

Color Key: Collier Fort Rock Pilot Butte Smith Rock Tumalo
 Deschutes LaPine Prineville Reservoir The Cove Palisades

Red-osier Dogwood

(Cornus stolonifera)



As its name implies, the Red-osier Dogwood's bark is red, making it stand out against the landscape, especially in the winter against white snow. In the late spring this riparian-zone plant blooms small white flowers.



Desert Paintbrush

(Castilleja chromosa)



Named for its brilliant colors that seem to paint hillsides, the desert paintbrush's flowers are set in long tube-like clusters that are pale green to red on the ends. Brilliant red, hairy-toothed bracts surround the flower, almost hiding them. This plant is commonly used for dyes because of its extraordinarily bright color.



Arrowleaf Balsamroot

(Balsamorhiza sagitta)



This plant is a member of the sunflower family. Blooming brilliant yellow flowers from May to June, it resembles a sunflower in all qualities but size—Arrowleaf Balsamroot is smaller. Native Americans use its roots and leaves as a food source and for medicinal purposes. Its leaves are still used in cooking today.



Bitterbrush

(Purshia tridentata)



This medium size shrub has three-lobed leaves and flowers with five cream-to-yellow petals. Although it is bitter to the taste for humans, it is an important part of a mule deer's diet, and is nicknamed the antelope bush.



Central Oregon State Parks

We hope you've enjoyed this place.

The environment around us is rich with wonder, intrigue, and lessons about nature's order. We at Oregon State Parks are glad you took the time to explore the area. If you've found this information interesting, please continue to expand your understanding of our environment through our various interpretive programs and materials.

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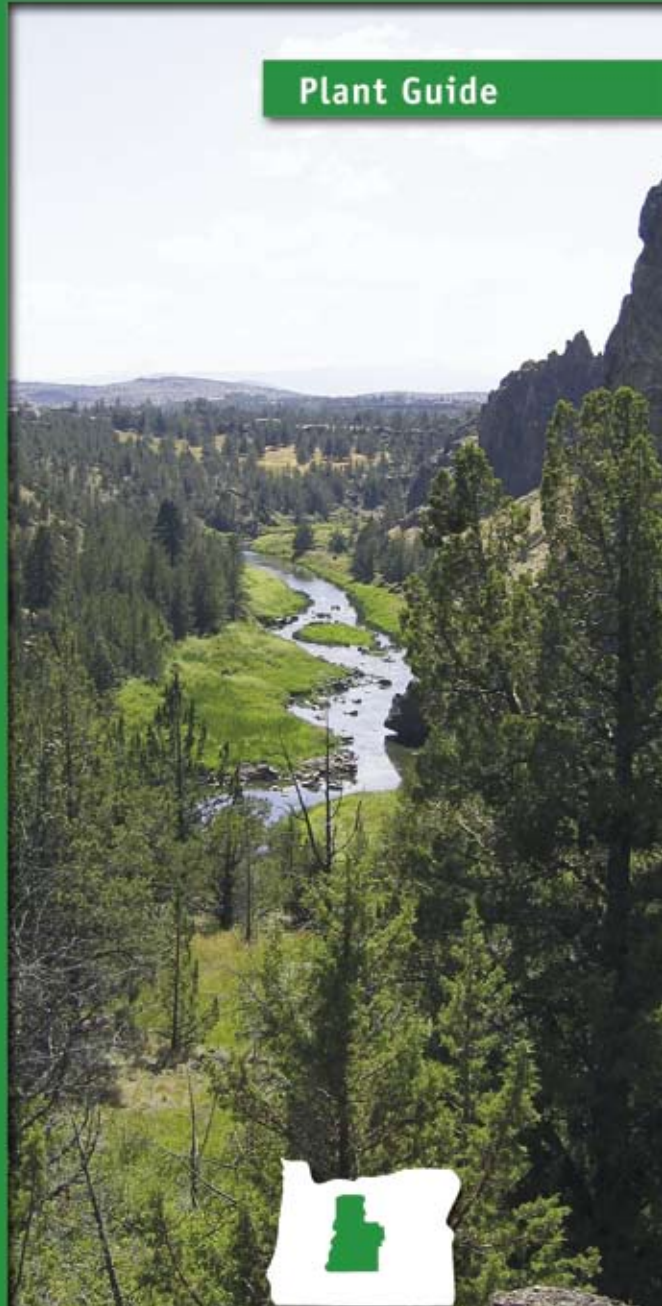
Photos courtesy of: The High Desert Museum, Bend; Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife; Oregon Department of Agriculture; Washington State Noxious Weed Control Board.












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Plant Guide



The bushes, trees and flowers in this brochure are representative of nine central Oregon parks. The following key will help you determine which plants are present at which parks. Enjoy!

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|---|--|---|
|  Collier |  LaPine |  Smith Rock |
|  Deschutes |  Pilot Butte |  The Cove Palisades |
|  Fort Rock |  Prineville Reservoir |  Tumalo |

Big Sagebrush

(Artemisia tridentata)

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Sagebrush is found in very dry, arid climates because it cannot survive in soils with excessive moisture.

They are tall, rounded shrubs with three lobes on the tips of their leaves. The leaves can be identified by a turpentine fragrance. Native Americans used both the leaves and the seeds for food, and the leaves and flowers can be boiled to create a yellow-gold dye.



Poison Hemlock

(Conium maculatum)

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Although stems and leaves resemble a carrot, eating Poison Hemlock is definitely not healthy. Poison Hemlock is deadly, and was used to execute people in ancient Greece, including the great philosopher Socrates. Other identifying qualities of this plant are clusters of small white flowers, and purple dots on the stem. This non-native plant is usually found along roadsides, in ditches and lining streambanks.



Mariposa Lily

(Calochortus macrocarpus)

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Mariposa is the Spanish word for butterfly, and this plant is true to its description. The Mariposa Lily's showy purple flowers are only 1-2" wide, but stand out because of their vibrant coloring. Each flower has three fan-shaped petals. This flower is in the same family as garlic, onion and asparagus.



White Alder

(Alnus rhombifolia)

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Your nose may spot the White Alder before your eyes do—this tree blooms fragrant white and pink blossoms. The White Alder's 2-4" leaves are oval shaped and finely serrated. The White Alder is deciduous, which means it loses its leaves in the winter. This tree needs a constant water source, so it is generally found along stream and river banks.



Prairie Lupine

(Lupinus wyethii)

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This spring bloom has tall, spiky flowers that resemble miniature bonnets. The leaves are composed of leaflets, which radiate to form a rounded hand-like leaf. The Prairie Lupine is unique because it relies on as many as ten species of bees to pollinate its flowers.

Western Juniper

(Juniperus occidentalis)

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This hardy tree is resistant to both disease and insects. It is valuable as wildlife cover, food and nest sites. During the home-stead era it was used for firewood, fence posts, corrals and simple structures. The Western Juniper's cones resemble blueberries.



Bluebunch Wheatgrass

(Agropyron spicatum)

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This grass thrives in desert areas because of its resistance to drought. It has numerous flat blades that grow in large clumps close to the ground. A distinct identifying feature is small red membranes, apparent where the leaf blade joins the stalk.



Ponderosa Pine

(Juniperus occidentalis)

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Covering 27 million acres of land, this pine is the most abundant tree species in America. Trees average 100-160 feet in height, and have straight trunks with a large crown of needles on top. The needles come in bundles of three. On a hot day, the Ponderosa's bark has been known to emit a vanilla smell.

