



# Plants for a hardy, healthy landscape

Brightwater Natural Yard Care Series

February 17, 2018

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# Your yard Is all about you-



and the rest of the planet, too.



What inspires you?

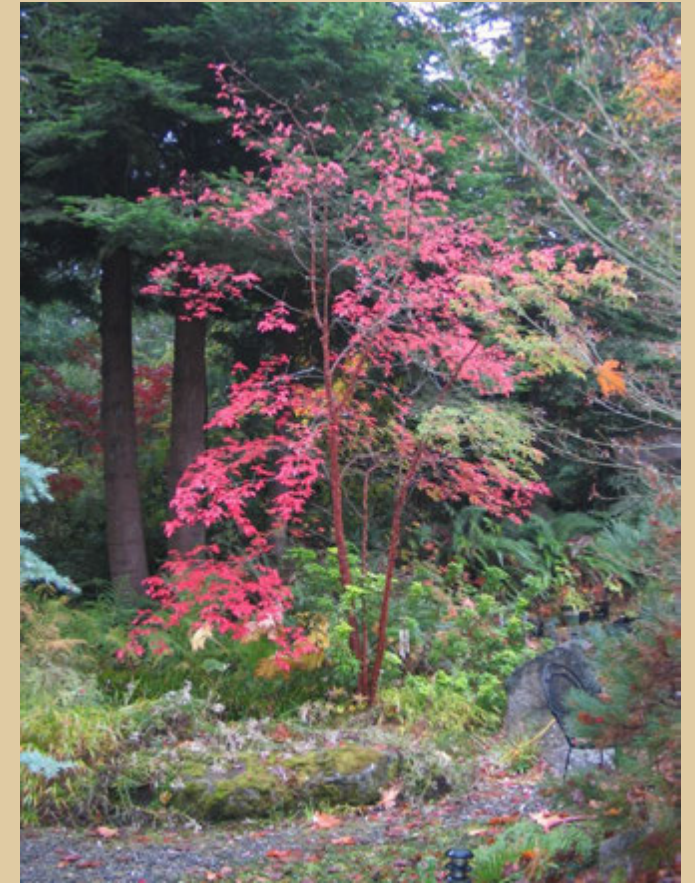




# Color



Many flowers  
provide color  
throughout the  
spring and  
summer



Leaves and fruits carry  
color into fall



# Fragrance



Pacific  
crabapple



Bee balm



Mock orange



Nootka rose and Oregon grape



# Food



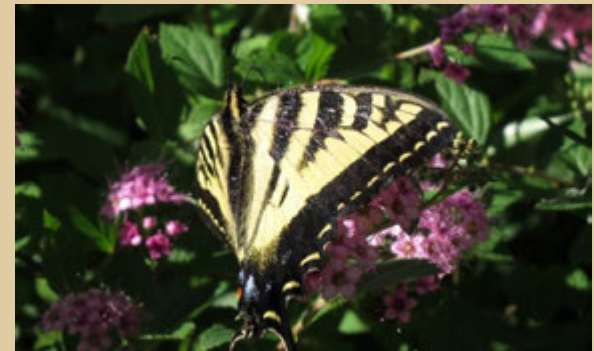
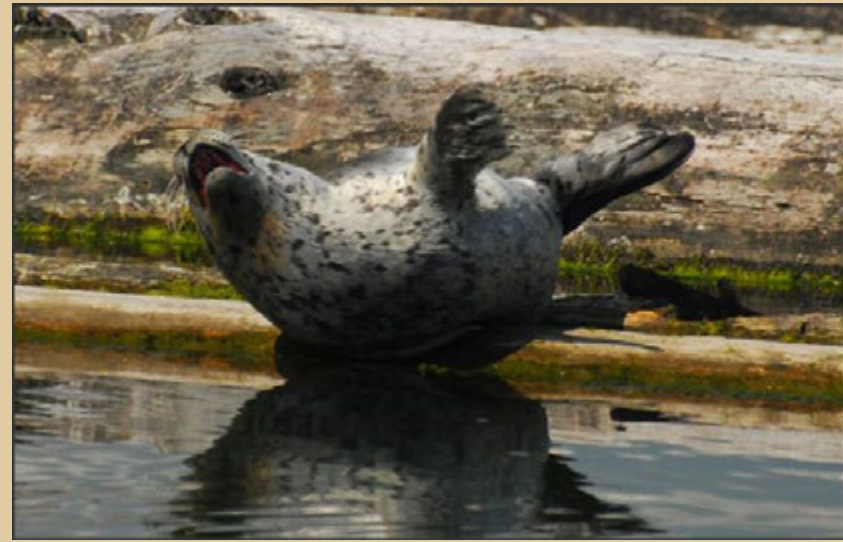


Celebrate or remember a loved one





# My neighbors





# First, assess your yard



- For me-drought tolerant, colorful, no need for pesticides, hosts wildlife





# Replace invaders



Holly, *left*, replaced with Oregon grape



# Think carefully about your plant choices

Rethink  
bamboo

“When you choose which plants to include in your garden, you're deciding if members of your community's local food web will be nourished or unintentionally starved.”



It's called “Lucifer” for  
a reason....



[www.rodaliesorganiclife.com/garden/3-reasons-never-plant-butterfly-bush-again](http://www.rodaliesorganiclife.com/garden/3-reasons-never-plant-butterfly-bush-again)



# Jack and the beanstalk, or just right~



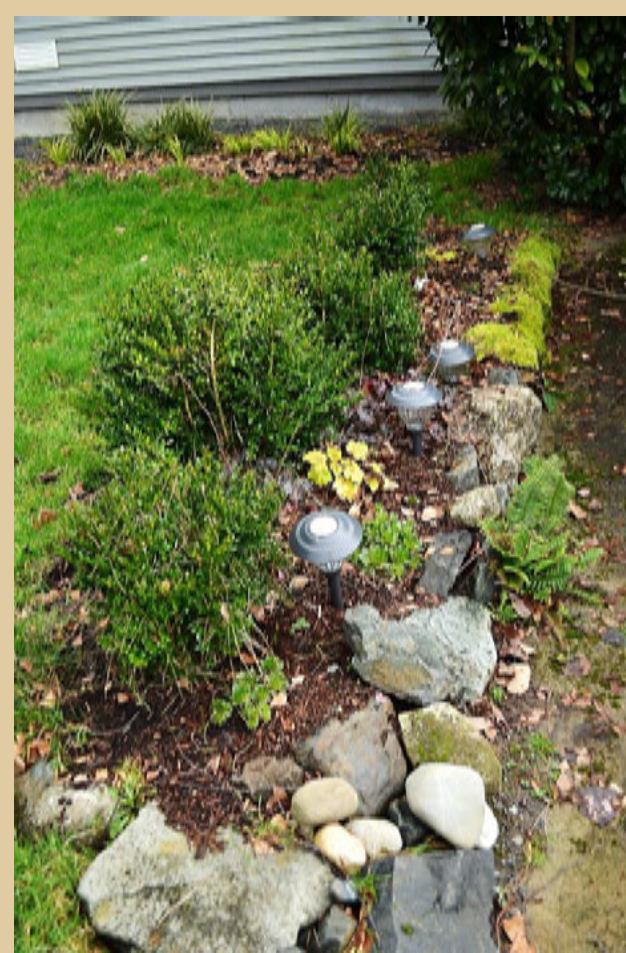
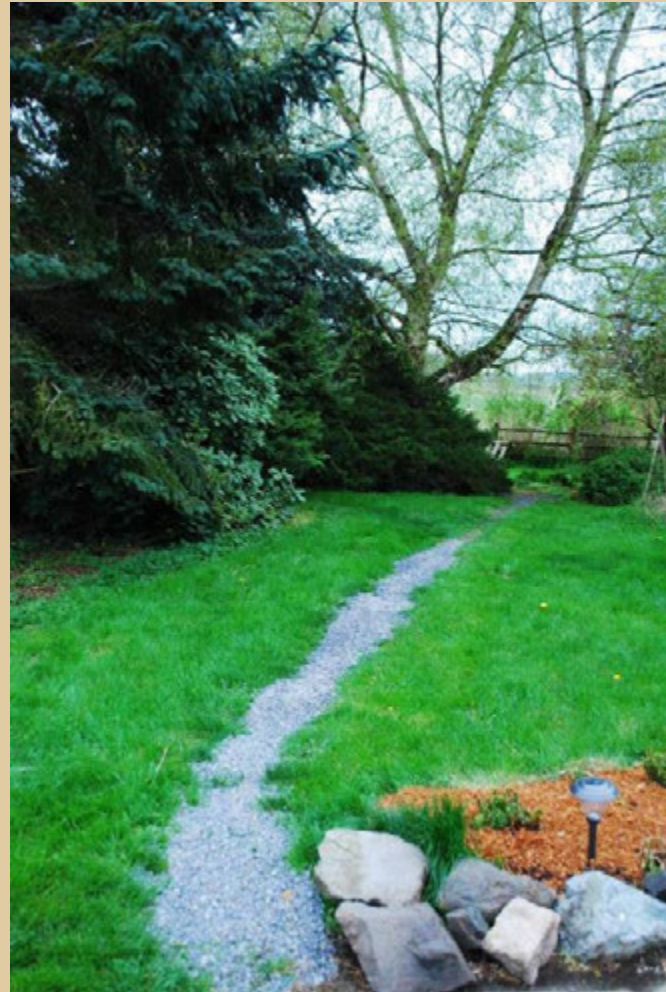
- Pay attention to:
  - Height
  - Width
  - Growth habit
  - Sun/moisture requirements
  - Temperature
  - Special requirements





# Plant your space wisely

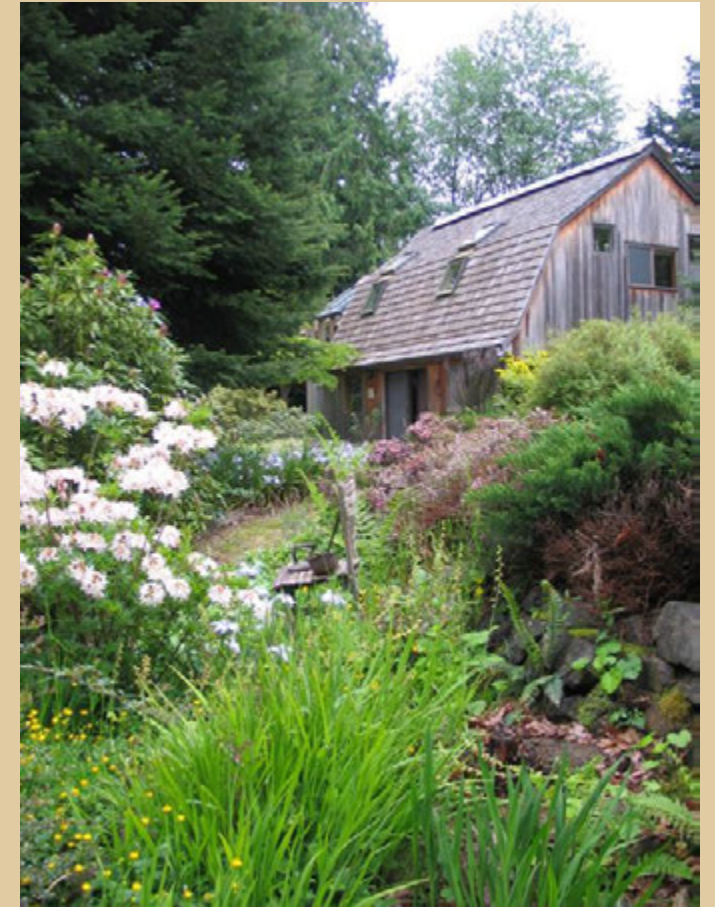
- Leave room for family and pets
- Establish paths through the landscape
- Leave room around the house
- Use nooks and crannies







# Mixing texture



- Evergreen and deciduous
- Open branching or dense
- Fine and broad leaves



# Design in layers

- Ground covers, herbs, small shrubs, large shrubs and trees
- Put pots at different levels, and have small/large pots





# Design- create a wave effect



- Low-growing plants on the edges of trees and hedgerows provide food, shelter, and safe travel for critters
- Curving lines and low plants in the foreground creates an illusion of space







# Different garden types



# Woodland Gardens





# Shade tolerant





# Mid-height shade-loving plants

- Goatsbeard-hummer flower!
- Red huckleberry-likes woody soil, berries for birds





# Plants for the edge





# Part shade to sun- Evergreen huckleberry

- Spiders, other insects for birds
- Nectar for hummers and bees
- Berries for birds
- Slow growing, for formal landscape; red-bronze new foliage







**Hummingbird  
gardens**



# Hummingbird flowers



*Did you know?*

Anna's hummingbirds  
now overwinter in our  
area.







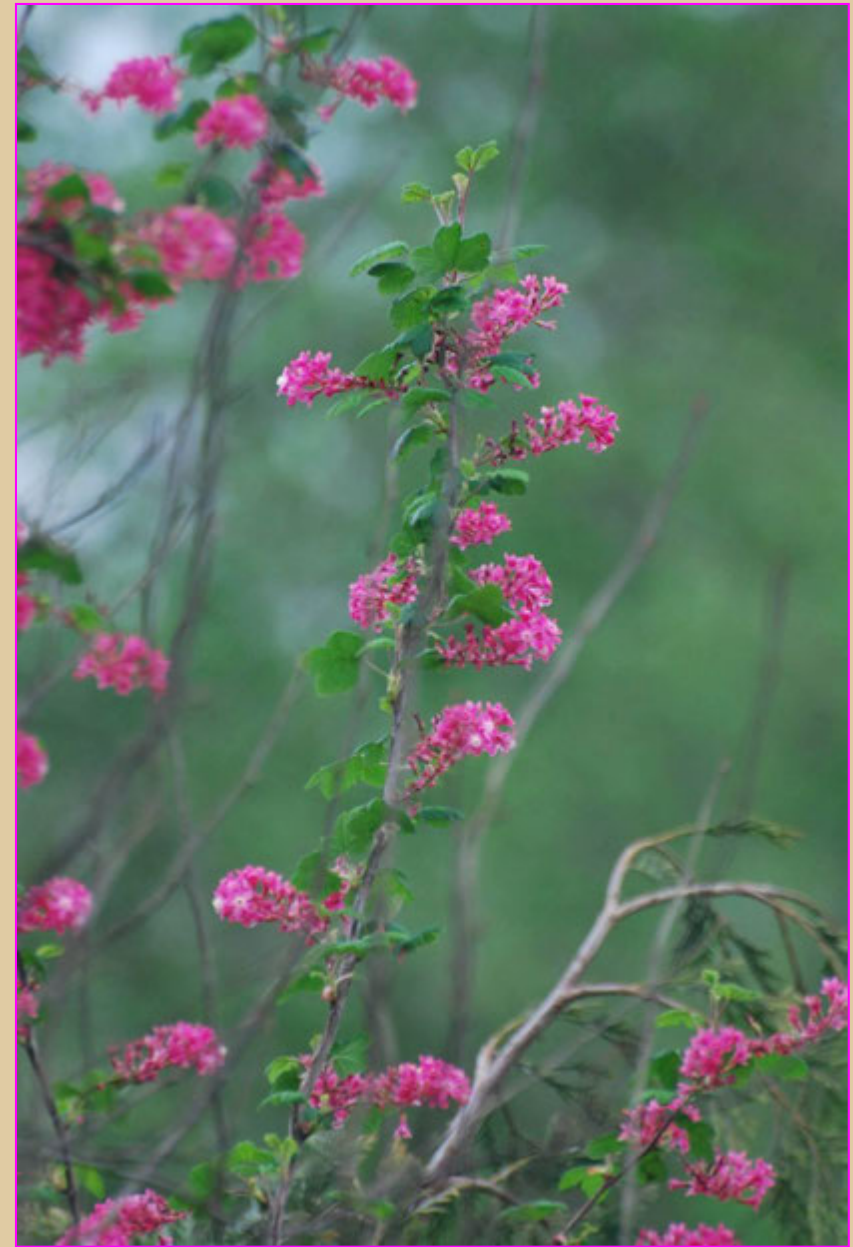


# Currants



Golden currant

Hummingbird plants in  
flower, berries for cedar  
waxwings.

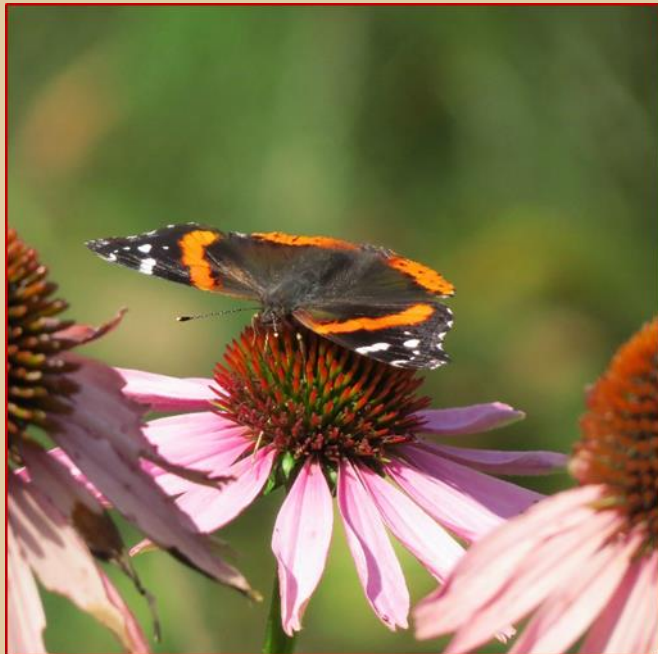


Red flowering currant



# Be a good butterfly host

Host plants- the most overlooked part of the butterfly life cycle



Red Admiral







**Coneflower**

**Wild strawberry**



**Asters**



**Strawberry  
cultivar**



**Bitter cherry**



# Food and water for butterflies





# Saving your litter – and your butterflies



Leave dead  
foliage

Chop up or mulch  
fallen leaves

Create a brush  
pile far away  
from structures



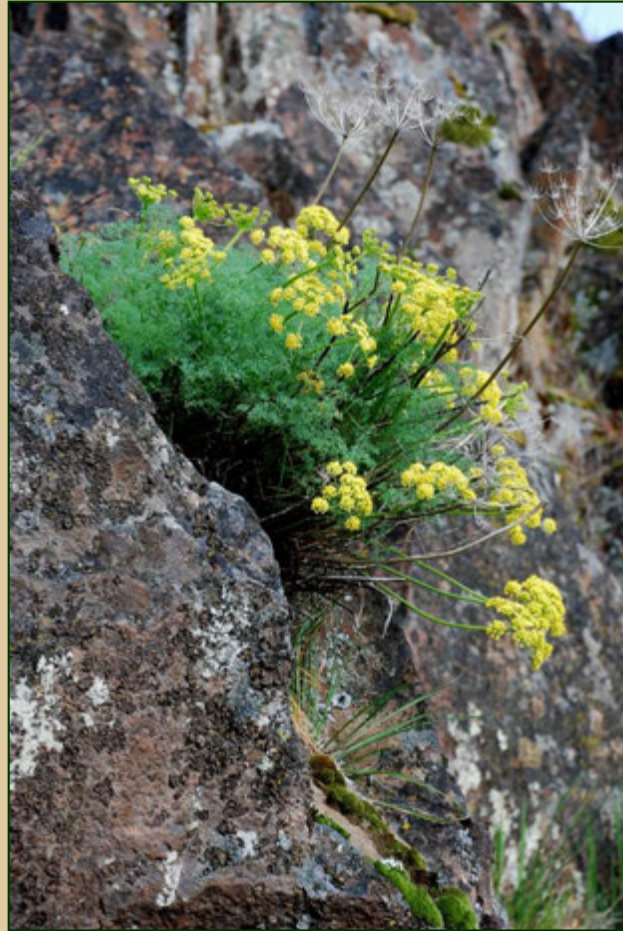


# Gimme Shelter

- Woodpiles
- Rockeries
- Brush piles
- Mulch



*Wood and branches layered*



*Rock wall with a host plant*

Butterflies need safe places to warm up – on rocks or concrete, or in the sun.

They need shelter when it's too hot, cold, rainy or windy.



# The bee's knees









# Sunny Borders





# Hedgerow plants



<http://www.geograph.org.uk/>





# Oregon grape – shelter, nectar, and food







Pacific crabapple

Tall Oregon grape



Nootka rose\*





Cranberry



Serviceberry



Mock  
orange,  
rugosa rose



Oceanspray





# Shady hedgerows



- Red twig dogwood
- Ninebark
- Indian plum





## Climbers



Orange trumpet honeysuckle-  
nectar for hummingbirds



Twinberry - nectar flowers and  
berries for birds



**For pots and beds**



**Camas lily, Columbia lily, Checker lily**

**Lilies used by hummers, some by butterflies.**







Color all year long







Salmonberry- early



Wild lilac and spirea-  
late

Oregon grape- spring



Red flowering currant-  
early



# Later summer bloomers





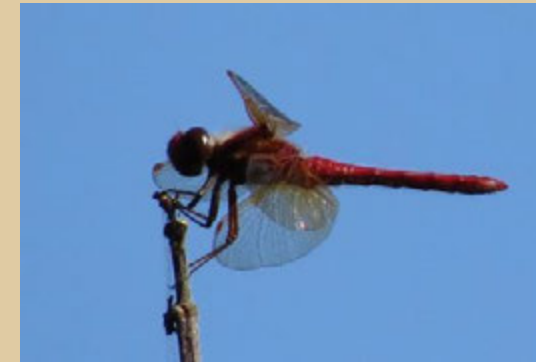
## Wetland plants



Skunk cabbage



Myrica gale




Bog rosemary, yellow-eyed grass, slough sedge, cattails, and bulrush are other attractive wet-loving plants.





# For the rain garden or by the downspout



Red osier dogwood,  
slough sedge,  
stream violet and  
Nootka rose





# Native deciduous trees

- Vine maple
- Rocky Mountain Maple (Douglas)
- Cascara
- Black Hawthorne
- Madrone, dogwood



Madrone (upper left),  
vine maple, Cascara,





# Evergreens

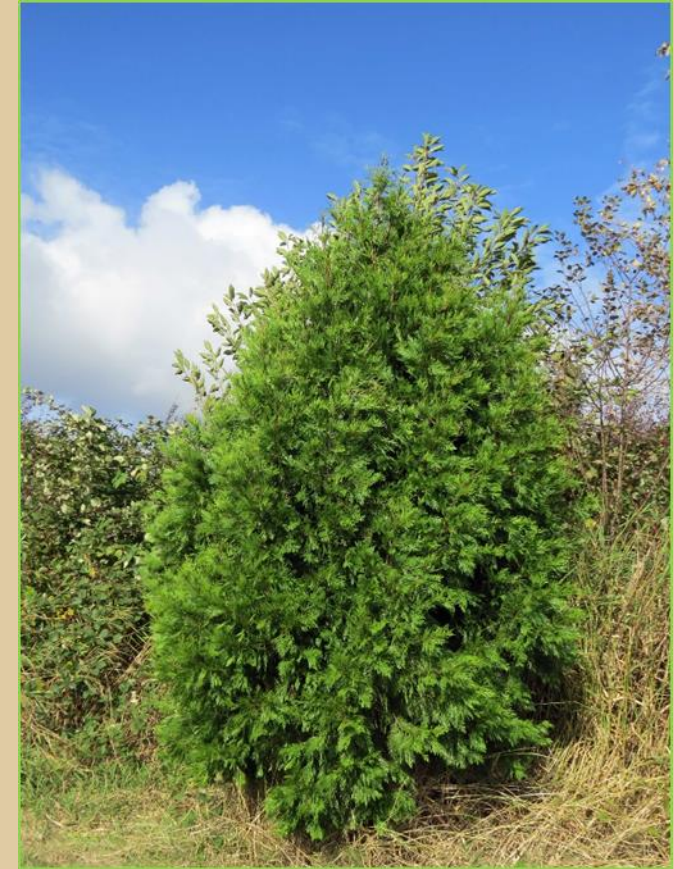
- Keep house cool in summer, warmer in winter
- Provide privacy, reduce glare
- Provide food, shelter for wildlife





# Evergreen trees for yards

- Incense cedar
- Shore Pine
- Port Orford cedar
- Mountain hemlock
- Subalpine fir
- Noble fir
- Dwarf evergreens



Incense cedar





# Plants for the back 40

- Aspen, birch, willow, bigleaf maple, cottonwood- all great plants- but not around the house!

A photograph of a red elderberry bush with green leaves and clusters of bright red berries.

Red elderberry

A photograph of Scouler's willow with green leaves and clusters of small, pale yellow flowers.

Scouler's willow



Bitter cherry



# Your yard- not a site for chemical warfare

- Outsmart pests
- Use only where the option is less sustainable
- Use pesticides properly
- Avoid use near waterways, storm drains





**Thank you so much!**

