

Seattle Department of Transportation

Suggested Streetside Garden Plant List



Highlighted = drought tolerant

Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) recommends the plants below for gardens within the street right-of-way, including traffic circles, curb bulbs, medians, and planting strips. These plants are suggestions only.

Plants must remain low (24" high) in traffic calming devices and in planting strips within 30 ft of an intersection. Prune trees to provide visibility of pedestrians, signs and oncoming traffic. Rocks and wood or metal posts are NOT allowed in traffic calming devices.

| TREES | Common Name | Description | Size (H x W) |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|--|--------------------|
| Amelanchier species | Serviceberry | Deciduous, white flowers, fall color | 10 to 30 x 6 feet |
| Betula utilis var. Jacquemontii | Himalayan Birch | Deciduous, white bark | 60 x 30 feet |
| Cornus 'Eddie's White Wonder' | Dogwood | Deciduous, greenish-white flowers | 20 x 15 feet |
| Crataegus crusgalli var. inermis | Thornless Cockspur Hawthorn | Deciduous, white flowers, orange to scarlet fruit | 15 to 25 x 30 feet |
| Fraxinus americana 'Empire' | Empire Ash | Deciduous, good fall color | 35 x 25 feet |
| Ginkgo biloba | Maidenhair Tree | Deciduous, fan shaped leaves, fall color | 100 x 25 feet |
| Koelreuteria paniculata | Golden-rain Tree | Deciduous, yellow flowers, brown fruits | 30 x 30 feet |
| Magnolia species | Various species | Contact SDOT Urban Forestry for acceptable types | |
| Malus 'Adirondack' | Adirondack Crabapple | Deciduous, white flowers, red fruit, disease resistant | 18 x 10 feet |
| Pyrus 'Capital' | Flowering Pear | Deciduous, white flowers, fall color | 40 x 25 feet |
| Quercus rubra | Red Oak | Deciduous, yellow to red brown fall color | 80 x 70 feet |
| Quercus phellos | Willow Oak | Deciduous, narrow lvs, yellow fall color | 75 x 72 feet |
| Sorbus aria | Whitebeam | Deciduous, soft green lvs, white flowers | 35 x 25 feet |

| SHRUBS | Common Name | Description | Size (H x W) |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|---|-------------------|
| Berberis thunbergii 'Kobold' | Kobold Green Barberry | Deciduous, compact, bright green leaves | 16" x 24" |
| Berberis thunbergii 'Golden Nugget' | | | |
| Calluna vulgaris | Heather | Evergreen, green to gray foliage, flowers red, purple, pink, or white | 4-24" x 30" |
| Convolvulus cneorum | Bush Morning Glory | Small silver leafed evergreen mounding shrub Needs full sun, drainage | 2-3 feet x 4 feet |
| Erica carnea | Heath | Evergreen, flowers are purple, pink, or white | 8" x 22" |
| Euonymus japonicus 'Microphyllus' | Box-leaf Euonymous | Evergreen, compact, dark green leaves | 3 feet x 2 feet |
| Forsythia viridissima 'Bronxensis' | Forsythia | Deciduous, slow growth, yellow flowers | 12" x 2-3 feet |
| Lavandula species | Lavender | Evergreen, gray-green foliage, purple flowers | 3 feet x 4 feet* |
| Prunus laurocerasus 'Mount Vernon' | Mount Vernon Laurel | Evergreen, slow growth, dense mound | 3 feet x 3 feet |
| Rhododendron impeditum | Rhododendron | Evergreen, compact, purplish-blue flowers | 2 feet x 2 feet |
| Rosmarinus officianalis prostrata | Creeping Rosemary | Evergreen, vigorous, low growing, deep lavender-blue flowers | 12-18" x 3-4 feet |

| PERENNIALS | Common Name | Description | Size (H x W) |
|------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|
|------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|

*Select varieties maturing at less than 24" tall for traffic circles. Highlighted = drought tolerant

Seattle Department of Transportation

Suggested Streetside Garden Plant List

Urban Forestry - 684-8733

| | | | |
|--|----------------------------|--|----------------------|
| Alyssum montanum 'Mountain Gold' | Mountain Gold Alyssum | Evergreen, gray-green foliage, yellow flowers | 6" x 20" |
| Anthemis biebersteiniana | Dwarf Marguerite Daisy | Yellow flower | 12" tall |
| Aquilegia species -low ones only | Columbine | Blue-green leaves, flower color varies | 1-4 feet x 2 feet* |
| Arabis species | Rock Cress | Evergreen, clusters of white, pink, or purple flowers | 2-6" x 3-16" |
| Artemisia schmidtiana 'Silver Mound' | Silver Mound Artemisia | Evergreen, silvery white leaves | 12" x 12-18" |
| Aster species | Aster | Daisy-like flowers are white, pink, blue, or purple | 1-4 feet x 3 feet* |
| Bergenia species | Pigsqueak | Evergreen, glossy foliage, red or purple flowers | 1-2 feet x 18-24" |
| Berlandiera lyrata | Chocolate flower | Deciduous, yellow flowers with maroon centers smell like chocolate | 15" x 18" |
| Blechnum spicant | Deer Fern | Evergreen, dark green leaves | 1-3 feet x 3 feet |
| Campanula species low one only | Bellflower | Bell-shaped flowers, flower color varies | 3 feet x 2 feet* |
| Coreopsis species | Coreopsis | Daisy-like pink or yellow flowers, attracts bees | 8-18" x 2 feet* |
| Crocsmia 'Kathleen' | Crocsmia | Deciduous, scarlet to orange flowers | 3 feet tall* |
| Dianthus species | Pinks | Evergreen, grass-like leaves, flower color varies | 4-36" x 24" |
| Eriogonum umbellatum | Sulfur Buckwheat | Evergreen, yellow pom flowers rise above leaf rosettes | 24" x 18" |
| Festuca glauca | Blue Fescue | Evergreen, dense, blue-green foliage | 12" x 10" |
| Geranium sanguineum | Bloody Cranesbill | Profuse cup-shaped deep magenta-pink flowers | 8" x 12" |
| Helianthemum species | Sun Rose | Evergreen, flower color varies | 6-8" x 3 feet |
| Hemerocallis species (dwarf) | Daylily | Evergreen or deciduous, arching, sword-shaped leaves | 30-48" x 2-3 feet* |
| Heuchera species | Coral Bells | Evergreen, heart-shaped leaves, attracts hummingbirds | 12-36" x 24" |
| Kniphofia 'Little Maid' | Poker Plant | Grass-like leaves, pale yellow flowers | 24" x 18" |
| Leucanthemum 'Silver Princess' | Dwarf Shasta Daisy | Coarse, leathery leaves, white flowers (Leucanthemum x superbum) | 12-15" tall* |
| Lilium low growing hybrids | Miss America Oriental Lily | Fragrant, pale-pink flowers | 24" |
| Penstemon species low ones only | Beard Tongue | Evergreen or deciduous, bell-shaped flowers, color varies | 1-3 feet x 1-3 feet* |
| Polystichum munitum | Sword Fern | Evergreen, narrow, leathery, dark green leaves | 2-4 feet x 4 feet |
| Sedum species low ones only | Stonecrop | Evergreen or deciduous, flower color varies | 1-6" x 18" |
| Viola | Violet | Evergreen or deciduous, flower color varies | 2-8" x 8" |
| Yucca baccata 'Gold Sword' or 'Silver Sw | Dwf Banana Yucca | Evergreen, long pointy leaves come from a central base | 18 inches tall* |
| BULBS, CORMS, etc. | Common Name | Description | Size (H x W) |
| Allium species | Ornamental Allium | Compact or loose clusters of white, pink, or violet flowers | Variable* |
| Anemone species | Windflower | Lots of varieties, cup-shaped flowers | 8" x 18" |
| Crocus species | Crocus | Grass-like leaves, spring and fall blooming types | 2" x 12" |
| Iris douglasiana | Iris | Evergreen, vigorous, glossy leaves, flower color varies | 2 feet tall |
| Iris setosa | Iris | Blue-purple flowers | 1-2 feet tall |

*Select varieties maturing at less than 24" tall for traffic circles. Highlighted = drought tolerant

Updated 12/05

Seattle Department of Transportation

Suggested Streetside Garden Plant List

Urban Forestry - 684-8733

| GROUND COVER | Common Name | Description | Size (H x W) |
|------------------------|----------------------|---|-------------------|
| Narcissus species | Daffodil | Lots of varieties | 18-24" |
| Ajuga | Bugleweed | Evergreen, spreading, deep blue-purple flowers | 6" x 36" |
| Arctosaphylos uva-ursi | Kinnikinnick | Evergreen, small dark green leaves pink-tinted flowers, red fruits | 4" x 20" |
| Epimedium species | Barrenwort | Evergreen or deciduous, flower color varies | 6-12" x 2 feet* |
| Fragaria chiloensis | Beach Strawberry | Evergreen, glossy, dark green leaves, white flowers, red fruits | 4-8" x indefinite |
| Genista pilosa | Silky Leaf Woodwaxen | Deciduous, dark green leaves, bright yellow flowers | 16" x 3 feet |
| Juniperus horizontalis | Creeping Juniper | Evergreen, gray-green leaves, dark blue fruits | 12" x indefinite |
| Helianthemum species | Sunrose | Evergreen/Perennial, gray-green lvs hardy 'Wisely Pink' or 'Cheviot' | 8" x 18" |
| Liriope spicata | Lily Turf | Semi-evergreen, grassy, dark green leaves, pale violet to white flowers | 10" x 18" |
| Mahonia nervosa | Low Oregon Grape | Evergreen, yellow flowers, blue-black fruits | 18" x 3 feet |
| Sempervivum | Hens and Chicks | Evergreen, succulent, rosettes of thick, pointed leaves | 3" x 2 feet* |
| Thymus lanuginosus | Woolly Thyme | Evergreen, woolly gray leaves, pink flowers | 2-3" x 3 feet |

*Select varieties maturing at less than 24" tall for traffic circles. Highlighted = drought tolerant