Creating interest with native landscaping

**benefits**
- improve your landscape
- control runoff
- receive technical assistance
- receive financial reimbursement
- protect Lake Whatcom

**functional features**
A patio with an infiltration trench beneath can provide both a sitting area and water quality protection.

**walk in the wild**
Stepping stone pathways through native landscaped areas can be an invitation to explore new features of your landscape.

**low maintenance**
A thick layer of mulch provides less watering, no mowing and more time to relax and enjoy your healthy yard.

**native plant beauty**
Native plants come in many colors and sizes to form a beautiful garden all year round.

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**Add some excitement to your lawn!**

Lawns can’t absorb nutrients fast enough to keep them from washing away when it rains. Creating a landscaped area with a thick mulch layer and native plants reduces the amount of phosphorus in runoff by more than 80% and beautifies your yard.

Whether you’re considering removing all or just portions of your lawn, native landscaping can provide interest, new features in your yard, and water quality protection. HIP reimburses up to $1.30 per square foot of property that is converted from phosphorus-generating lawn to native landscaping; HIP can also provide reimbursement for landscape improvements that provide a water quality benefit.
What is meant by “native” plants?

Native plants are adapted to our environment, drought-resistant, require no fertilizer, and can establish themselves easily. There are more than 900 species of native plants—the following list shows some of the most common plants you’d find at your local nursery.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>plant name</th>
<th>type</th>
<th>sun or shade?</th>
<th>wet or dry soils?</th>
<th>flower or leaf color</th>
<th>bloom time</th>
<th>deer resistant</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Shore pine</td>
<td>evergreen tree</td>
<td>full sun</td>
<td>wet</td>
<td>light green</td>
<td>none</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vine maple</td>
<td>deciduous</td>
<td>shade</td>
<td>dry</td>
<td>red/orange</td>
<td>early</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blue elderberry</td>
<td>tall shrub</td>
<td>full sun</td>
<td>dry</td>
<td>white</td>
<td>mid-summer</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Red-flowering currant</td>
<td>medium shrub</td>
<td>sun or shade</td>
<td>dry</td>
<td>red/pink</td>
<td>earliest</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oregon grape</td>
<td>low shrub</td>
<td>shade</td>
<td>wet or dry</td>
<td>dark green</td>
<td>later</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kinnikinnick (bearberry)</td>
<td>ground-cover</td>
<td>sun or shade</td>
<td>dry</td>
<td>dark green</td>
<td>mid-summer</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blue-eyed Grass</td>
<td>grass-like</td>
<td>full sun</td>
<td>wet</td>
<td>blue-purple</td>
<td>mid-summer</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orange honeysuckle</td>
<td>vine</td>
<td>part sun</td>
<td>dry</td>
<td>orange</td>
<td>later</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sword fern</td>
<td>fern</td>
<td>shade</td>
<td>wet or dry</td>
<td>dark green</td>
<td>none</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

form and function

Native landscaping can be structured like any other landscaped garden, and provide the same aesthetic function. The bonus is the water quality protection benefit. You don’t have to sacrifice the beauty and uses of your yard when including natives as part of your landscape.

1. **Project Design***
   - Define areas to plant
   - Complete a plant list
   - Choose your favorite mulch

2. **Review and Approval**
   - Complete project application***
   - Receive free permit

3. **Construction & Installation***
   - Spread mulch
   - Install plants

4. **Maintain your system**
   - Weeding and watering for two years until plants are established.
   - Other upkeep activities unique to your project.

*A HIP-certified professional can be hired to help complete these tasks for you.

QUESTIONS?

Find resources and request a free site visit at www.lakewhatcomHIP.org.