

# The evergreen coast

An ode to the Northwest's year-round greenery

BY REBECCA LEXA

Here in the Pacific Northwest, we're fortunate to be surrounded year-round by lush greenery. While our deciduous trees – like red alder and bigleaf maple – slumber with bare branches, many species of evergreens stand tall, keeping color in forests and fields even through the coldest of months. Some evergreen conifer trees have pine needles, while others feature broad leaves, similar to their deciduous relatives.

Leaves are structures that allow plants to convert sunlight into energy through photosynthesis, and as they wear out they must be replaced. Each fall, deciduous trees shed their leaves to help conserve water and other valuable resources during the winter

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LEFT: Haircap moss. RIGHT: Liverworts are seen on the coast.

## The Illahee Apartments



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Photos by Rebecca Lexa