Horses are poisoned by eating this plant. Sheep and cattle may be in some danger from eating it.

44 Common Name: INCENSE-CEDAR

Scientific Name: Calocedrus decurrens (Greek, calo means beautiful and kidros means cedar.)

Also Called: California post cedar

Glenn Otto Park 45 32 224 N 122 22 683 W

Height: Up to 130 feet.

Although this is a fast growing tree, it can live for 500 years.

A pyramid-shaped tree.

The thick green foliage is produced even in drier areas. When crushed, this foliage has a pungent, spicy odor.

Its small white flowers are in an umbrella-shaped cluster.

The cones resemble an urn or duckbill.

This tree is a fine ornamental.

Range: Baja California to lower southeast slope of Mt Hood in Oregon, eastward to central Oregon and western Nevada.

Its wood is resistant to fungal attack and therefore is often used in contact with soil. Although this is not a true cedar, it is the one used most often to make cedar chests. When the supply of Eastern red cedar ran short, Incense-cedar made up almost the entire supply of pencil wood in the US.



The Cahuill Indians of southern California used the bark for temporary shelters, and the wood for permanent dwellings. Boughs were used as brooms. The Washo Indians, near lake Tahoe, used the limbs for bows. The Klamath Indians in Oregon used branches and twigs to create the steam of sweat baths. The Paiute inhaled leaf steam for a cold remedy. Acorn meal was flavored by the leaflets.

The Incense-cedar is valuable to wildlife for winter shelter, cover from predators, and nesting. In the older trees, the deeply furrowed bark makes good habitat for bats and Brown creepers.

Dry pocket rot affects the quality of the wood.

45 Common Name: INDIAN PLUM

Scientific Name: Oemleria cerasiformis (Cerasiformis means cherry-shaped)

Also Called: Oso berry

Beaver Creek Trail
Columbia Park
Glenn Otto Park 45 32 206 N
122 22 737 W

Helen Althaus Park 45 32.269 N

122 23.391 W

This light green deciduous shrub grows up to 20 feet tall.

The leaves are oblong. Its young leaves taste like cucumbers.

The flowers are whitish green and are among the first to bloom in the spring.

The red-purple fruit, the shape of a cherry, is called a drupe. They are up to half an inch long, and although edible, are bitter and astringent (puckery)

The twigs have a pith with chambers in it running through the middle.

Site: Moist, well-drained sites in the sun or shade.

Range: From British Columbia to California west of the Cascade Mountains in lowland, wetland forests.

Although the fruit is not much good for animals or birds, the birds often eat it before it gets ripe spreading the seeds abroad.

46 Common Name INSIDE-OUT FLOWER

Scientific Name: Vancouveria hexandra (Named for Capt. George Vancouver, 1757-1798, early British explorer in the Pacific Northwest)

Also Called: White inside-out-flower



This is a perennial herb.

The leaves are three-lobed, the leaf groups are once or twice divided into three's.

Has white flowers in a panicle which nod in the open. The flowers look as if they have been turned inside out.

Site: Grows mostly under thick shrubbery or in the shady woods as here.





Range: From the south Puget Trough to northeast California west of the Cascade Mountains.