

Washington Flora Checklist

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

Family: **Montiaceae**

33 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synonymy at the rank of genus and below follows the [2nd Edition of the Flora of the Pacific Northwest](#) except where superseded by new information.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 April 1st, 2025 at 11:50am PT.
Available online at <https://burkeherbarium.org/waflora/>

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Dicots:

Montiaceae [HC2] Miner's Lettuce Family

Calandrinia [FNA4, HC, HC2]

Nov. Gen. Sp. 6: 77, plate 526. 1823.

calandrinia

Calandrinia menziesii (Hook.) Torr. & A. Gray

Fl. N. Amer. (Torr. & A. Gray) 1(2): 197. 1838.

fringed red maids

Calandrinia ciliata (Ruiz & Pav.) DC., misapplied

Calyptridium [HC, HC2]

calyptridium, pussypaws

Calyptridium roseum S. Watson [HC, HC2, JPM2]

Botany (Fortieth Parallel), 44, plate 6, figs. 6-8. 1871.

rosy pussypaws

Cistanthe rosea (S. Watson) Hershk. [FNA4]

Calyptridium umbellatum (Torr.) Greene [HC2, JPM2]

Bull. Torrey Bot. Club 13: 144. 1886.

pussypaws

Calyptridium umbellatum (Torr.) Greene var. *caudiciferum* (A. Gray) Jeps. [VPBC4, JPM]

Calyptridium umbellatum (Torr.) Greene var. *umbellatum*

Cistanthe umbellata (Torr.) Hershk. [FNA4]

Cistanthe umbellata (Torr.) Hershk. var. *caudicifera* (A. Gray) Kartesz & Gandhi [KZ99]

Cistanthe umbellata (Torr.) Hershk. var. *umbellata* [KZ99]

Spraguea umbellata Torr. [HC]

Spraguea umbellata Torr. var. *caudicifera* A. Gray [HC]

Spraguea umbellata Torr. var. *umbellata* [HC]

Claytonia [FNA4, HC, HC2]

Sp. Pl. 1: 204. 1753; Gen. Pl. ed. 5, 96. 1754.

claytonia, miner's lettuce, springbeauty

Claytonia arenicola L.F. Hend. [FNA4, HC2]

Bull. Torrey Bot. Club. 22: 49. 1895.

sand claytonia, sand springbeauty

Montia arenicola (L.F. Hend.) Howell [HC]

Claytonia cordifolia S. Watson [FNA4, HC2]

Proc. Amer. Acad. Arts. 17: 365. 1882.

broadleaf springbeauty, heart-leaf springbeauty

Claytonia sibirica L. var. *cordifolia* (S. Watson) R.J. Davis

Montia cordifolia (S. Watson) Pax & K. Hoffm. [HC]

Claytonia exigua Douglas ex Torr. & A. Gray [FNA4, HC2]

Fl. N. Amer. 1: 200. 1838.

pale claytonia

ssp. *exigua* [FNA4, HC2]

Fl. N. Amer. 1: 200. 1838.

Claytonia, pale springbeauty Claytonia

Montia spathulata (Douglas) Howell [HC]

ssp. *glauca* (Nutt. ex Torr. & A. Gray) John M. Mill. & K.L. Chambers [FNA4, HC2]

Novon. 3: 272. 1993.

pallid Claytonia

Claytonia parviflora Hook. var. *glauca* Nutt. ex Torr. & A. Gray

Montia perfoliata (Donn ex Willd.) Howell ssp. *glauca* (Nutt. ex Torr. & A. Gray) Ferris

Claytonia lanceolata Pursh [FNA4, HC, HC2]

Fl. Amer. Sept. 1: 175, plate 3. 1814.

lanceleaf springbeauty

(see also *Claytonia multiscapa*)

Claytonia caroliniana Michx. var. *piersonii* (Munz & I.M. Johnst.) B. Boivin

Claytonia lanceolata Pursh ssp. *chrysantha* (Greene) Ferris

Claytonia lanceolata Pursh var. *chrysantha* (Greene) C.L. Hitchc. [HC]

Claytonia lanceolata Pursh var. *idahoensis* R.J. Davis

Claytonia lanceolata Pursh var. *lanceolata* [HC]

Claytonia lanceolata Pursh var. *piersonii* Munz & I.M. Johnst.

Claytonia sessilifolia (Torr.) Henshaw

FNA5: "Some differences of opinion exist regarding the relationships of *Claytonia lanceolata* and *C. rosea*. The work of D. K. Halleck and D. Wiens (1966) and J. S. Shelly et al. (1998) provides ample justification for their recognition as distinct species."

Claytonia megarhiza (A. Gray) Parry ex S. Watson [FNA4, HC, HC2]

Smithsonian Misc. Collect. 258: 118. (as *megarrhiza*). 1878.

alpine springbeauty

Claytonia arctica Adams var. *megarrhiza* A. Gray

Claytonia megarhiza (A. Gray) Parry ex S. Watson var. *bellidifolia* (Rydb.) C.L. Hitchc. [HC]

Claytonia megarhiza (A. Gray) Parry ex S. Watson var. *megarrhiza* [HC]

Claytonia megarhiza (A. Gray) Parry ex S. Watson var. *nivalis* (English) C.L. Hitchc. [HC]

Claytonia multiscapa Rydb. [FNA4, HC2]

Fl. Rocky Mts. 263, 1061. 1917.

Rydberg's springbeauty

ssp. *pacifica* (McNeill) John M. Mill. & K.L. Chambers [HC2]

Syst. Bot. Monogr. 78: 59. 2006.

Pacific lanceleaf springbeauty

Claytonia lanceolata Pursh var. *pacifica* McNeill [KZ99]

Plants called *Claytonia lanceolata* var. *pacifica* (McNeill 1972) have been tracked as a rare taxon by the Washington Natural Heritage Program.

Claytonia parviflora Douglas ex Hook. [FNA4, HC2]

Fl. Bor.-Amer. 1: 225, plate 73. 1832.

small-flowered miner's lettuce, small-flowered springbeauty

Claytonia parviflora Douglas ex Hook. ssp. *grandiflora* John M. Mill. & K.L. Chambers [FNA4]

Claytonia parviflora Douglas ex Hook. ssp. *parviflora* [FNA4]

Claytonia parviflora Douglas ex Hook. ssp. *utahensis* (Rydb.) John M. Mill. & K.L. Chambers [FNA4]

Claytonia parviflora Douglas ex Hook. ssp. *viridis* (Davidson) John M. Mill. & K.L. Chambers [FNA4]

Claytonia perfoliata Donn ex Willd. var. *parviflora* (Douglas ex Hook.) Torr.

Montia perfoliata (Donn ex Willd.) Howell var. *parviflora* (Douglas ex Hook.) Jeps.

Claytonia perfoliata Donn ex Willd. [FNA4, HC2, VPBC4]

Sp. Pl. 2: 1186. 1798.

miner's lettuce

(see also *Claytonia parviflora*, *Claytonia rubra*)

Claytonia perfoliata Donn ex Willd. ssp. *intermontana* John M. Mill. & K.L. Chambers [FNA4]

Claytonia perfoliata Donn ex Willd. ssp. *mexicana* (Rydb.) John M. Mill. & K.L. Chambers [FNA4]

Claytonia perfoliata Donn ex Willd. ssp. *perfoliata* [FNA4]

Montia perfoliata (Donn ex Willd.) Howell [HC]

Claytonia rubra (Howell) Tidestr. [FNA4, HC2]

Contr. U.S. Natl. Herb. 25: 188. 1925.

cushion miner's lettuce, red miners lettuce

Claytonia parviflora Douglas ex Hook. var. *depressa* A. Gray

Claytonia perfoliata Donn ex Willd. var. *depressa* (A. Gray) Poelln.

Claytonia rubra (Howell) Tidestr. ssp. *depressa* (A. Gray) John M. Mill. & K.L. Chambers [FNA4]

Claytonia rubra (Howell) Tidestr. ssp. *rubra* [FNA4]

Montia perfoliata (Donn ex Willd.) Howell var. *depressa* (A. Gray) Jeps.

Montia rubra Howell

Claytonia sibirica L. [FNA4, HC2]

Sp. Pl. 1: 204. 1753.

candyflower, Siberian springbeauty, western springbeauty

Claytonia heterophylla (Torr. & A. Gray) Swanson [KZ99]

Claytonia sibirica L. var. *bulbifera* A. Gray [KZ99]

Claytonia sibirica L. var. *heterophylla* (Torr. & A. Gray) A. Gray

Claytonia sibirica L. var. *sibirica* [KZ99]

Montia sibirica (L.) Howell [HC]

Montia sibirica (L.) Howell var. *bulbifera* (A. Gray) B.L. Rob. [HC]

Montia sibirica (L.) Howell var. *heterophylla* (Torr. & A. Gray) B.L. Rob. [HC]

Montia sibirica (L.) Howell var. *sibirica* [HC]

Claytonia umbellata S. Watson [FNA4, HC, HC2]

Botany (Fortieth Parallel). 43, plate 6, figs. 4, 5. 1871.

Great Basin springbeauty

Claytonia washingtoniana (Suksd.) Suksd. [FNA4, HC2]

Werdenda. 1: 10. 1923.

Lake Washington claytonia, Lake Washington miner's lettuce, Lake Washington springbeauty

Montia washingtoniana Suksd.

Fertile annual hybrid of *Claytonia sibirica* and *C. perfoliata* (Fellows 1971). Perhaps declining in western Washington due to loss of habitat and competition with weeds.

Lewisia [FNA4, HC, HC2]

Fl. Amer. Sept. 2: 360. 1814.

bitterroot, lewisia

(see also *Lewisiopsis*)

Lewisia columbiana (Howell ex A. Gray) B.L. Rob. [FNA4, HC, HC2]

Syn. Fl. N. Amer. 1: 269. 1897.

Columbia lewisia

Calandrinia columbiana Howell ex A. Gray

Oreobroma columbianum (Howell ex A. Gray) Howell

Talinum denticulatum Poelln.

var. columbiana [FNA4, HC, HC2]

In A. Gray et al., Syn. Fl. N. Amer. 1: 269. 1897.

Columbia lewisia

FNA reports *Lewisia columbiana* var. *wallowensis* C. L. Hitchc. from northwestern Washington, a surprising new location for the variety, and one that needs confirmation.

var. rupicola (English) C.L. Hitchc. [FNA4, HC, HC2]

Vasc. Pl. Pacif. N.W. 2: 232. 1964.

Columbia lewisia

Lewisia columbiana (Howell ex A. Gray) B.L. Rob. ssp. *rupicola* (English) Ferris

Lewisia rupicola English

FNA4: "B. Mathew (1989b) noted that the cultivated *Lewisia columbiana* '?Rosea' is this variety. B. L. Davidson (2000) noted that the United States populations have pink to magenta petals, whereas the

British Columbia populations have white to pale pink petals characteristic of the other varieties. Mathew questioned the assignment of the British Columbia plants to this variety."

****Lewisia cotyledon* (S. Watson) B.L. Rob. [FNA4, HC, HC2]**

Syn. Fl. N. Amer. 1: 268. 1897.

Siskiyou lewisia

Recently (2017) observed growing in the Goat Rocks Wilderness Area. Originally reported in 1st edition Flora PNW as having been transplanted there. Apparently still persisting.

***var. *cotyledon* [FNA4, HC2]**

***Lewisia nevadensis* (A. Gray) B.L. Rob. [FNA4, HC2]**

Syn. Fl. N. Amer. 1: 268. 1897.

Nevada bitterroot

Calandrinia nevadensis A. Gray

Claytonia grayana Kuntze

Lewisia bernardina Davidson

Lewisia pygmaea (A. Gray) B.L. Rob. var. *nevadensis* (A. Gray) Fosberg [HC]

Oreobroma nevadensis (A. Gray) Howell

FNA4: "*Lewisia nevadensis* represents one extreme of the *L. pygmaea* complex (see discussion under 13. *L. pygmaea*). Questionable geographic occurrences reflect plants that have one or more features otherwise suggestive of *L. pygmaea* (e.g., more elongate roots, truncate and/or toothed sepals, and colored petals); such intermediates also occur in the range of "typical" *L. nevadensis* (relatively robust plants with napiform roots, solitary flowers, acute sepals with entire margins, and white petals). Uncertainty respecting the affinity of specimens prevails in those from Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, and Wyoming. There are no supporting specimens from Wyoming. The floral symmetry of *Lewisia nevadensis* may be somewhat elliptical, the two outer sepals and the remaining petals imbricate and opposite the sepals, giving the flowers a pinched appearance, a feature also reported for *L. oppositifolia*."

***Lewisia pygmaea* (A. Gray) B.L. Rob. [FNA4, HC, HC2]**

Syn. Fl. N. Amer. 1: 268. 1897.

least bitterroot, alpine lewisia, dwarf lewisia

(see also *Lewisia nevadensis*)

Calandrinia grayi Britton

Calandrinia pygmaea (A. Gray) A. Gray

Lewisia exarticulata H. St. John

Lewisia glandulosa (Rydb.) Clay

Lewisia minima (A. Nelson) A. Nelson

Lewisia pygmaea (A. Gray) B.L. Rob. var. *pygmaea* [HC]

Lewisia pygmaeum (A. Gray) B.L. Rob. var. *aridorum* Bartlett

Oreobroma aridorum (Bartlett) A. Heller

Oreobroma pygmaeum (A. Gray) Howell

Talinum pygmaeum A. Gray

FNA4: "The circumscription and diagnosis of *Lewisia pygmaea* is problematic because of morphologic variability, intermediacy, and/or hybridization with *L. nevadensis* (see L. T. Dempster 1990). In the range of typical forms of *L. nevadensis* (see discussion under 11. *L. nevadensis*), one or more forms of *L. pygmaea* will also occur, but at higher elevations. Segregates of *L. pygmaea* recognized elsewhere as species include *L. glandulosa*, which occurs in rocky substrates above 3000 m in the central and southern Sierra Nevada and is characterized by elongate, sinuous taproots (L. T. Dempster 1990); and *L. sierrae*, which occurs in moist flats above 2400 m in the central Sierra Nevada and includes diminutive plants with irregularly eglandular-toothed (occasionally entire) sepals (B. Mathew 1989b). Dempster postulated that the variable and widely distributed *L. pygmaea* represents a hybrid species derived from *L. nevadensis* and *L. glandulosa*."

***Lewisia rediviva* Pursh [FNA4, HC, HC2]**

Fl. Amer. Sept. 2: 368. 1814.

bitterroot

var. *rediviva* [FNA4, HC2]

Fl. Amer. Sept. 2: 368. 1814.
bitterroot

Lewisia alba Kellogg

Lewisia triphylla (S. Watson) B.L. Rob. [FNA4, HC, HC2]

Syn. Fl. N. Amer. 1: 269. 1897.
three leaf bitterroot, three leaf lewisia

Claytonia triphylla S. Watson
Erocallis triphylla (S. Watson) Rydb.
Oreobroma triphylla (S. Watson) Howell

Lewisiopsis [HC2]

lewisia

Lewisiopsis tweedyi (A. Gray) Govaerts [HC2]

World Checkl. Seed Pl. 3(1): 21. 1999.
Tweedy's lewisia

Calandrinia tweedyi A. Gray
Cistanthe tweedyi (A. Gray) Hershk. [FNA4]
Lewisia tweedyi (A. Gray) B.L. Rob. [HC]

Montia [FNA4, HC, HC2]

Sp. Pl. 1: 87. 1753; Gen. Pl. ed. 5, 38. 1754.
water chickweed, montia
(see also *Claytonia*)

Montia chamissoi (Ledeb. ex Spreng.) Greene [FNA4, HC, HC2]

Fl. Francisc. 180. (as *chamissonis*). 1891.
Chamisso's montia, water montia

Claytonia chamissoi Ledeb. ex Spreng.
Crunocallis chamissoi (Ledeb. ex Spreng.) Rydb.

Montia dichotoma (Nutt.) Howell [FNA4, HC, HC2]

Erythea. 1: 36. 1893.
dwarf montia

Claytonia dichotoma Nutt.
Montiastrum dichotomum (Nutt.) Rydb.

Montia diffusa (Nutt.) Greene [FNA4, HC, HC2]

Fl. Francisc. 181. 1891.
spreading candyflower, branching montia

Claytonia diffusa Nutt.
Limnalsine diffusa (Nutt.) Rydb.

Rare in Washington and Oregon. Some populations increase following fire.

Montia fontana L. [FNA4, HC, HC2]

Sp. Pl. 1: 87. 1753.
water blinks, water chickweed, annual water miner's lettuce

Claytonia hallii A. Gray
Montia clara Ö. Nilsson
Montia fontana L. ssp. *fontana* [KZ99]
Montia fontana L. var. *lamprosperma* (Cham.) Fenzl [HC]
Montia fontana L. var. *tenerrima* (A. Gray) Fernald & Wiegand [HC]
Montia funstonii Rydb.
Montia hallii (A. Gray) Greene
Montia minor C.C. Gmel.

FNA4: "*Montia fontana* displays a multitude of forms varying in stature, leaf shape, and seed size. Segregate species, varieties, and subspecies have been named. Based on my study of worldwide

collections of the species, much variation in *M. fontana* is attributable to phenotypic differentiation of ramets produced by local environmental conditions and unrelated to genetic variation. Until macromolecular or other studies shed light on the variation in *M. fontana*, it seems pointless to recognize infraspecific taxa or segregate species."

***Montia howellii* S. Watson [FNA4, HC, HC2]**

Proc. Amer. Acad. Arts. 18: 191. 1883.
Howell's montia

Claytonia howellii (S. Watson) Piper
Maxia howellii (S. Watson) Ö. Nilsson
Montiastrum howellii (S. Watson) Rydb.

An inconspicuous prostrate winter annual, flowering in March and April.

***Montia linearis* (Douglas) Greene [FNA4, HC, HC2]**

Fl. Francisc. 181. 1891.
lineleaf miner's lettuce, narrow-leafed montia

Claytonia linearis Douglas ex Hook.

FNA4: "Montia linearis is a highly uniform species."

***Montia parvifolia* (Moc. ex DC.) Greene [FNA4, HC, HC2]**

Fl. Francisc. 181. 1891.
litttleleaf miner's lettuce, streambank springbeauty

Claytonia parvifolia DC.
Montia parvifolia (Moc. ex DC.) Greene ssp. *flagellaris* (Bong.) Ferris [KZ99]
Montia parvifolia (Moc. ex DC.) Greene ssp. *parvifolia* [KZ99]
Montia parvifolia (Moc. ex DC.) Greene var. *flagellaris* (Bong.) C.L. Hitchc. [HC]
Montia parvifolia (Moc. ex DC.) Greene var. *parvifolia* [HC]
Naiocrene parvifolia (DC.) Rydb.

FNA4: "Montia parvifolia is a variable diploid and tetraploid species. Plants with larger flowers, leaves, and seeds have been treated as var. *flagellaris* (Bongard) C. L. Hitchcock or as the separate species *M. sweetseri* Henderson. Because the complex has not been studied using modern methods, and the variation observed in herbarium specimens has no correlated geographical base, I adopt the position of K. L. Chambers (1993) and do not recognize the two above-mentioned taxa at this time. I equate the species situation here to that of *M. fontana* and choose not to recognize infraspecific taxa."

***Phemeranthus* [FNA4, HC2]**

Specchio Sci. 1: 86. 1814.
fameflower

***Phemeranthus sediformis* (Poelln.) Kiger [FNA4, HC2]**

Novon. 11: 320. 2001.
Okanogan fameflower

Talinum okanoganense English [HC]
Talinum sediforme Poelln. [VPBC4]
Talinum wayae Eastw.

Poorly studied and similar to *Phemeranthus spinescens*, needs more study and collections.

***Phemeranthus spinescens* (Torr.) Hershk. [FNA4, HC2]**

Taxon. 46: 222. 1997.
spinescent fameflower, spiny fameflower

Talinum spinescens Torr. [HC]