

## Culture of Natural Preservation

Although the colonial period of Whidbey and Camano Islands' history is marked with heavy logging, there is a staunch spirit of environmental activism among modern islanders that goes way back. So many of the public lands now held most dear to residents and visitors were saved from clear cutting and development plans; at times while facing down extraordinary odds. Some of the oldest known trees have been saved from destruction by citizen-led campaigns. Generous residents continue to donate land for protection and stewardship to the Whidbey Camano Land Trust, which has also secured over \$80 million in grants to



**TOP:** Saratoga Woods, owned and managed by Island County, with a conservation easement held by the Land Trust. This property was protected by the community.

**BOTTOM:** Thanks to the efforts of Friends of Camano Island Parks, Island County acquired the property that became English Boom Historical Park in 1997.

# Whidbey & Camano Islands

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There is a deep-rooted love of nature and public access on Whidbey and Camano Islands.

purchase important lands. This is a proactive community, with both islands supporting an astonishing number of environmental groups and volunteer stewardship efforts. The hard work of some of these groups has been felt statewide, with legal precedents being applied to other regions in Washington. Local island efforts have even benefitted some international environmental protection campaigns.



Photo: Whidbey Camano Land Trust

## Get involved.

Visit the Embrace Whidbey and Camano Islands website to learn more about how to connect with the non-profit organizations helping to preserve the natural character of the islands.

**[whidbeycamanoislands.com/preservation](http://whidbeycamanoislands.com/preservation)**