



Where to spot the camas plant (*Camassia quamash*) in Washington County, Oregon.

Camas (*Camassia quamash*) is a native plant that grows in moist meadows, emerging in early spring. Camas grows to a height of 12 to 50 inches, varying in color from pale lilac or white to deep purple or blue-violet. In addition to its beauty, the camas plant was an essential food source for the Atfalati band of the Kalapuya Indians, the first people to live in Washington County. The camas bulb, rich in carbohydrates that convert to usable fructose when cooked, was harvested annually during the Kalapuya's seasonal round of hunting and gathering.

Starting in April and continuing through mid to late May, camas will appear in open fields, hillsides and areas of recent restoration. Camas likes to keep its toes wet, so keep your eyes open near streams and wetlands. You may be lucky enough to spot a bit!

Below are a few locations in the county where camas is known to grow.

Beaverton- Camille Park (near Washington Square Mall)

What we know: Small fields of camas grow in several areas around the park.

Address: 10299 SW Marjorie Ln, Beaverton, OR 97008

Website: www.thprd.org/parks-and-trails/detail/camille-park

Beaverton - Cooper Mountain Nature Park

What we know: THPRD reports that camas grows sporadically.

Address: 18892 SW Kemmer Rd, Beaverton, OR 97007

Website: www.thprd.org/parks-and-trails/detail/cooper-mountain-nature-park

Beaverton- Lowami Hart Woods Park

What we know: A small patch appears in a wet area near the south end of the Madrone Trail.

Address: 14895 SW Hart Rd., Beaverton, OR 97007

Website: www.thprd.org/parks-and-trails/detail/lowami-hart-woods-natural-area

Hillsboro - Jackson Bottom Wetland Preserve

What we know: Check in with a center guide at the Nature Center for help, but it can be seen on the trail to Vic's Grove and the Riparian trail along the Tualatin River.

Address: 2600 SW Hillsboro Hwy, Hillsboro, OR 97123

Website: www.jacksonbottom.org/

Sherwood- Tualatin River National Wildlife Refuge (on 99W)

What we know: In the bioswale of their parking lot, a few have been planted.

Address: 19255 SW Pacific Hwy, Sherwood, OR 97140

Website: www.fws.gov/refuge/Tualatin_River/



**Do you know of other
locations not listed here?**

Please email us at :

education@washingtoncountymuseum.org
so we can grow our list of camas
locations in Washington County.
Enjoy the beauty of the season!