

Washington Flora Checklist

A checklist of the Vascular Plants of Washington State

Hosted by the University of Washington Herbarium

Family: Taxaceae

2 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synonymy at the rank of genus and below follows the [2nd Edition of the Flora of the Pacific Northwest](#) except where superceded by new information.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 January 29th, 2026 at 6:10pm PT.

Available online at <https://burkeherbarium.org/waflora/>

Comments and questions should be addressed to the checklist administrators:

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Suggested citation:

Weinmann, F., P.F. Zika, D.E. Giblin, B. Legler. 2002+. Checklist of the Vascular Plants of Washington State. University of Washington Herbarium. <https://burkeherbarium.org/waflora/>. Accessed Jan 29, 2026.

Gymnosperms:

Taxaceae [FNA2, HC, HC2] Yew Family

Taxus [FNA2, HC, HC2]

Sp. Pl. 2: 1040. 1753; Gen. Pl. ed. 5, 462, 1754.
yew

**Taxus baccata* L. [HC2, Stace 1997]

Sp. Pl. 2: 1040. 1753.
English yew

Recently collected in several places in King Co. as a garden escape.

Taxus brevifolia Nutt. [FNA2, HC, HC2]

N. Amer. Sylv. 3: 86, plate 108. 1849.
Pacific yew, western yew

Taxus baccata L. ssp. *brevifolia* (Nutt.) Pilger
Taxus baccata L. var. *brevifolia* (Nutt.) Koehne
Taxus baccata L. var. *canadensis* Benth.
Taxus bourcieri Carrière
Taxus lindleyana A. Murray bis

FNA2: "The name *Taxus baccata* Hooker has been misapplied to this species. The leaves of *Taxus brevifolia* are usually somewhat falcate. The wood of *Taxus brevifolia* is hard and durable, yet easily worked, making it popular for construction of novelty items by local woodworkers. Because of this, large trees are unscrupulously poached; in some areas the species has been nearly extirpated. The bark of the tree is a promising natural source of taxol, a drug for treating various cancers; exploitation of the species for medicinal purposes is further threatening it."