Northern Flicker
*(Colaptes auratus)*

Unlike other woodpeckers, Northern flickers are often found on the ground, where they prefer to find food, or perching upright on branches in trees. However, they are cavity nesters, like other woodpeckers.

These birds eat mostly ants and beetles, but they do eat fruits and seeds, especially in the winter.

They like open habitats near trees, including woodlands, edges, yards, and parks.
Pacific Dogwood

Pacific dogwood is a multi-branched, irregular tree able to grow up to 66 feet. It blooms with attractive large-white bracts that look like flowers. These appear in the spring and often again in the fall. The fruit looks like a small, orange-red button; it ripens in September through October.

This tree provides both food and shelter for birds, such as nuthatches, grosbeaks, woodpeckers, waxwings, chickadees, jays, warblers, vireos, wrens, and thrushes.

Unfortunately, Pacific dogwood is susceptible to Dogwood anthracnose, a nonnative fungal disease, which has restricted its use as an ornamental. Roots should be protected from disturbance or trampling. It has low tolerance to frost, but high tolerance to flooding and prefers moist, nutrient poor, but well-drained soils. It thrives in moderate shade and is usually found along woodland edges.

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Photo by Donna Franklin, Washington Native Plant Society