Washington Flora Checklist

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

Family: Typhaceae

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and synonymy at the rank of genus and below follows the 2nd Edition of the Flora of the Pacific Northwest except where superceded by new information.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 December 3rd, 2025 at 5:09am PT.
Available online at https://burkeherbarium.org/waflora/

Comments and questions should be addressed to the checklist administrators:
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Monocots:

Sparganiaceae: see Typhaceae

Typhaceae [FNA22, HC, HC2] Cat-Tail Family

Synonyms:
Sparganiaceae [FNA22, HC] (Burr-Reed Family)

Sparganium [FNA22, HC, HC2]
Sp. Pl. 2: 971. 1753; Gen. Pl. ed. 5; 418, 1754.
bur-reed

Sparganium angustifolium Michx. [FNA22, HC, HC2]
Flora Boreali-Americana. 2: 189. 1803.
floating bur-reed, narrow-leaved bur-reed

Sparganium angustifolium Michx. var. *multipedunculatum* (Morong) Brayshaw
Sparganium emersum Rehmann var. *multipedunculatum* (Morong) Reveal [HC]
Sparganium multipedunculatum (Morong) Rydb.
Sparganium simplex Huds. var. *multipedunculatum* Morong [VPPNW1]

Sparganium emersum Rehmann [FNA22, HC, HC2]
Verhandlungen des Naturforschenden Vereins in Brunn. 10: 80. 1872.
simplestem bur-reed
(see also *Sparganium angustifolium*)

Sparganium angustifolium Michx. ssp. *emersum* (Rehmann) Brayshaw
Sparganium emersum Rehmann var. *emersum* [HC]
Sparganium simplex Huds. var. *simplex*

Sparganium eurycarpum Engelm. [FNA22, HC, HC2]
Manual of Botany of the Northern United States (ed. 2). 430. 1856.
broadfruited bur-reed

Sparganium californicum Greene [Abrams]
Sparganium erectum L. ssp. *stoloniferum* (Buch.-Ham. ex Graebn.) C.D.K. Cook & M.S. Nicholls [JPM], homonym (illegitimate)
Sparganium eurycarpum Engelm. ssp. *eurycarpum* [JPM]
Sparganium greenei Morong [Peck]

Sparganium fluctuans (Morong) B.L. Rob. [FNA22, HC, HC2]
Rhodora. 7: 60. 1905.
floating bur-reed, water bur-reed

Sparganium androcladum (Engelm.) Morong var. *fluctuans* Engelm. ex Morong

Sparganium natans L. [FNA22, HC2]
Sp. Pl. 2: 971. 1753.
arctic bur-reed, small bur-reed

Sparganium minimum Wallr. [HC]
Sparganium minimum (L.) Fr., homonym (illegitimate)

Typha [FNA22, HC, HC2]
Sp. Pl. 2: 971. 1753; Gen. Pl. ed. 5; 418, 1754.
cat-tail, reedmace

*_Typha angustifolia_ L. [FNA22, HC, HC2]

Sp. Pl. 2: 971. 1753.

narrow-leaf cat-tail

FNA22:"Prior to N. Hotchkiss and H. L. Dozier (1949), Typha domingensis was generally included within T. angustifolia in North America. Because of many misidentified specimens, range expansion in recent years, and undercollecting, the distribution on the margins of the main range is somewhat uncertain. Many literature reports are based on misidentified specimens. Some workers suggested T. angustifolia was early introduced from Europe into Atlantic Coastal North America and migrated westward (R. L. Stuckey and D. P. Salamon 1987). In recent decades it has expanded its range in many regions and become much more abundant, especially in roadside ditches and other highly disturbed habitats. For example, although it was known only from one Wisconsin station in 1929 (N. C. Fassett 1930) and was very local in Iowa in 1939 (A. Hayden 1939), it is now common and widespread in both states. As it often out-competes many native marsh species to produce very dense, pure stands, and hybridizes with T. latifolia to form the probably even more competitive T. ?glauca, T. angustifolia and T. ?glauca should perhaps be classified as noxious weeds in parts of North America. Beyond the main range of T. angustifolia, there are specimens of T. ?glauca from north-central Montana (Phillips County.), west-central Manitoba (La Pas), and Anticosti Island, Quebec. There are m Many erroneous reports have come from outside of Europe and North America. For hybrids see also genus and key."

*_Typha domingensis_ Pers. [FNA22, HC2]

Syn. Pl. 2: 532. 1807.

southern cat-tail

Historically in our area this species has not been known north of California and Nevada. In addition to the WA specimens, it has recently (2017) been collected along the Columbia River in Oregon. Whether these populations should be considered range expansions of a native species or dispersal events of an introduced species can\'t be clearly resolved with the information currently available. FNA22: "Typha domingensis probably should be treated as a highly variable pantropic and warm temperate species, occurring to 40º E north and south latitude worldwide, and needing study to determine infraspecific taxa and delimitation from related species (B. G. Briggs and L. A. S. Johnson and B. G. Briggs 1968; S. G. Smith 1987)."

*_Typha ×glauca_ Godr. [FNA22, HC2]

Fl. Lorraine 3: 20. 1844.

smooth cat-tail

Hybrid of T angustifolia and T. latifolia.

Typha latifolia L. [FNA22, HC, HC2]

Sp. Pl. 2: 971. 1753.

broad-leaf cat-tail, common cattail

FNA22: "The erect shoots of Typha latifolia are more fanlike when young than in other North American species because the proximal leaves (dying by mid season) spread more widely. Undoubtedly native throughout its North American range, where it is often a codominant or minor component of marshes, wet meadows, fens, and other communities. In many places it is apparently being replaced by T. angustifolia and T. angustifolia ? T. latifolia (T. ?glauca) at least partly due to human disturbance of habitats. There is a specimen of T. xglauca from Anticosti Island, Quebec. Locally in California and perhaps elsewhere where hybrids are common, the pollen grains of some T. latifolia plants separate slightly and may be shed partly as mixtures of triads, dyads, and monads, perhaps due to introgression ([S. G. Smith, unpublisheddeletion.). Ph.D. thesis]. See also hybrids in key and genus."