

Washington Flora Checklist

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

Family: Celastraceae

9 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synonymy at the rank of genus and below follows the [2nd Edition of the Flora of the Pacific Northwest](#) except where superseded by new information.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 5:37am PT.
Available online at <https://burkeherbarium.org/waflora/>

Comments and questions should be addressed to the checklist administrators:

David Giblin (dgiblin@uw.edu)

Peter Zika (zikap941@gmail.com)

Suggested citation:

Weinmann, F., P.F. Zika, D.E. Giblin, B. Legler. 2002+. Checklist of the Vascular Plants of Washington State. University of Washington Herbarium. <https://www.burkeherbarium.org/waflora/>. Accessed Apr 2, 2026.

Dicots:

Celastraceae [HC, HC2] Bittersweet Family

Synonyms:

Parnassiaceae (Grass of Parnassus Family)

Euonymus [HC, HC2]

wahoo

**Euonymus europaeus* L. [FNA12, HC2]

Sp. Pl. 1: 197. 1753.

European spindle tree

**Euonymus fortunei* (Turcz.) Hand.-Maz. [HC2]

Euonymus occidentalis Nutt. ex Torr. [HC, HC2]

Pacif. Railr. Rep. 4(5): 74. 1857.

burning bush, western wahoo

var. *occidentalis* [HC2, JPM]

In Pacif. Rail. Rep. iv. 74. 1857.

western wahoo

Parnassia [HC, HC2]

grass-of-parnassus

Parnassia cirrata Piper [HC2]

Erythea 7: 128. 1899.

Cascade grass-of-Parnassus

var. *intermedia* (Rydb.) P.K. Holmgren & N.H. Holmgren [HC2, JPM2]

In A. Cronquist et al., Intermount. Fl. 3(A): 61. 1997.

Cascade grass-of-Parnassus

Parnassia fimbriata K.D. Koenig var. *hoodiana* C.L. Hitchc. [HC]

Parnassia fimbriata K.D. Koenig var. *intermedia* (Rydb.) C.L. Hitchc. [HC]

Parnassia intermedia Rydb.

Parnassia fimbriata K.D. Koenig [HC, HC2, JPM2]

Ann. Bot. (König & Sims) 1: 391. 1805.

fringed grass-of-Parnassus

(see also *Parnassia cirrata*)

Parnassia fimbriata K.D. Koenig var. *fimbriata* [HC]

Parnassia kotzebuei Cham. ex Spreng. [HC, HC2, IFBC]

Syst. Veg. 1: 951. 1825.

Kotzebue's grass-of-Parnassus

Parnassia kotzebuei Cham. ex Spreng. var. *pumila* C.L. Hitchc. & Ownbey [HC]

Parnassia palustris L. [HC, HC2, JPM]

Sp. Pl. 1: 273. 1753.

grass-of-Parnassus, northern grass-of-Parnassus

Parnassia multiseta (Ledeb.) Fernald

Parnassia palustris L. ssp. *neogaea* (Fernald) Hultén

Parnassia palustris L. var. *montanensis* (Fernald & Rydb. ex Rydb.) C.L. Hitchc. [HC]

Parnassia palustris L. var. *neogaea* Fernald [WNHP]

Parnassia palustris L. var. *tenuis* Wahlenb. [KZ99]

The Jepson Manual, 2nd Edition and Illustrated Flora of British Columbia both synonymize all infraspecific

taxa for this species. H&C recognize various infraspecific taxa, of which var. *neogaea* is tracked as a rare plant by the Washington Natural Heritage Program. Until a contemporary treatment supports the taxonomy of this species described by H&C, the treatment here follows Jepson and Illustrated Flora B.C.

***Parnassia parviflora* DC. [HC, HC2, JPM]**

Prodr. 1: 320. 1824.

small-flowered grass-of-Parnassus

Parnassia palustris L. var. *parviflora* (DC.) B. Boivin [KZ99]

***Paxistima* [HC2]**

Pachistima [HC], orthographic variant

***Paxistima myrsinites* (Pursh) Raf. [HC2, IFBC, JPM]**

Sylva Tellur. 42. 1838.

Oregon boxleaf

Ilex myrsinites Pursh

Myginda myrtifolia Nutt.

Oreophila myrtifolia (Nutt.) Torr. & A. Gray

Pachistima myrsinites Raf. [HC], orthographic variant

Paxistima myrsinites (Pursh) Raf. ssp. *mexicana* Navaro & W.H. Blackwell

Parnassiaceae: see Celastraceae