



Delta Farmland & Wildlife Trust

# HEDGEROW STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM: Planting Native Trees & Shrub

## Native trees and shrubs can provide wildlife habitat on farmlands of the Fraser River Delta

Native trees and shrubs can be planted on farms in various configurations to improve wildlife habitat diversity, provide windbreaks, refuges for beneficial insects and drainage control. One of the best ways of including these habitat elements on your farm is in the form of hedgerows. Hedgerows are linear barriers of trees, shrubs, perennial forbs and/or grasses usually associated with field boundaries. Within an agricultural landscape hedgerows provide food, offer concealment and thermal cover, provide breeding sites and can function as travel corridors connecting habitat fragments. In some areas, habitat provided by these structures has become extremely important in supporting wildlife communities, particularly

breeding, migrating and wintering birds. World-wide, intensification of agriculture has resulted in significant loss of these important ecosystem components and many countries, particularly in Europe, have implemented agri-environment schemes to rebuild hedgerows. Under these programs, landowners receive payments for creating and maintaining hedgerow habitat on their farms.

Selecting a diverse mix of native trees and shrubs while planting hedgerows on your farm will improve the wildlife value of planted areas on your farm. This fact sheet identifies a number of species suitable for planting on Delta farms and outlines some of the wildlife benefits provided by them.

## Trees

	NAME		Height (m)	Propagation by	Soil moisture*	Providing for			Important for		
	Common	Scientific Name				Mammals	Birds	Insects	Winter cover	Flowers	Seed/fruit
CONIFEROUS	Western Red Cedar	<i>Thuja plicata</i>	>20	seed	m-w	✓	✓		✓		✓
	Western Hemlock	<i>Tsuga heterophylla</i>	>20	seed	d-w	✓	✓		✓		✓
	Shore Pine	<i>Pinus contorta</i>	7-10	seed	m-d	✓	✓		✓		✓
	Douglas Fir	<i>Pseudotsuga menziesii</i>	>20	seed	d	✓	✓		✓		✓
	Sitka spruce	<i>Picea sitchensis</i>	>20	seed	m	✓	✓		✓		✓

DECIDUOUS	Black Hawthorn	<i>Crataegus douglasii</i>	6	seed	m	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
	Pacific Crabapple	<i>Malus fusca</i>	6	seed	m-w		✓	✓		✓	✓
	Bitter Cherry	<i>Prunus emarginata</i>	10-20	seed	m		✓			✓	✓
	Red Alder	<i>Alnus rubra</i>	>20	seed	m		✓	✓		✓	✓
	Paper Birch	<i>Betula papyrifera</i>	>20	seed	m-w		✓	✓		✓	✓
	Black Cottonwood	<i>Populus trichocarpa</i>	>20	seed	m-w		✓	✓			✓
	Big Leaf Maple	<i>Acer macrophyllum</i>	>20	seed	d-m	✓	✓			✓	✓
	Douglas Maple	<i>Acer glabrum</i>	5-10	seed	d-m	✓	✓			✓	✓
	Vine Maple	<i>Acer circinatum</i>	5-7	seed	m-w	✓	✓			✓	✓
	Mountain Ash	<i>Sorbus sitchensis</i>	10	seed	m-w	✓					✓
	Cascara	<i>Rhamnus purshiana</i>	10-12	seed/sucker	d-w			✓			
	Willow (many species)	<i>Salix spp.</i>	12		w		✓			✓	✓

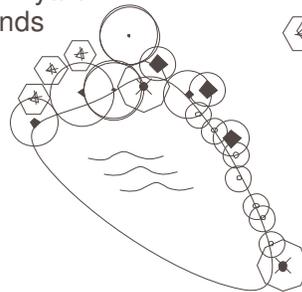
# Shrubs and Groundcover

NAME	Height (m)	Propagation by	Soil moisture*	Providing for			Important for		
				Mammals	Birds	Insects	Winter cover	Flowers	Seed/fruit
Red Elderberry <i>Sambucus racemosa</i>	2-5	seed	m		✓	✓		✓	✓
Oceanspray <i>Holodiscus discolor</i>	2-4	seed	d-m		✓	✓		✓	
Pacific Ninebark <i>Physocarpus capitatus</i>	2-4	seed	w		✓	✓		✓	
Beaked Hazelnut <i>Corylus cornuta</i>	2-6	seed	m	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
Salmonberry <i>Rubus spectabilis</i>	2-4	seed	m-w	✓	✓			✓	✓
Thimbleberry <i>Rubus parviflorus</i>	1-3	seed	m		✓			✓	✓
Nootka Rose <i>Rosa nutkana</i>	1-2	layering	d-m		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Baldhip Rose <i>Rosa gymnocarpa</i>	1-2	layering	d-m		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Red Flowering Currant <i>Ribes sanguineum</i>	1-3	seed	d-m		✓			✓	✓
Stink Currant <i>Ribes bracteosum</i>	2-3	seed	d-m		✓			✓	✓
Red-osier Dogwood <i>Cornus stolonifera</i>	2-5	seed	m		✓			✓	✓
Saskatoon Berry <i>Amelanchier alnifolia</i>	2-5	seed	d-m		✓	✓			✓
Snowberry <i>Symphoricarpus albus</i>	1-2	seed	d-m		✓				✓
Tall Oregon Grape <i>Mahonia aquifolium</i>	1-2	seed	d-m		✓	✓		✓	✓
High Bush Cranberry <i>Viburnum edule</i>	3-4	seed	m-w		✓	✓		✓	✓
Hardhack <i>Spirea douglasii</i>	3-4	Seed	m-w		✓	✓	✓	✓	
Mock Orange <i>Philadelphus lewisii</i>	5	seed	d-m		✓	✓		✓	

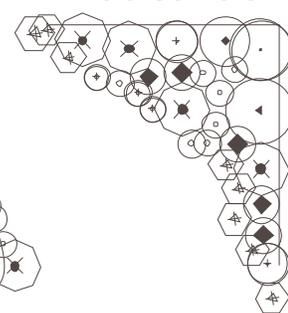
## Considerations for Planting

- ✓ native species, adapted to regional conditions benefit wildlife most
- ✓ locally grown plants are likely to thrive best
- ✓ a variety of species, including a mix of trees and shrubs, will provide a varied food supply throughout the year
- ✓ a mix of coniferous and deciduous trees will provide thermal and security cover throughout the year
- ✓ the best hedgerows are a minimum of 4 – 5 meters in width while maximizing length
- ✓ connecting hedgerows to woodlots, natural areas and other hedgerows allows movement of animals between areas
- ✓ including a grass margin and or ditch adjacent to hedgerow increases habitat value

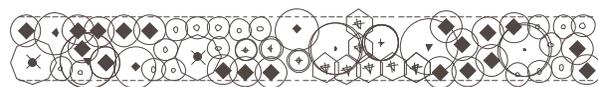
Farmyard ponds



Field Corners



Field Margins (Hedgerows)



Delta Farmland & Wildlife Trust provides funding to establish new hedgerows on farmland in Delta as well as a cost share for land taken out of agricultural production. If you are interested in applying to our waiting list, please contact our office.

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**Delta Farmland & Wildlife Trust is a non-profit, charitable society whose mission is to promote the preservation of farmland and associated wildlife habitat on the Fraser River delta through sustainable farming and land stewardship.**

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