

Philadelphus lewisii

Salish: Waxélp, Mock Orange, Syringa, Indian Arrowwood

H: 4'-12'

W: 3'-9'

Light: Full Sun-Part Shade

Water: Dry to moist

Temperature: -30F

Foliage: bright green deciduous, golden in fall

Flower: White

Native Range: Western North America, including Spokane

Description: State flower of Idaho. Its Native range extends along the coast from British Columbia to California, inland as far as Montana. In Spokane County *P. lewisii* can be found growing along the river, as well as in Camp Sekani Park where especially beautiful specimens grow on rocky bluffs in full sun. Once established, these shrubs thrive with only natural precipitation. *P. lewisii* prefers sandy and loamy soils, but will take pretty much anything without complaining.

P. lewisii has dark green leaves that are kind of shaped like crispy taco shells. The bark is grayish brown and exfoliates, adding a bit of textural interest. In summer, this plant is covered with dense clusters of pure white, orange scented flowers. Its blooms are an important nectar source for native pollinators.

More Information:

[Washington Native Plant Society](#)

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