

# Washington Flora Checklist

## A checklist of the Vascular Plants of Washington State Hosted by the University of Washington Herbarium

### Family: Ruppiceae

1 terminal taxa (species, subspecies, and varieties).

The Washington Flora Checklist aims to be a complete list of the native and naturalized vascular plants of Washington State, with current classifications, nomenclature and synonymy.

#### Taxa included in the checklist:

- Native taxa whether extant, extirpated, or extinct.
- Exotic taxa that are naturalized, escaped from cultivation, or persisting wild.
- Waifs (e.g., ballast plants, escaped crop plants) and other scarcely collected exotics.
- Interspecific hybrids that are frequent or self-maintaining.
- Some unnamed taxa in the process of being described.

Family classifications follow [APG IV](#) for angiosperms, PPG I (J. Syst. Evol. 54:563-603. 2016.) for pteridophytes, and Christenhusz et al. (Phytotaxa 19:55-70. 2011.) for gymnosperms, with a few exceptions. Nomenclature and synonymy at the rank of genus and below follows the [2nd Edition of the Flora of the Pacific Northwest](#) except where superceded by new information.

Accepted names are indicated with **blue type**, synonyms with **gray type**.

Native species and infraspecies are marked with **bold-face type**.

\*Non-native and introduced taxa are preceded by an asterisk.

**Please note:** This is a working checklist, continuously updated. Use it at your discretion.

Created from the Washington Flora Checklist database on April 2nd, 2026 at 7:17am PT.  
Available online at <https://burkeherbarium.org/waflora/>

Comments and questions should be addressed to the checklist administrators:

David Giblin ([dgiblin@uw.edu](mailto:dgiblin@uw.edu))

Peter Zika ([zikap941@gmail.com](mailto:zikap941@gmail.com))

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## Monocots:

### Ruppiaceae [FNA22, HC, HC2] Ditch-Grass Family

#### *Ruppia* [FNA22, HC, HC2]

Sp. Pl. 1: 127. 1753; Gen. Pl. ed. 5; 61, 1754.  
ditch-grass

#### *Ruppia maritima* L. [FNA22, HC, HC2]

Sp. Pl. 1: 127. 1753.  
beaked ditch-grass, spiral ditch-grass, western ditch-grass

*Ruppia cirrhosa* (Petagna) Grande [FNA22]

*Ruppia maritima* L. var. *obliqua* (Schur) Asch. & Graebn. [Peck]

*Ruppia maritima* L. var. *rostrata* Agardh [Peck]

*Ruppia occidentalis* S. Watson [Abrams]

Recent phylogenetic study (Ito et al., 2010) suggests recognition of *R. cirrhosa* renders *R. maritima* paraphyletic. Moreover, the primary character used to separate these species is the number of coils in the peduncle, which likely is a plastic trait.