

In compliance with Metro Vancouver's request for invasive, non-native plants to be removed from Wreck Beach, a handful of gardeners did so under strong protest on February 17, 2008. All plants were re-located to good homes, but now, the replanting with native plants can begin. The following plants are native to the Pacific Northwest, so please feel free to choose from any of them in order to replant.

Anne's Native Plants Garden List

Sisyrinchium Littorale - "**Shore Blue-Eyed Grass**": A native plant. The loss of this plant is the most upsetting to me. The seeds were gathered and given to me by a dear friend from the B.C. Native Plant Society. They were 3 year old established plants when we moved them to the beach 5 years ago. That plant was thriving down there, and like all Native plants in their appropriate environment was completely pest and disease free.

Maianthemum Dilatum - "**False Lily-of-the-Valley**": A native plant. From seeds collected at Skookumchuk Hot Springs 3 years ago. This difficult to germinate plant had just established itself in 2006. They would have flowered for the first time this year - the seeds I planted at home from the same batch are now flowering.

Penstemon serrulatus "**Coast Penstemon**": A native plant. It took over 3 years to find this species and it was just starting to take off. This Penstemon replaced the poorly chosen

Penstemon cardwellii (or *Penstemon fruticosus*, I can't remember which now), a sub-alpine B.C. native that only lasted one year.

Aquilegia formosa "**Red Columbine**": A Native plant. Also approximately 3 years old when moved and thriving. It was the largest Red Columbine that I have ever seen.

Lathyrus Japonicus "**Beach Pea**": A Native plant. This was an unusual and very rare specimen in that it produced masses of white flowers instead of the usual pink/purple. This was thriving as well and was very popular on the beach for its profuse, amazing blooms. Children in particular loved that plant - I loved picking off a bloom for them.

Sedum Oregonum "**Oregon Sedum**": A Native plant. A lovely ground cover that was just taking off. Turned from green to scarlet red in the hot sun.

Tips from Anne re obtaining of native plants:

Perhaps the biggest "DON'T" off the top of my head, is DON'T EVER try and remove native plants from their natural environment. Buy them from a store or plant sale. Removing them from their natural environment reduces their natural population, and they pretty much NEVER survive anyway. Diligence and research are what occupied the majority of my time. One must use diligence when trying to find native plants. Unfortunately, native plants are ridiculously difficult to find, expensive, and often not in the greatest shape. My other reference "bibles", on top of the NPSBC website:

- "Wildflowers of the Pacific Northwest" by Mark Turner & Phyllis Gustafson (Timber Press Field Guide)

- "Native Plants in the Coastal Garden - A Guide for Gardeners in British Columbia and the Pacific Northwest" by April Pettinger and Brenda Costanzo

- "Sunset Western Garden Book" - Sunset Publishing Corporation

The last 2 books were particularly helpful in that they provided specific info about coastal gardens. I made the mistake of buying Native alpine or sub-alpine plants which don't stand a chance in that environment.

I think that's about it really Read On!

A Few Suggestions for Existing Wreck Beach Coastal Gardens from Judy:

(* Plants are also on Anne's List.)

Western Trumpet

Honeysuckle

Nootka Rose

Baldhip Rose

Salmonberry

Thimbleberry

Red Flowering Current

Red-Osier Dogwood

*Beach pea- (*Lathyrus japonicus*)

Common Vetch

Seashore Lupine

Nootka Lupine

Large-leaved Lupine

Sea-Watch (wild celery)

Beach Carrot

Beach Lovage

Sea Blush (pink)

**Sisyrinchium*

Queen Anne's Lace

Chocolate Lily

Siberian Miners' Lettuce