer) and fleshy leaves (10-12"). Re-seeds. Yellow-eyed grass generally grows in wetter areas as well.

Sun/part sun, moderate-regular water.

Images of Sisyrrinchium californicum

bing.com/images



[See all images >](#)

Lewis and Clark's journal entries (by Bosky Dell Natives):

Canada goldenrod, goldenrod*Scientific:* Solidago canadensis L.*Primary category:* Ground cover, flower*Habitat:* Grasslands*Description (by Bosky Dell Natives):*

This vigorous perennial (1-4 ft.) will spread by seed and rhizome to fill an area with late season splendor. It has long wands of brilliant gold flowers (late summer, fall).

An attractive meadow plant butterflies will flock to, it is pictured here in a photo by Larry Everson, hosting a female Plebejus (Melissa blue).

Sun, moderate water.

Images of Solidago canadensis

bing.com/images



[See all images >](#)

Lewis and Clark's journal entries (by Bosky Dell Natives):

Pacific aster, Aster chilensis, Pacific aster

Scientific: Symphyotrichum chilense (Nees)
G.L. Nesom var. chilense

Primary category: Ground cover, flower

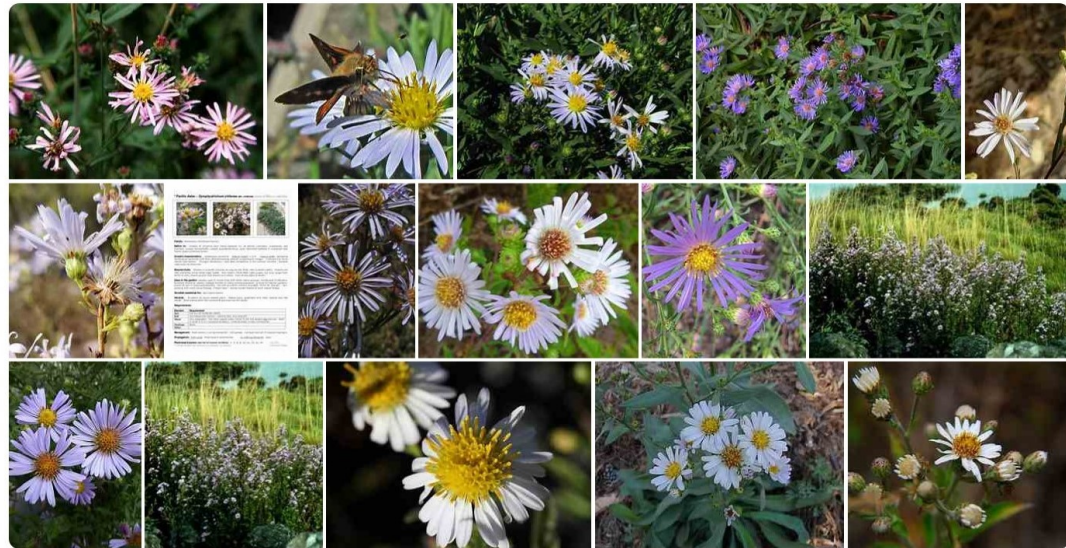
Habitat: Grasslands

Description (by Bosky Dell Natives):

Empty text box for description.

Images of Symphyotrichum chilense

bing.com/images



See all images >

Lewis and Clark's journal entries (by Bosky Dell Natives):

Empty text box for Lewis and Clark's journal entries.

Scientific name could be *Lysichiton americanum*. skunk cabbage

Scientific:

Primary category:

Habitat:

Description (by Bosky Dell Natives):

Striking perennial with huge green leaves (2-3 ft, 1 foot wide) that push out from the ground. Its unusual flowers--upright stalk covered with lots of tiny, greenish flowers (spadex) covered by a yellow hood (spathe)-bloom in early spring.

Winter dormant. Skunk cabbage inhabits dark, boggy places and provides food for animals in early spring.

Shade/part sun, regular water.

Images of *Lysichiton Americanum*

bing.com/images



[See all images >](#)

Lewis and Clark's journal entries (by Bosky Dell Natives):

Fringecup

Scientific: Tellima grandiflora

Primary category: Ground cover, flower

Habitat: Forests

Description (by Bosky Dell Natives):

Evergreen woodland perennial with a clump of rounded leaves (turn copper & purple in winter) topped with a stalk (to 2 ft.) of white to pink flowers (spring to early summer) that age to dark red.

Good cut flower. Fringecups will naturalize well given a favorable environment.

Part sun/filtered light, regular water.

Images of Fringecup

bing.com/images



[See all images >](#)

Lewis and Clark's journal entries (by Bosky Dell Natives):

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Youth-on-age, piggy-back plant*Scientific:* Tolmiea menziesii*Primary category:* Ground cover, flower*Habitat:* Forests*Description (by Bosky Dell Natives):*

A native plant as well as a houseplant! This perennial produces new plants at the base of old leaves (very sweet) and has tall (2-3 ft.) racemes of chocolate-colored flowers (spring, summer).

Part shade, regular water.

Images of Tolmiea menziesii

bing.com/images


[See all images >](#)
Lewis and Clark's journal entries (by Bosky Dell Natives):

Wake robin*Scientific:* Trillium ovatum*Primary category:* Ground cover, flower*Habitat:* Forests*Description (by Bosky Dell Natives):*

A beloved wildflower of the northwest, with its whorl of three leaves topped by a white flower that fades to deep rose or purple. Oregon's native Easter lily, it blooms in early spring, March-June.

Trillium ovatum grows in moist woods from British Columbia to California, east to Alberta and south to Colorado. It is easy to establish in gardens if given shade and a rich woody soil.

A no-care beauty, it blooms when spring rains provide all the water it needs!

Shade, low to no summer water. Also easy to grow from seed, though the time from seed to flower is long (3-5 years).

Images of Trillium ovatumbing.com/images[See all images >](#)*Lewis and Clark's journal entries (by Bosky Dell Natives):*

Lewis and Clark collected Trillium ovatum on April 10, 1806, near the present-day Bonneville Dam. On that day Lewis wrote "we drew them [canoes] up the rapid by a cord about a quarter of a mile ... in passing the river which is here about 400 yds. wide the rapidity of the current was such that it bore us down a considerable distance notwithstanding we employed five oars."

Largeflower triteleia

Scientific: Triteleia grandiflora Lindl.

Primary category: Ground cover, flower

Habitat: Forests

Description (by Bosky Dell Natives):

Images of Triteleia grandiflora

bing.com/images



[See all images >](#)

Lewis and Clark's journal entries (by Bosky Dell Natives):

Early blue violet*Scientific:* Viola adunca*Primary category:* Ground cover, flower*Habitat:* Grasslands*Description (by Bosky Dell Natives):*

This lovely moist meadow perennial (3-5") has heart-shaped leaves and dark blue/purple flowers from spring to midsummer. It re-seeds, but not aggressively. Viola adunca is the sole source of food for the endangered Oregon silverspot butterfly larvae.

For more information on this important native, see our special article about the Oregon silverspot butterfly project .

Sun/part shade, moderate-regular water.

Images of Viola aduncabing.com/images[See all images >](#)*Lewis and Clark's journal entries (by Bosky Dell Natives):*