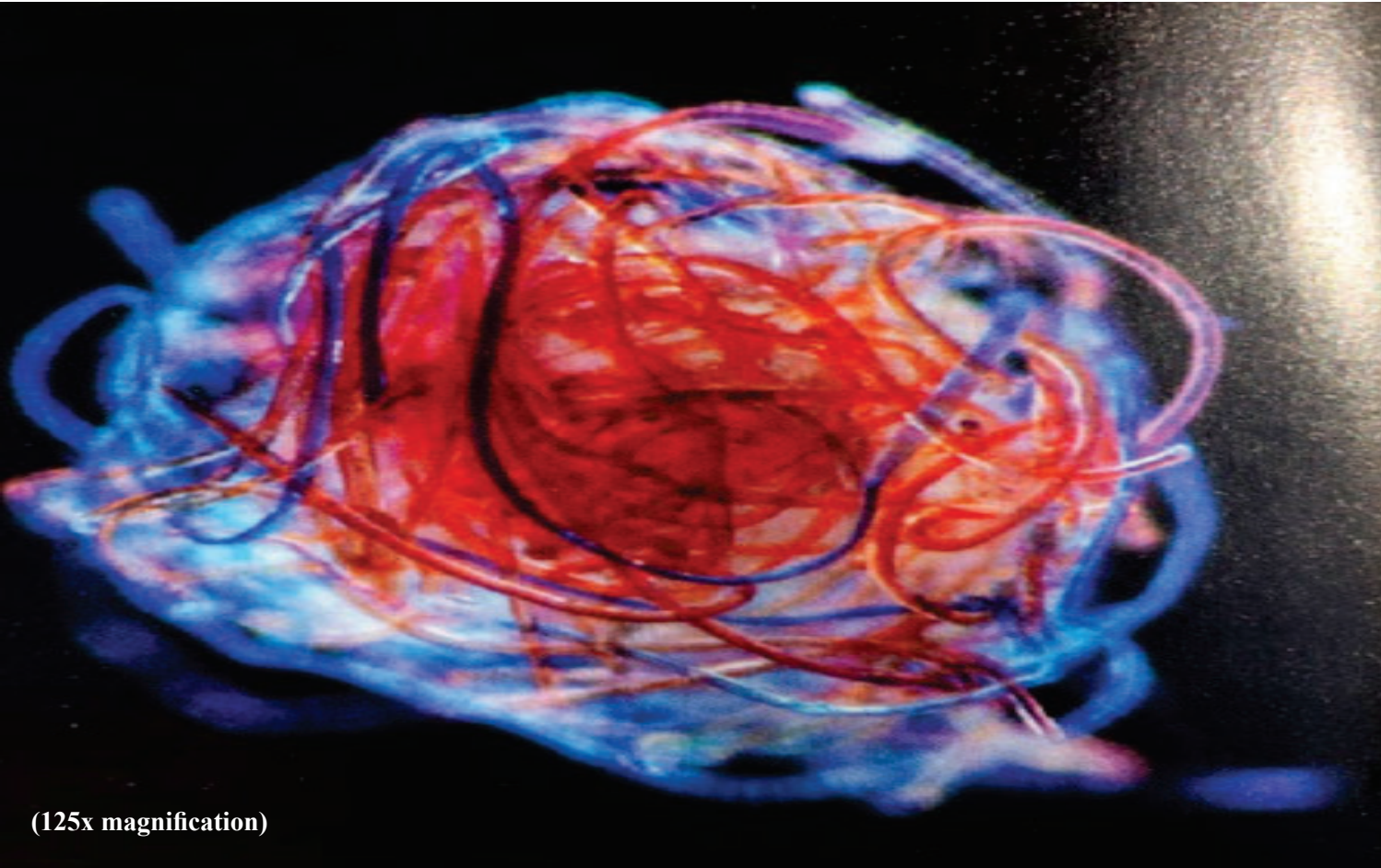


AN EXTINCTION EVENT?

Plastics

Mass use of plastics began after 1950. Look in any grocery store. Plastic's chemical structure makes degrading slow with some bottles lasting a million years; 9% are recycled and 12% incinerated. Much of the rest finds its way into rivers and is taken down to the sea where it breaks down into small microbeads (see below), structures that trap toxins. Small sea life eats these structures as food and the bottom of the food chain starves to death. Ninety percent of sea life today contains plastic debris. Ocean plastic is taken by the currents and accumulates in large vortexes known as ocean gyres. The majority of the gyres become pollution dumps, the Pacific Ocean's southern gyre being the size of Texas. This is a problem not created by our ancestors.



(125x magnification)

Ethnobotanical Gardens

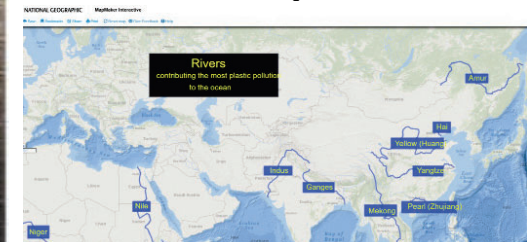
Native plant "starts" from Bonhoeffer Gardens (to your SW, by the I-5) illustrate 99 foods and materials available to the American peoples who lived here 10,000 years without the need to develop agriculture. Planter boxes contain:

American Dunesage (42) Baldpate Rose (78) Beach Strawberry (12) Bitter Cherry (66) Bitter Root (41) Black Crowberry (30) Blackcap Raspberry (88) Blue Elderberry (86) Bracken Fern (69) Bristle Prickle Pear (52) Broad-Leaved Shooting Star (28) Buffalo Berry (90) Cactus (71) Cattail (95) Chokeberry (67) Clarkia (40) Coastal Black Gooseberry (74) Common Juniper (38) Cow Parsnip (36) Douglas Fir (68) Douglas Hawthorn (27) Englemann Spruce (58) Evergreen Huckleberry (96) False Lily of the Valley (47) Garden's Yampah (56) Giant Yucca (97) Golden Currant (72) Great Cane (19) Hairy Mannula (12) Harsh Indian Panicle (21) Highbank Cranberry (88) Indian Celery (45) Indian Thistle (23) Kinschick (113) Lady Pine (41) Lewis' Mock Orange (17) Lichen (46) Luscious Fern (62) Low Oregon Grape (17) Madonia (11) Sandia Rose (79) Oregon Bulrush (53) Oregon White Star (76) Quail (54) Pacific Crabapple (9) Pacific Haulm (26) Pacific New (52) Paper Birch (18) Parry Everlasting (95) Pioneer Gooseberry (74) Puncture (62) Ponderosa Pine (61) Quaking Aspen (65) Red Alder (71) Red Elderberry (87) Red Flowering Currant (77) Red Huckleberry (97) Red Rose (122) Red-Outer Dogwood (25) Salal (35) Salmsberry (82) Saskatoon Serviceberry (88) Scouring Rush (21) Shore Pine (66) Siberian Springbush (24) Silks Spruce (59) Small Cedar (20) Snowberry (91) Soft Rush (17) Spreading Snowberry (89) Swamp Currant (72) Sweet Birch (65) Tall Oregon Grape (63) Thimbleberry (83) Tuckermore (83) Yew (88) Yewflower (43) Yucca Leaf (51) Yucca Maple (51) Yucca Currant (72) Western Columbine (18) Western Dock (84) Western Huckleberry (94) Western Honeysuckle (16) Western Larch (39) Western Madonhai (84) Western Red Cedar (93)

The Farm Museum and Garden's goal is to provide Washington State public school students a visual, non-text, introduction to NW History. Local Legends are stories our ancestors told (to us), their grandchildren, who are now 75 years of age. "History" (as compared to "lies perpetrated on the dead") is taken from Wikipedia under the Creative Commons Attribution Share-Alike Agreements until PLC can develop its unique limited prose. These efforts are now underway with assistance of local school districts and the Stillaguamish Tribe. Plant prose, QR Code Links, and photos are taken from: www.usda.gov (attribution: U.S. Dept. of Agriculture), Wikipedia, and the UoW's www.biology.burke.washington.edu/herbarium website under educational uses. URL Links provided by: USDA, NRCS; the PLANTS Database (<http://plants.usda.gov>) National Plant Data Center, Baton Rouge, LA 70874-4490 USA. Visitors enter under the Revised Codes of the State of Washington - RCW 4.24.200 & 4.24.210 allowing public recreational use, including nature study and viewing or enjoying scenic or scientific sites/waterways on private land. Museum and gardens are proposed uses that still require Snohomish County Planning approvals. At present buildings serve as auxiliary storage units for PLC's native plants, gardening equipment, and Christmas decorations.

Legends & Lessons

In the Summer of 2019, the U of W's Rachel Carson reported finding small plastic "microbeads" at all 53 monitoring sites within Puget Sound. 8 million tons enter the ocean each year. That said, the 10 rivers contributing 95% of river-based microbead and other pollution are the:



None of these rivers are in the Americas or Europe. This is an international problem (as are all 5 other extinction challenges). People can disagree on anything and everything, but destroying one's own nest should not be debatable. Chief Seattle said it long ago, "you treat the Earth as if it were your enemy." The solution is so simple. Stop dumping!

