

# Washington Flora Checklist

## A checklist of the Vascular Plants of Washington State

### Hosted by the University of Washington Herbarium

#### Family: Taxaceae

2 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synonymy at the rank of genus and below follows the [2nd Edition of the Flora of the Pacific Northwest](#) except where superceded by new information.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 January 31st, 2026 at 4:51am PT.

Available online at <https://burkeherbarium.org/waflora/>

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# Gymnosperms:

## Taxaceae [FNA2, HC, HC2] Yew Family

### *Taxus* [FNA2, HC, HC2]

Sp. Pl. 2: 1040. 1753; Gen. Pl. ed. 5, 462, 1754.  
yew

#### \**Taxus baccata* L. [HC2, Stace 1997]

Sp. Pl. 2: 1040. 1753.  
English yew

Recently collected in several places in King Co. as a garden escape.

#### *Taxus brevifolia* Nutt. [FNA2, HC, HC2]

N. Amer. Sylv. 3: 86, plate 108. 1849.  
Pacific yew, western yew

*Taxus baccata* L. ssp. *brevifolia* (Nutt.) Pilger  
*Taxus baccata* L. var. *brevifolia* (Nutt.) Koehne  
*Taxus baccata* L. var. *canadensis* Benth.  
*Taxus bourcieri* Carrière  
*Taxus lindleyana* A. Murray bis

FNA2: "The name *Taxus baccata* Hooker has been misapplied to this species. The leaves of *Taxus brevifolia* are usually somewhat falcate. The wood of *Taxus brevifolia* is hard and durable, yet easily worked, making it popular for construction of novelty items by local woodworkers. Because of this, large trees are unscrupulously poached; in some areas the species has been nearly extirpated. The bark of the tree is a promising natural source of taxol, a drug for treating various cancers; exploitation of the species for medicinal purposes is further threatening it."