

# Downtown Camas Association Car Show - Event Summary

July 7, 2023



## Event overview

The Camas Car Show is hosted in late June every year, drawing hundreds of people to downtown Camas from across Clark County. The DCA and the Mill Cleanup Community Advisory Group (CAG) identified the car show as an opportunity to connect with different audiences around Camas and Washougal than might have attended the Plant Fair, Camas Days, Wheels & Wings, and the Farmers Market. CAG members and consultant team members staffed a booth with visuals, rack cards, and comment cards.



*CAG member Steve Young speaks with community members at the June 24, 2023, Camas Car Show*

**Date:** June 24, 2023  
**Time:** 2 p.m. – 7 p.m.  
**Location:** In person, downtown Camas

## Participation and staffing

CAG members April Berlin, Steve Young, and Mark Nickerson participated. Alan Hughes, Principal Geologist, and Abbi Russell, Senior Communications Specialist, participated from Maul Foster & Alongi, Inc. (MFA).

CAG and MFA members worked in shifts, so there were always at least two people with diverse knowledge of the site and Washington Department of Ecology's cleanup process staffing the booth and talking with community members.

The DCA presented a new display at this event: a general conceptual site model, intended to help inform community members about what classes of chemicals the remedial investigation will look for and how chemicals may have entered or moved in the environment.

## Community questions and interests

CAG members and MFA staff responded to questions and received a variety of input from booth visitors. A summary of common questions and comments is captured in the table below. The questions and comments are similar to those heard during past events.

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Community questions and interests
Status of operations at the mill property
Importance of mill property to the future of Camas
Assumptions that the site is highly contaminated
Status of GP-owned property north of the mill, which had structures that were recently demolished
How long will the cleanup take?
Is this a Superfund site?
Can GP keep operations going or sell the property to avoid cleaning it up?

## Outcomes

An estimated 150 people directly interacted with CAG members and MFA staff at the booth during the car show. In total, 5,000 people were estimated to have attended the car show. The team collected 21 newsletter sign ups.

Interactions	Comment cards	Newsletter signups	Project web page data (June 24 – 30)
Approx. 150	None	21	68 unique visitors 5:49 average time on page

## Conclusion and next steps

CAG and MFA participants felt the event was successful in reaching community members in Camas and Washougal and other nearby communities. Interest in the outreach and process is strong, and questions and comments showed that the CAG is providing the kind of grassroots engagement and information people need.

CAG members and MFA staff provided information about the CAG, the Ecology process and timeline, and a future Remedial Investigation. They also continued to address misinformation about the mill, including assumptions that the mill is closing and that it is a federal Superfund site. There were a number of comments regarding the importance of the property to the Camas and Washougal communities, especially if it is ever sold, and interest in ensuring the site is cleaned up to the level needed for future uses to benefit the community.

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### Resources

Sign up for email updates and learn more at:

[www.downtowncamas.com/camaswamillinfo](http://www.downtowncamas.com/camaswamillinfo)

Email questions and comments to Caroline Mercury, DCA Past President:

[camaswamillinfo@downtowncamas.com](mailto:camaswamillinfo@downtowncamas.com)

Read and review the draft Remedial Investigation Work Plan:

<https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/gsp/Sitepage.aspx?%20csid=15156>