

## WACD PLANT MATERIALS CENTER

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### Low Oregon Grape (*Mahonia nervosa*)

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#### Distribution

Short Oregon Grape, also known as Barberry, Dull Oregon Grape or Low Oregon Grape, grows throughout Washington from sea level to the sub-alpine Cascades.

#### Growth Habit

Low Oregon Grape is a broad-leaf evergreen shrub and can grow to 2-3 feet in height. It has dull green leaves with a purplish tinge contrasted by bright yellow flowers that transform into edible blue berries.

#### Adaptability

Low Oregon Grape is adapted to grow in a wide range of conditions throughout Washington. It can be found growing in soils that range from dry to moist and sites that vary from exposed to shady. It is commonly found growing equally well as an understory species in mixed species woodland, growing alongside salal (*Gaultheria shallon*).

#### Comments

- This is the short cousin to Tall Oregon Grape (*Mahonia aquifolium*) and is better used as a ground cover planted either singly or in masses.
- It looks great combined with native snowberry above and through the glossy green massed leaves.
- Tolerant of many conditions, it will do its best in some shade and can tolerate full shade.
- This plant is attractive to bees, butterflies and/or birds.

