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CURRENT AFFAIRS

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Ready to transform your Himalayan Blackberry patch? Red-flowering currant (*Ribes sanguineum*) can help. This ornamental shrub is hardy, drought-tolerant, and is often used to restore native vegetation on disturbed soil after blackberry or other invasive plants have been removed.

November is a great time to plant red-flowering currant. New roots can establish themselves over the winter while the ground is moist. In early spring, the showy pink flowers provide nectar for hummingbirds, bees, and butterflies.

Birds and other wildlife love to eat the dark purple berries. You may find that you do, too. Try drying the berries to make “currant raisins,” or make them into jams, pies, or syrup—a lovely transformation indeed!

For more information about restoring native vegetation,
get in touch with your Stewardship Team at stewardship@sjpt.org.