



In March 2009, in cooperation with the Ministry of Community and Rural Development and BC150 Grove, Saanich Parks began the "Trees for Tomorrow" planting Project. Over \$30,000 was received to design and plant demonstration gardens with native trees and shrubs.

Baxter Park was selected because it offered the best opportunity for community involvement and site enhancement. The project also became an outdoor classroom, as two of the surrounding schools took a keen interest in creating and participating with the four demonstration gardens.

Protection of Native Species: Land development and replacement by exotic species are endangering many of our native plants and animals. They are losing their natural environment and habitat.

1 Garry Oak Ecosystem (Dry Site)

In Canada, Garry Oak ecosystems are found only in south-eastern Vancouver Island, southern Gulf Islands and two isolated areas in the Lower Mainland. Garry Oak ecosystems support over 700 plant, 800 insect, 100 bird and other wildlife species, many of which are rare or endangered.

The Garry Oak tree and other plants associated with it are adapted to the extremes of our climate, including drought in summer and saturated soils in winter. Garry Oaks' distinguishing form varies depending on soil conditions. A large, round crown and sizeable branches usually occur in deep soil sites like this one.



Saskatoon

Acorns from the Garry Oak were gathered and planted in this shrub bed, to generate seedlings – trees for tomorrow.

Surrounding this prominent Garry Oak tree are other trees and shrubs typical to Garry Oak woodland ecosystems. They display an array of colours and textures, each with a unique characteristic for attracting

birds, butterflies, and other animals. These shrubs are versatile and fast-growing; they grow in open meadows and can reach the height of a small tree.

Indian-plum is the first to flower in early spring, with cascading white flowers that emerge before the leaves. A small "plum", or drupe, quickly follows that is eaten by wildlife and people.

Displaying seasonal colours, the Saskatoon produces clusters of white flowers in spring. Its small green leaves provide splashes of yellow and red in the fall, and are popular with the deer. The dark purple berries of Saskatoon are exceptional in pies and jellies.



Mock-orange

Mock-orange is valued for its vigorous growth and dependable, fragrant white flowers that bloom in June.

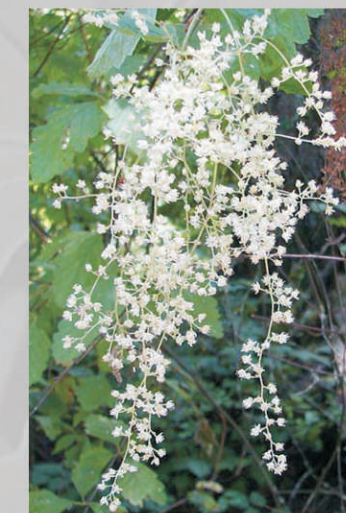
Seed-eating birds are attracted to Oceanspray, after its cascades of creamy-white flowers turn to hanging clusters of thousands of brown seeds.



Garry Oak



Indian-plum



Oceanspray

