

Burns Bog Conservation Society Plant Guide

Native Species

Bog Cranberry

Oxycoccus oxycoccus



General: Small, creeping shrub; woody vine-like stems; 15-50 cm long, 0.2-1 mm thick, finely hairy.

Flowers: small clusters; stalks very slender, 2-5 cm long; 4 distinct petals, 5-8 mm long

Fruits: 5-12 mm wide, pale-pink to deep red.

Location: the first quarter of the outside loop of Wally's Walk, clearly visible growing in the moss along the edge of the boardwalk.

Bloom: Flowers bloom between May-Aug; fruit from Aug to Oct

Cloudberry

Rubus chamæmorus



General: Slender 5-30 cm tall stems ; hairy, rounded, toothed leaves, 2-12cm wide, 5-7 lobes.

Flowers: unisexual with male and female flowers on separate plants; 5 white, egg-shaped, 7-15 mm long petals

Fruits: raspberry-like cluster, at first reddish, then amber to yellow when mature

Location: It can be found in the wetter parts of the bog along the edge of the boardwalk in clusters and herds.

Bloom: Flowers bloom in June; fruits in July and August

Canadian Bunchberry

Cornus canadensis also known as dwarf dogwood, creeping dogwood

General: Low, trailing, woody base, stems erect, solitary, 5-25 cm tall, slightly hairy, greenish to reddish.

Flowers: Petals 1-1.5 mm long, greenish-white with a purplish tinge.

Fruits: 6-8 mm long, bright coral red when mature, usually several.

Bloom: Flowers bloom from May-August; fruits in August

Location: in the wetter parts of the bog, often rubbing shoulders with starflower or cloudberry along the boardwalk's edge



Thimbleberry

Rubus parviflorus



General: Medium to tall shrub, 1-2.5 m tall, grey woody stems, thornless; green, fuzzy, maple like leaves, 10-20 cm across, 3- to 7-lobed.

Flowers: large, floppy, white

Fruits: Raspberry-like, 1-1.5cm wide, seedy, hairy, ranging in color from light pink to deep red

Bloom: Flowers bloom in June; fruits bloom in July

Location: along Davies Creek and the more open parts of the forest in the Delta Nature Reserve

Salal

Gaultheria shallon



General: 1.5 – 3m tall shrub, sharp green leathery leaves with pointed tip, woody stems

Flowers: White, bell-like flowers

Fruits: Purple-black, hairy, sphere-oval shape

Bloom: Flowers bloom in early summer; berries in late summer – early fall

Location: thickly surrounding the boardwalk near the beginning of Walley's walk

Labrador Tea

Ledum groenlandicum



General: 0.5 – 1.5m tall shrub; leaves are 4 cm long and thin, are dull green on top and have white or rusty orange fuzz on the underside

Flowers: Clusters of white flowers

Bloom: Flowers bloom in early summer

Location: Common on outer boardwalk in wetter parts of bog, among salal; also found in spirea meadow with hardhack and sweet gale

Skunk Cabbage

Lysichiton americanum also known as swamp lantern



General: Large, cabbage-like leaves that are 30-150cm long and 10-70 cm wide..

Flowers: 7-12 cm yellow, cylindrical flower on a 30-50 cm long spiky stalk

Fruits: Berry-like, broadly egg-shaped, greenish to reddish, 6 mm long

Bloom: Earliest to bloom in the spring: March to May

Location: Wetter parts of the bog, with partial sun; common in the Skunk Cabbage Meadow section of the boardwalk

Round-leaved Sundew

Drosera rotundifolia also known as common sundew



General: Small, carnivorous plant, grows up to 7cm tall; skinny stalk ended with rounded sappy head covered in sticky red hairs.

Flowers: White-pink flower buds on long, slender stalks

Bloom: Summertime

Location: Often hard to spot – they favour wetter parts of the bog, usually found in clusters near the boardwalk growing out of the sphagnum moss.

False Lily-of-the-valley

Mainanthemum dilatatum



General: Stems 10-35 cm tall, smooth. Leaves are broad heart/arrowhead shaped, 5-12 cm long as wide, deep veins in leaves

Flowers:; Flowers cream to white, wheel-shaped, 5-8 mm across

Bloom: Late spring

Berries: Globe-shaped, spotted, red, 5-6 mm wide; seeds 1 to 4.

Location: Along the middle of the outer boardwalk of Wally's Walk, where the bog transitions from wetter to drier conditions.

Hardhack

Spirea douglasii subspecies *douglasii*



General: Low to medium shrub, 0.5-2.5 m tall, forms thickets; stems erect, branched and woody with flexible, long leaves which are toothed at the tip

Flowers: Tall, pink clusters typically grow 10–15 cm tall

Bloom:

Fruits: 2-3 mm long, somewhat leathery, smooth except sometimes a few long hairs.

Location: Grows in the peatiest sections of Burns Bog, often found with Sweet Gale.

Sweet Gale

Myrica gale

General: Shrub, 0.5-2 m tall, The leaves are similar to hardhack's, but more slender at the base and covered with tiny yellow pores – they have a very strong scent when crushed

Flowers: flowers look more like mace spikes, are they're bright yellow when ripe

Bloom: Summertime

Fruits: 2.8-3 mm long, cone-like

Location: Grows in the peatiest sections of Burns Bog, often found with Hardhack.



Western Bog Laurel

Kalmia macrophylla subspecies *occidentalis* also known as swamp laurel



General: Low shrub; stems 10-50 cm tall. Leaves are glossy dark green on top and white underneath. This plant is easily confused with western Labrador tea, which is problematic as **all parts of bog laurel are poisonous if consumed**. Luckily, bog laurel lacks the white

Flowers: Small but showy pink flowers

Bloom: May and June

Fruits: About 4 mm wide and 5 mm long.

Location: It grows mixed in with the pine, salal, and Labrador tea along the sides of the first half of the outer boardwalk

Salmonberry

Rubus spectabilis



General: Medium to tall shrub, 1-4 m tall, often thicket-forming. The distinctive leaves come in clusters of three and look like a beard and moustache when held with the centre-point down.

Flowers: Bright pink flowers

Bloom: Late spring

Fruits: Yellow, orange or red; similar in shape to raspberries.

Location: Found all along the sides of Davies creek, and in open parts of the forest in the Delta Nature Reserve

Invasive Species

Himalayan Blackberry

Rubus discolor



General: Medium to tall, coarse shrub, 2-5 m or more long, thicket-forming and sprawling. Leaves are evergreen and toothed and typically grow in bunches of 3

Flowers: White to pinkish, egg-shaped, 10-15 mm long;

Fruits: Dark purple when ripe (Blackberry)

Bloom: Summer

Location: Along Davies Creek

Bittersweet Nightshade

Solanum dulcamara



General: Medium to tall shrub, 1-4 m tall. Leaves are 4-12 cm long, arrow-head shaped.

Flowers: Star shaped with 5 purple petals and yellow insides

Fruits: Red, circular, 1 cm long.

Poisonous to humans and livestock.

Bloom: Mid summer

Location: Along Davies Creek

Himalayan Balsam

Impatiens glandulifera also known as policeman's helmet



General: 0.6-2.0 m tall herb; stems erect to ascending. Leaves are elliptic, sharply and closely toothed, 6-15 cm long.

Flowers: Whitish to red, usually purplish-spotted; resemble a British policeman's helmet.

Fruits: 0.5-2.5 cm long, many-seeded.

Bloom: Summertime

Location: Found all along the sides of Davies creek and the path leading up to the boardwalk

Thank you for participating in our citizen science based community project!