



## PLANTS FOR SHADE OR UNDERSTORY PLANTING

### Characteristics:

- Full to part shade tolerance
- Pacific Northwest native plant species
- Organized by height
- Also consider: Vine maple (*Acer circinatum*), Red Huckleberry (*Rubus parvifolium*), Salmonberry (*Rubus spectabilis*), Osoberry (*Oemleria cerasiformis*), Redtwig (Red osier) dogwood (*Cornus sericea*) ...

(Key= Native | Non-native)



## LOW-GROWING NATIVE GROUNDCOVERS FOR SHADE / PART SHADE



**Low Oregon grape**  
(*Mahonia nervosa*)

Evergreen / Size: ~1-3 ft / Full to part shade / Well-drained to moist soils; drought tolerant when mature.

Unless otherwise noted, images: K. Strelloff



**False Solomon's seal**  
(*Smilacina racemosa*)

Size: 1-3 ft / Full shade to part shade/ Moist to well-drained soils, drought tolerant once established.



**Deer fern**

(*Blechnum spicant*)

Size: typ. 1-2 ft / Part to full shade / Moist to moderately dry soils, drought tolerant once established.

Image: <http://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Benutzer:Drahkrub> (creative commons)

## MEDIUM-SIZED NATIVE SHRUBS FOR SHADE / PART SHADE



**Snowberry**

(*Symphoricarpos albus*)

Size: typ. to ~4.5 ft / Sun to full shade / Moist to dry soils / drought tolerant once established / excellent erosion control.



**Salal**

(*Gaultheria shallon*)

Evergreen, slow-growing, thicket forming shrub. Size: ~3-5 ft / Shade to part shade/ Moist to well-drained soils / fruit and flowers benefit wildlife /drought tolerant once established.



**Sword fern**

(*Polystichum ovatum*)

Mostly evergreen large fern. Size: typ. to ~4.5 ft / Part to full shade / Moist to moderately dry soils / Drought tolerant once established. Plant in groups of 3-5.

## LARGE NATIVE SHRUBS FOR SHADE / PART-SHADE



**Evergreen huckleberry**

(*Vaccinium ovatum*)

Size: typ. 4-10 ft / Part to full shade / Moist to moderately dry soils, drought tolerant once established.



**Western beaked hazelnut (Filbert)**

(*Corylus cornuta* var. *cornuta*)

Deciduous, thicket-forming, large shrub. Size: 10-20 ft / Shade to sun / Moist to well-drained soils / high drought tolerance / nuts popular with people and wildlife / excellent erosion control.



**Thimbleberry**

(*Rubus parviflorus*)

Deciduous flowering and fruiting, thicket-forming shrub. Size: typ. 4-8 ft / Part shade to sun / Very moist to moderately dry soils; prefers damp soils / excellent erosion control.