

# CARING FOR YOUR NATIVE LANDSCAPE



## WEED

Weeds can outcompete your young plants and spread quickly.

- Monitor your garden regularly for weeds. It's easier to pull young weeds before they go to seed or start spreading.
- Pull weeds by hand or with your favorite weeding tool. Remove entire weed, including roots.
- Weeds should be disposed of in yard waste and, in the case of some noxious weeds, the trash. Do not use for mulch or in backyard compost bin. Visit [www.kingcounty.gov/weeds](http://www.kingcounty.gov/weeds) for noxious weeds disposal information.
- Avoid the use of herbicides in your landscaping.
- When?
  - › Weed as necessary, especially when the soil is moist, to make digging easier.
  - › The best time to remove weeds is prior to them flowering and going to seed. If removal occurs after flowering, cut off and dispose of flowers before digging out roots.



## MULCH

Mulch keeps soil moist, limits weed growth, and keeps soil temperature warmer in winter and cooler in summer.

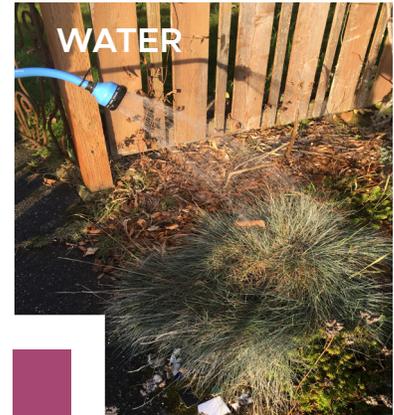
- Add mulch, as needed, to maintain at least a 3-inch deep layer. Be sure to keep mulch pulled away from the stems of your plants to prevent rot.
- Wood chips and leaves are great mulch materials. Woodchips can be purchased from any topsoil supplier and are often available for free from arborists.
- When?
  - › Annually, early spring or fall



## WATER

Young plants need water to grow strong roots. Deeper, infrequent watering will help your plants to establish deeper, healthier roots.

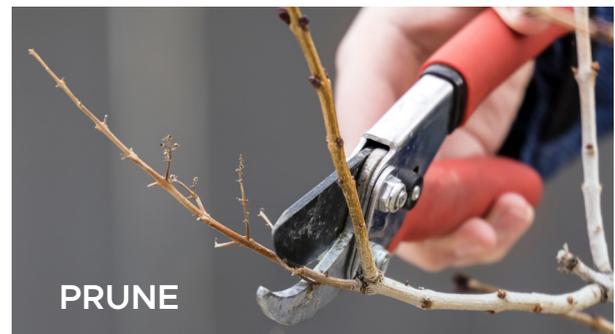
- Water deeply enough to moisten your plants' whole root zone (top 6-12 inches of soil). To check, dig in with a trowel an hour after watering to check the depth of moisture.
- Apply water slowly enough so soil can absorb it without running off.
- Consider using soaker hoses or drip irrigation on garden beds.
- Use a timer to water just the right amount.
- When?
  - › Water when the weather is dry and warm, during the first few growing seasons.
  - › Water in the early morning or evening to reduce evaporation.
  - › Let the top few inches of soil dry between soakings.



YEAR 1	Water every 3-4 days.
YEARS 2 & 3	Water once or twice per week. The frequency and length of watering depends on soil conditions.
AFTER YEAR 3	Plants should be established and may need watering once or twice per month, more often if they show signs of stress.

## PRUNE

Pruning of newly planted plants should be limited to the removal of dead or broken branches. All other pruning should not occur until the second or third year, when plants have recovered from the stress of transplanting. For information about proper pruning, please contact the Garden Hotline at 206-633-0224 or visit [www.gardenhotline.org](http://www.gardenhotline.org).



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**Kirkland Public Works -  
Surface Water Division**  
[www.kirklandwa.gov/stormwater](http://www.kirklandwa.gov/stormwater)



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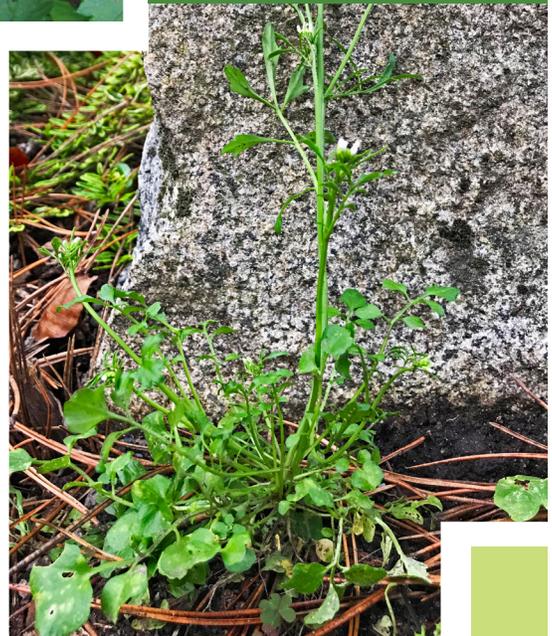
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# COMMON GARDEN WEEDS

CREeping BUTTERCUP



BITTERCRESS (SHOTWEED)

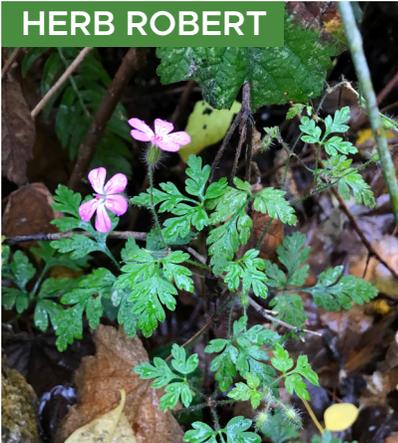


HIMALAYAN BLACKBERRY



ENGLISH IVY

HERB ROBERT



DANDELION

HEDGE BINDWEED (MORNING GLORY)



## RESOURCES

- King County Noxious Weeds – [www.kingcounty.gov/weeds](http://www.kingcounty.gov/weeds)
- Garden Hotline – [www.gardenhotline.org](http://www.gardenhotline.org)