

VOL. 58, NO.3, SUMMER 2021

Bruce Trail

C O N S E R V A N C Y

MAGAZINE

Hotspots on the Bruce Trail:

Popular places and the
challenges they pose for
nature and people



Our Mission

Preserving a ribbon
of wilderness, for
everyone, forever.



Bruce Trail
CONSERVANCY

SUMMER 2021



FEATURES

- 6 Indigenous Land Acknowledgement
- 12 Your Bruce Trail Story: Finding Peace and Calm on the Trails
- 14 Responsible Hiking
- 18 Hotspots on the Bruce Trail: Popular places and the challenges they pose for nature and people
- 22 The #BruceTrail Effect: How Social Media Affects the Outdoors

DEPARTMENTS

- 5 CEO's Message
- 8 Conservation in Action: New Protected Areas
- 15 Kids Corner
- 24 Trail Changes
- 27 Our Donors
- 30 General Store

Bruce Trail Conservancy Magazine is available digitally.

To receive your magazine by email:

- Fill out the request form at brucetrail.org (News & Events > Bruce Trail Conservancy Magazine)
- Call 1-800-665-4453, or
- Email info@brucetrail.org



Cover photo:

The Grotto at Bruce Peninsula National Park (taken pre-pandemic; iStock.com/benedek)

BRUCE TRAIL CONSERVANCY

55 Head St., Unit 101, Dundas, ON L9H 3H8
Toll-Free: 1-800-665-4453 Tel: 905-529-6821
Email: info@bruce-trail.org Website: bruce-trail.org
Charitable Registration # 11921 7578 RR0001



Honorary President
Dr. Philip R. Gosling

Bruce Trail Founders
Raymond Lowes, Dr. Philip R. Gosling,
Dr. Norman Pearson, Dr. Robert McLaren

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Leah Myers (Chair)
Cynthia Archer
Stephanie Bird
Heidi Bischof
Marlis Butcher
John Dickason
Michael Edney
David Hass
Brian Johnston
Corrie Kellestine
Linda Kerec
Bruce King
Jaclyn Moody
Nicholas Schulz
Lori Shalhoub
Wendy Thompson
Bonni Titgemeyer
Michael Treuman
John Whitworth

STAFF

Executive Office
Michael McDonald (Chief Executive Officer)
Allison Wright

Fund Development
Marsha Russell (Vice President)
Heather Anderson
Claire Davidson
Gloria Vidovich

Communications and Engagement
Elizabeth Harrington (Director)
Brooke Henry
Laura Tuohy

Land Acquisition and Management
Antoin Diamond (Vice President)
Joel Swagerman

Conservation and Trail
Adam Brylowski (Manager)
Scott Langley
Mara McHaffie
Brian Popelier

Finance
Kevin Durfy (Director)
Donna Miljic

Organizational Resources
Jackie Randle (Director)
Meghan Croll
Ryan Mickeloff

Design and Production: Rossi Piedimonte Design Inc.

Bruce Trail Conservancy Magazine is published quarterly by the Bruce Trail Conservancy (BTC). Non-BTC related materials may not be the opinion of the BTC. Advertising herein does not imply the endorsement of the BTC. No part of this publication may be reproduced without written consent of the BTC. Canadian Publications Mail Agreement #40034698. © The Bruce Trail Conservancy 2021



Peninsula
Warton - Tobermory

Sydenham
Blantyre - Warton

Beaver Valley
Craigleith - Blantyre

Blue Mountains
Lavender - Craigleith

Dufferin Hi-Land
Mono Centre - Lavender

Caledon Hills
Cheltenham - Mono Centre

Toronto
Milton - Cheltenham

Iroquoia
Grimsby - Milton

Niagara
Queenston - Grimsby

Produced by the Bruce Trail Conservancy © 2018.
Queen's Printer for Ontario © 2018.
Cartography: Scott Langley

Chief Executive Officer's Message



The Bruce Trail Conservancy has been responsibly connecting people to nature and working towards protecting precious Niagara Escarpment lands for over 55 years.

This philosophy of finding a healthy balance between nature and human activity is not an original idea. Indigenous communities and peoples have been practicing this approach for thousands of years. This past year, we partnered with Plenty Canada to help us craft a land acknowledgment statement that honours and respects the past, present, and future Indigenous contributions in stewarding Niagara Escarpment lands. I invite you to read and reflect on this acknowledgment statement, and the commitments behind it, on page 7. This is one small step in a long journey the Bruce Trail Conservancy is taking to strengthen our relationships with Indigenous communities.

Our work to find balance between responsible recreation and ecosystem protection has been particularly important in recent years with the significant growth in trail use we've witnessed. As more people seek the physical and mental benefits of walking in nature, some areas of the Niagara Escarpment have become hotspots of use, seeing more human-caused impact than the environment can sustain. The Bruce Trail Conservancy has an important role to play in addressing the creation of these hotspots and their impact on nature and people. In this issue, we take a look at this challenging issue and offer some suggestions on how we can all adopt and encourage responsible hiking, on and off the Trail.

You may have noticed that we have updated the name of this magazine: from *Bruce Trail Magazine* to *Bruce Trail Conservancy Magazine*. It's a subtle but important change, and also reflects the balance we aspire to. Our conservation heritage is as rich as our hiking traditions, and the new title is the perfect blend of

what the magazine truly delivers – stories on our conservation successes and land management work and lots of information on how to explore nature's wonders through our 1,300 km of trails.

Lastly, I want to thank our entire community for helping us to make Bruce Trail conservation history together. Thanks to your incredible support and generous contributions, we have successfully raised the funds to protect and steward 533 acres at Cape Chin – the largest solo acquisition in our organization's history. What a tremendous outcome for the many species that thrive in the varied habitats of this new nature reserve. This represents an incredible gift to future generations, and one that you will be able to explore via 1.8km of new Bruce Trail in the next few months.

Thanks to each of you for your membership, volunteerism, and donations, and for your commitment to our mission. I wish you a peaceful, joyful and safe summer hiking season. •

Red-winged Blackbird



Photo: Michael McDonald

Indigenous



Photo: Terry A. McDonald - www.luxoboreal.com

Land Acknowledgement

The Bruce Trail Conservancy has crafted a land acknowledgement statement as an important early step towards reconciliation and developing stronger relationships with Indigenous peoples of the Niagara Escarpment.

The Bruce Trail Conservancy wishes to acknowledge and honour the lands of the Niagara Escarpment as the traditional territory of Indigenous peoples. In both spirit and partnership, we recognize and thank the Anishinaabek, Huron-Wendat, Tionontati, Attawandaron, Haudenosaunee, Métis, and all who provided stewardship of these lands over millennia.

Recognition of the contributions of Indigenous peoples is consistent with our commitment to making the promise of Truth and Reconciliation real in our communities. We are grateful for the opportunity to live, work, and play here and thank all those who have served and continue to serve as caretakers of this special place.

We are also mindful of broken covenants and the need to reconcile with all our allies and relations. Together, may we care for this land and each other, drawing upon the strength of our mutual history through peace and friendship, to create a lasting legacy of conservation for generations to come.

Thank you to our partners, Plenty Canada, for helping to craft the Bruce Trail Conservancy (BTC) Indigenous Land Acknowledgement Statement. Their partnership provided insight and knowledge to help guide the BTC in creating a meaningful statement to acknowledge the land upon which the Bruce Trail is located.

This statement will be used at the start of BTC and Bruce Trail Club events and gatherings as an opportunity for reflection and recognition.

The BTC understands that land acknowledgment alone is not enough. It is an important starting point. With this statement comes a responsibility to demonstrate the inclusion of Indigenous perspectives through action.

The BTC, its staff and volunteers are on a journey of continuous learning. We are beginning with staff education and training, such as participation in the KAIROS Blanket Exercise. We strive to approach this journey with humility and openness.

The BTC remains committed to seeking, honoring and incorporating Indigenous voices and Indigenous land-based knowledge and experience in our work. We are committed to partnering with Indigenous nations, communities and peoples to advance reconciliation through our work.

To this end, the BTC will be developing action plans in support of these commitments. Directions will continue to evolve as the BTC learns more from Indigenous partners. We look forward to sharing our progress in future issues of Bruce Trail Conservancy Magazine, our Annual Report, and on our website.



Plenty Canada is a registered non-profit organization that facilitates access to and shares resources with Indigenous peoples and other community groups around the world in support of their environmental protection and sustainable development goals.

The Niagara Escarpment Gchi-Bimadinaa

(The Great Cliff That Runs Along – Anishinaabe)

Kastenhraktátýe

(Along The Cliffs – Kanyen'kehá:ka / Mohawk)

Conservation in Action: New Protected Areas

Together we've made Bruce Trail conservation history!

Thanks to outstanding support from our donor community, the Bruce Trail Conservancy has created three new protected natural areas in recent months, including our largest ever solo acquisition – MapleCross Nature Reserve at Cape Chin.

MapleCross Nature Reserve at Cape Chin – Peninsula section

Map 39, near km 105.9

533 acres

1.8 km of Bruce Trail Optimum Route

No Trail currently on property. No public access.

Our Bruce Trail Conservancy donors have made it possible to protect one of the last remaining large tracts of land on the Bruce Peninsula and secure 1.8 km of the Bruce Trail's Optimum Route. MapleCross Nature Reserve at Cape Chin is a 533 acre conservation gem and a wonderful example of the important work our Bruce Trail Conservancy community makes possible.

Over 1,500 donors contributed \$4 million to ensure that MapleCross Nature Reserve at Cape Chin would be forever protected, restored, and made available to explore.

We're so grateful to our many long-standing supporters and new donors alike for their incredible generosity. A special thank you to those who provided early foundational funding and helped accelerate our fundraising efforts for this nature reserve, including several anonymous donors and MapleCross. Thank you all for sharing in our vision and supporting our mission to preserve a ribbon of wilderness, for everyone, forever.





Photo: Brian Popelier

ECOLOGY OF MAPLECROSS NATURE RESERVE AT CAPE CHIN

This Nature Reserve is one of the most spectacular properties the Bruce Trail Conservancy has had the chance to preserve. Cape Chin's impressive landscape boasts classic natural features of the Niagara Escarpment, rich habitats and rare species. Iconic cliffs support Eastern White Cedar and a unique cliffside ecosystem. Vital wetlands act as wildlife nurseries and water purifiers in the watershed. And large stretches of forest provide habitat for creatures who depend on uninterrupted habitat for survival.

STEWARDSHIP AND RESTORING CAPE CHIN

Maintaining the ecological health of this nature reserve will require careful stewarding and in some cases, active restoration. Plans are in place for:

- Extensive native tree plantings to increase interior forest habitat for wildlife.
- Rehabilitation of pasture lands with local native wildflower and grass species to increase habitat for pollinators and grass-nesting birds.
- Species at Risk inventory.
- Wetland monitoring, with specific attention to turtle populations.
- Removal and control of invasive species.

TRAIL AT MAPLECROSS NATURE RESERVE AT CAPE CHIN

Trail Development and Maintenance volunteers from our Peninsula Bruce Trail Club will be busy at Cape Chin soon. No trail is yet on the property. A decision regarding the large house on the property, and careful review by BTC Ecologists are needed first. When planning is complete, the Bruce Trail will be rerouted to lay lightly the land through Cape Chin, providing a fantastic hiking experience and connecting generations to come to this unique protected landscape. •



Photo: John Whitworth



Photo: Bill Caulfield-Browne



Photo: Michael McDonald

Conservation in Action: New Protected Areas

Silver Creek – Toronto section

*Halton Hills, Map 13**

105 acres

674 m of Bruce Trail Optimum Route

Former quarry lands will be given new life as the Bruce Trail Conservancy's newest protected area in Halton Hills – Silver Creek. This property preserves 105 acres at the top of the Silver Creek watershed, and connects the natural areas of Scotsdale Farm and Silver Creek Conservation Area.

The Silver Creek property sits within two Environmentally Sensitive Areas (ESAs): Waterfall Woods ESA and Snow Creek Woods ESA. BTC Ecologists anticipate the presence of several rare and at-risk species at Silver Creek including Butternut, Jefferson Salamander, and turtles.

A sand and gravel quarry operated on the site for many years, with operations ceasing in 2008. The land has started to naturalize, and there is significant opportunity to further restore habitat on the property, increase biodiversity, and safeguard endangered and rare species.



Silver Creek – Toronto section

Photo: Brian Popelier

Securing 674 m of Bruce Trail Optimum Route at Silver Creek also brings us closer to removing more than 1 km of Bruce Trail off a busy highway and will provide for the safe crossing of Trail users at the intersection of Highway 7 and Trafalgar Road. The Duff Pit Side Trail currently skirts the edge of the Silver Creek property.



Woolverton Ridge Nature Reserve – Iroquoia section

Photo: Brooks Henry

Woolverton Ridge Nature Reserve – Iroquoia section

Grimsby, Map 5

2.7 acres

65 m of Bruce Trail Optimum Route

No Trail currently on property. No public access.

This newest Nature Reserve in the Iroquoia section is a 2.7 acre forested slope overlooking Grimsby, east of Woolverton Road. Mature Sugar Maples form the woodland canopy while an intermittent stream at Woolverton Ridge provides seasonal habitat and contributes to water quality in the area.

Woolverton Ridge Nature Reserve secures 65 m of the Bruce Trail's Optimum Route, but no trail is currently on the property and no public access is yet permitted. Before trail is routed onto the property, the Bruce Trail Conservancy will need to acquire or be granted access to up to 30 adjacent properties along the ridge. The creation of this Nature Reserve represents an important step in removing the Bruce Trail from nearly 2.5 km of Ridge Road West and Woolverton Road.

* All map numbers and kilometre references from *The Bruce Trail Reference, Maps and Trail Guide, Edition 30*.



Hermit Thrush at Silver Creek

Photo: Brian Popelier



MapleCross Nature Reserve at Cape Chin – Peninsula section

Photo: Brian Popelizer

Finding Peace and Calm on the Trails

by Meagan Shanahan

In the summer of 2020, my partner and I purchased a home; we were part of the exodus of young families from Toronto to Hamilton. After 20 years in Toronto, we moved our two kids, our dog and all of our memories about 45 minutes southwest, transplanting our family and taking root in our first family home. Our son was 4 years old, and our daughter was 11 months.

Almost immediately after we moved, my older child started Junior Kindergarten. My partner was quickly set up and working from home. But me and my girl? We were not really needed anywhere right away. I was on maternity leave with a gorgeous fall season ahead of me, but it was a global pandemic, and I was in a new city where I knew very few people. I was a little bit lonely and very unsure of how to fill my days.

Getting outside and into nature has been an important aspect of how my partner and I parent our children. We place an emphasis on the incredible impact hiking, camping, and exploring our Earth can have on our mental health. We recognize the connection between health and nature, and we encourage our children and ourselves to explore that connection. I started taking my daughter out on walks and hikes every single day that the weather allowed me to. Immersing myself in forests and trails, alongside the trees, the rocks, the roots, and the animals, I was finding a sense of peace and calm in myself. Like so many others, I felt that my mental health had been dominated by anxieties and worries in recent months and those walks were a reprieve, a few hours of stillness.

I often found myself at the same trails and natural areas over and over again because, in a pandemic you do what you can to stay safe, and so you stay local. I brought my daughter to Conservation Areas and urban trails; areas that provide hiking and walking trails perfect for establishing a (re)connection to nature. The trails seemed to have an ability to infer what I was needing from them as I walked and walked with my baby girl in her stroller.

One of my favourite trails to explore during this time was the Chedoke Radial Recreation Trail. A stroller-friendly trail, it stretches ahead of you for what feels like forever. I would find myself walking 4, 5, sometimes 6 kilometres along this route – first along the municipal trail, then along the Bruce Trail, through the Iroquois Heights Side Trail and then back along the Bruce Trail. If my daughter fell asleep in her stroller, I would lose myself in the surroundings and feel the stress leave my shoulders as I walked my way towards Ancaster. If my daughter awoke during the walk, I would park her stroller and take her into the Iroquois Heights Side Trail for some exploration through the forest.

New motherhood can be isolating, lonely and filled with anxieties during the best of times. Adding a pandemic and a move to a new city into the mix had left me craving support that was not easily accessible. Support systems I had to lean on with my first child did not exist in the same way this time around. I had to find other ways of lessening anxiety, other ways of grounding myself, and I found that during my walks in my local areas. •

Submit your Bruce Trail Story

Our Bruce Trail community abounds with stories. ***We want to hear yours.*** Submit your story to us at any time online or by email and you may see it featured in an upcoming issue of Bruce Trail Magazine. Essay, poem, lyrics, journal, blog - your story can take any of these forms. Details at brucetrail.org/pages/your-bruce-trail-story or contact communications@brucetrail.org

Stories from our community



Photo: Meagan Shanahan

RESPONSIBLE HIKING



Protect the Niagara Escarpment while exploring all the Bruce Trail has to offer by following (and sharing) these tips to minimize our impact.



1. Plan Ahead

Research your hike. Check for trail closures or changes. Plan an alternate destination in case you find the trail or trailhead busy. Pack essentials like water, food and clothing layers.



2. Park Safely and Legally

If a trailhead parking lot is full, do not park on the road. Where roadside parking is allowed, park only in designated areas. Do not block driveways or farm gates.



3. Stay on the Trail

Staying on the marked trail will ensure that you remain safe, sensitive vegetation is not damaged, and relationships with private landowners along the Trail are not strained.



4. Pack Out Your Trash

Pack out everything you pack in, even biodegradable items and toilet paper. Bring trash home if bins are full or unavailable.



5. Leave Nature as You Found it

Leave rocks, mushrooms, plants and other natural objects where you find them. Avoid open fires or leaving your mark on trees or rocks. Do not feed or disturb wildlife.



6. Manage Your Pet

Leash your pet at all times on the trail. Pack out the poop. Watch for trail signs showing areas where pets are not allowed.



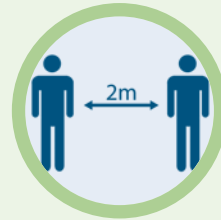
7. Be Mindful of Private Property

Many landowners graciously allow the Bruce Trail on their property. Trespassing or misuse of the trail could lead to a request to remove the Trail from their land.



Stay Close to Home

Avoid travelling outside your region.



Practice Physical Distancing

Wear a mask when you cannot stay 2 m apart.



Follow COVID-19 protocol

Obey the latest federal, provincial and local restrictions.

Next Steps for Responsible Hikers:

Avoid times and places of high use:

Visit less popular spots. Consider visiting popular destinations in off-season, mid-week, or earlier/later in the day.

Share messages:

Share your commitment to responsible hiking, on the trail and off. Show thanks to those who are practicing responsible hiking. See our social media guidelines for more ideas (pages 22-23)

Leave the Trail better than you found it:

Take the extra step and (safely) pick up trash you find on your hike.

Welcome other trail users:

Everyone's experience in nature is unique and personal. Help encourage an inclusive community of outdoor explorers.

Kids Corner

In this Kids' Corner we're highlighting a few of the creative junior hikers who are exploring and helping the Bruce Trail.

Charlie B. (3 ½ years old) has been lending a hand on hikes. She carefully picks up garbage with her family and is leaving the Bruce Trail cleaner than she found it. Thank you, Charlie!



Mike S. (7 years old) loves to explore the BTC's Splitrock Narrows Nature Reserve. Great drawing, Mike!

Viola P. (10 years old) completed the Toronto section of the Bruce Trail with her mom. Congratulations, Viola!



BE SAFE AND LEAVE NO TRACE

When we visit the outdoors, it's important to take care of ourselves and to protect nature. By following a few simple actions, we can stay safe and also keep our natural environments healthy and beautiful.

The key is to 'leave no trace'. Those three small words help us remember to do everything we can to have as little impact on an area as possible, to leave no sign that we have visited. This includes staying on the trail, packing out what we pack in, leaving nature where we find it, and being respectful of

wildlife and other people.

Following leave no trace guidelines may not seem important until you think about all the people who visit the same place before and after you do. All of our actions add up. If everyone who visits the Bruce Trail does everything they can to stay safe and leave no trace, we can all make a big difference for the trail, the environment, and our fellow hikers.

Check out our Responsible Hiking tips on page 14 then practice them on the board game on pages 16 and 17. Happy Hiking!

KIDS' CORNER SUBMISSIONS

Kids, do you have a drawing, poem, story, photo, hike review, or other creation inspired by the Bruce Trail? We'd love to share it in an upcoming Kids' Corner. Send your creations to communications@bruce-trail.org. Don't forget to include your name, age, description of your entry, and permission from your guardian.

Be a super Bruce Trail hiker!

QUEENSTON, ON
START HIKING!



Niagara

You planned your hike using a Bruce Trail map. You're prepared! Move ahead 2 spaces.



Iroquoia



Follow the blue blazes on the **side trail** or the white blazes to stay on the **Main Trail**.



You admired a beautiful orchid from the Trail and didn't touch it. Move ahead 2 spaces.

You brought lots of healthy snacks but left some wrappers on the Trail. Move back 2 spaces.

Dufferin Hi-Land



You hiked off the Trail to take a picture. Yikes! That's not safe and you might trample plants. Move back 1 space.

Toronto

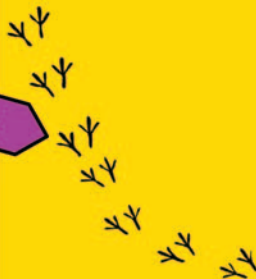


You brought your dog along for the hike and kept them on their leash. Move ahead 1 space.



Caledon Hills

Sydenham



Explore the Niagara Escarpment along the Bruce Trail from end to end, practicing your safe and respectful hiking skills along the way. Use a coin and flip for each turn.

Heads: move 1 space.

Tails: move 3 spaces. *Have a great hike!*



It's raining! Good thing you planned ahead and **packed a raincoat**. Move **ahead 1 space**

You **fed a chipmunk** some of your lunch and now it's feeling sick. Move **back 1 space**.



Blue Mountains

You saw a sign reading 'Trail Closed' but hiked on anyway. Move **back 2 spaces**.



Peninsula

You saw a shortcut but **stayed on the marked trail** so that you didn't cause erosion. Move **ahead 1 space**.



TOBERMORY, ON FINISH!



Beaver Valley



The only souvenirs you took from the Trail were photos and memories. Thanks for **leaving nature in nature!** Move **ahead 1 space**.



You met other hikers on the trail and **stepped to the side with a smile** to let them pass. Move **ahead 1 space**.





Hotspots on the Bruce Trail: Popular places and the challenges they pose for nature and people

Photo: David Rodgers

Visits to the Bruce Trail have grown significantly in this past year as people head outside to gain the health benefits that nature provides. Unfortunately, some natural spaces are experiencing more human-created impact than the environment can handle. Trail use challenges that were present before COVID-19 have been amplified during the pandemic. The Bruce Trail Conservancy (BTC) is taking action to address the impacts of increased trail use, find solutions, and encourage responsible hiking.

Popular destinations along the Bruce Trail have become trail use “hotspots” in recent years. The turquoise waters of The Grotto in Bruce Peninsula National Park, the brilliant fall foliage of the Forks of the Credit, and the dramatic waterfalls of Hamilton are just a few of the Niagara Escarpment’s scenic landscapes and seasonal displays that have drawn large crowds of visitors.

With a rapidly growing population in southern Ontario, a dwindling amount of greenspace, and increased exposure of spectacular natural areas on social media, trail use at these and other spots has soared. With the crowds come a host of associated issues, including excessive trash, damage to vegetation, trail erosion, disturbance to wildlife, safety

concerns, traffic congestion, and impact on local communities.

COVID-19 has intensified the situation. The pandemic has put trails and parks in the spotlight, magnifying challenges that were already present. During this trying time, more people than ever have sought out a hike or walk in nature to recharge, get exercise, de-stress, or simply pass the time. The relative safety of outdoor activities and lack of recreational alternatives have also contributed to increased trail use. Existing hotspots have been further stressed, and new hotspots have developed as people seek alternatives to the busiest destinations.

Unfortunately, the high volumes of trail users include those who may not be familiar with trail etiquette. Litter,

trespassing, and other poor behaviours are impacting the trail, the environment, other trail users, and landowners whose property the Bruce Trail crosses.

More people using the Bruce Trail is not a bad thing, in itself. It is wonderful that more people have been discovering the Bruce Trail as a way to connect with nature. Indeed at times like these, access to natural environments and the multitude of benefits they provide is more important than ever. We have been reminded of how essential trails and protected natural areas are to our well-being. Yet, for these trails and protected areas to continue to thrive, the Bruce Trail Conservancy, its partners, and all its supporters must work together to ensure that the cumulative impact of all our visits is minimized.

TOP HOTSPOT ISSUES

Hotspots have been revealing our collective impact on the environment, the trail, and other people. Here are a few of the main issues:

- **Overcrowding:** Sites with too many people can affect the enjoyment of all users. Overcrowding in the context of a pandemic is adding critical health-related concerns.



- **Traffic Congestion:** When parking areas are overwhelmed, some trail users have been parking unsafely along roadsides or blocking the driveways of trail neighbours.
- **Littering:** Litter has increased remarkably in nearly all areas of the Bruce Trail. Common items include disposable masks, drink containers, toilet paper, and cigarette butts.



- **Unleashed Dogs and Dog Waste:** More dogs have joined families during the pandemic. This seems to have led to more off-leash dogs and plenty more poop on the Trail.



- **Trespassing:** Whether to avoid crowds, or to get into closed areas, some users are leaving the trail and trespassing, threatening the valuable relationships the BTC has with landowners.
- **Unsafe excursions:** Unprepared or unaware visitors are making risky choices, heading off-trail or past barriers, and getting lost or injured.



- This not only puts them in danger, it also puts pressure on already overloaded emergency services.
- **Damage to the natural environment:** Open fires, graffiti, and other acts of vandalism are threatening the health of the lands and waters along the Trail.



HOTSPOTS ON THE BRUCE TRAIL

TOP HOTSPOT IMPACTS

On Trail Users

The poor behaviours listed above can impact everyone's enjoyment. Although each person experiences the outdoors in a different way, no one enjoys coming across a pile of dog waste or having to jostle for space at a parking lot or lookout.

On the Trail and the Environment

Our behaviors have a direct impact on the very trail and natural world we come to explore. The Bruce Trail is designed to lay lightly on the land and provide ecologically sustainable access to the Niagara Escarpment. Veering off the marked trail can cause unnecessary widening of the treadway, the trampling of sensitive plant species, or even the distribution of invasive species. Litter and vandalism can affect the health of plants and animals, and the quality of soil and water.

On Landowners and Trail Continuity

Increased cases of trespassing, illegal parking, and littering have affected private landowners who graciously allow the

Bruce Trail to traverse their land. This misuse has resulted in some landowners requesting the removal of the Bruce Trail from their property.

On Local Communities

Hotspots affect more than the destinations themselves. The impacts spill over into local communities.

High use and poor trail behaviours put stress on local services including garbage, sanitation, and emergency services.

Occasionally, visitors disappointed at the overcrowding take out their frustrations on park staff or local workers.

Communities along the Trail want to welcome visitors, and indeed many local economies are supported by visitors, but in some cases the balance has shifted to unsustainable levels.

WHAT THE BTC IS DOING

Hotspots have no easy answer. A collaborative and multi-pronged approach is necessary. The Bruce Trail Conservancy is collaborating with regional partners to improve infrastructure and educate trail users before and during their visit.

The BTC's Unique Challenges

The BTC is responsible for a continuous footpath that traverses private and public lands, with over 300 access points. Much of the land is not owned by the BTC, and much of the BTC's work is done by volunteers. And the BTC does not have gated facilities or onsite staff. Given these realities, the BTC cannot issue day-use permits, create reservation systems, regulate timed entries, or other visitor management techniques attempted by other land-management agencies.

However, as a conservation organization facilitating public access to natural spaces in a UNESCO World Biosphere, the Bruce Trail Conservancy has an important role to play in addressing hotspot issues and minimizing their impacts. It has identified three principal methods to achieve this:

Working with Partners

Overcoming the challenges around communications, infrastructure, and capacity management in hotspot areas is significantly a collective effort. The Bruce Trail Conservancy and its Clubs have



BTC Trail Ambassadors will be at hotspots this summer.

teamed up with regional partners in different areas of the Trail to tackle these shared challenges. In some cases, these partnerships have been multi-stakeholder groups like the Northern Bruce Peninsula Sustainable Tourism Action Group, and the Grey County Outdoor Areas Management Group. These groups bring together municipalities, Conservation Authorities, Parks Canada, Ontario Parks, tourism organizations, and the BTC to identify common challenges, discuss best practices, pilot shared initiatives, and share consistent messaging to reach larger audiences. These partnerships have been a positive experience in sharing resources, eliminating redundant efforts, and taking a collaborative long-term approach to addressing hotspots.

Improving Infrastructure

The BTC is planning to install or expand parking lots on BTC land where the need is greatest and as circumstances allow. It may seem counter-intuitive to “pave paradise” in this way. However, carefully designed lots can help to ease traffic congestion, spread out use along the Trail, and provide safe access to nature. The placement of these lots requires careful consideration and collaboration to address local concerns and avoid environmental issues or the creation of new hotspots.

One might suggest that the BTC also provide garbage cans and portable toilets at trailheads to address litter and waste issues. However, these facilities are not realistic for the BTC to manage with a volunteer workforce, especially with the enhanced cleaning protocols currently required. Instead, the BTC will focus on education: encouraging hikers to reduce waste on their hikes and take home all trash, and preparing visitors to expect and plan for no toilet or garbage facilities.

Other infrastructure improvements include Trail reroutes that better manage visitor foot traffic while increasing safety at sensitive sites.

Educating Trail Users

The BTC is working with partners to reach people with responsible hiking messages before they arrive, and reinforce those messages on site.

Reaching trail users before they come means “cutting through the noise” on social and traditional media to help to set visitor expectations about the Trail and encourage proper planning. This is

where working in concert with tourism organizations, parks, and municipalities is key. By sharing resources and messaging the BTC can be more efficient and effective at targeting and reaching those who are considering a visit to the Bruce Trail. For its part, the BTC is creating, sharing and amplifying responsible hiking messages on social media, in tourism publications, and in press releases.

In its communications, the BTC is currently not highlighting particular areas to visit. To take the pressure off hotspots, it may seem valuable to point out less popular destinations. Yet recent experience has shown that this has the potential to shift crowds and create new hotspots.

On the Bruce Trail this summer, you’ll see a few new faces helping with onsite education. The BTC is hiring six Trail Ambassadors to perform visitor outreach and litter clean-ups at hotspots in the Iroquoia, Beaver Valley and Peninsula sections. Together with Club volunteers, these summer staff will promote leave no trace practices and safe trail use. They’ll even be distributing “Hike it. Love it. Keep it Clean.” badges to those who join them in picking up litter or who are demonstrating low impact hiking. •



The Bruce Trail has always been a tool to promote conservation while providing an intimate experience with the natural world; a connection that is increasingly important in a time of lockdowns and general uncertainty.

Trail use hotspots, while presenting challenges, also offer opportunities. As more people experience the beauty and benefits of the Niagara Escarpment through the Bruce Trail, their love of nature and appreciation of the Trail will grow. The BTC has the opportunity to take hold of this moment, foster further understanding, and empower people to act on the shared responsibility we have for each other and our precious natural spaces.



Photo: Mike Chan

The #BruceTrail Effect

How Social Media Affects the Outdoors



Photo adapted from Peter K. Burian

Social media can expose thousands of people to beautiful natural environments in an instant. What does this mean for those environments and those who want to explore and protect them?

The Bruce Trail is remarkably photogenic and eminently sharable. The act of taking and sharing photos is a way that many of us enhance our experience and invite others to share in what we find important. With the rise of social media in the last few years, it has been easier than ever to do just that.

More so than any communication tool that preceded it, social media has increased exposure of protected natural areas around the world, including those of the Bruce Trail. It has raised awareness of destinations and prompted many to get out and explore. It has made it easier than ever to discover beautiful places in the outdoors, particularly when posts are 'geotagged' – their geographic coordinates made viewable.

This exposure has certainly contributed to the increased use of the Bruce Trail, and to some locations becoming very popular. Unfortunately, an increasing number of areas are seeing more human-created impact than the environment can handle. This is leading some to argue that social media is 'ruining' trails and protected natural spaces. Popular areas are abused. Previously obscure places can be overrun. And the outdoor experience becomes a checkmark off the list. The thinking is that the mass popularization of landmarks brings about more people, many of whom are inexperienced in trail conditions, and contributes to increased litter, environmental damage and safety issues.

Some suggest that one solution is to refrain from using geotags on social media when it comes to recreation in natural areas. Adding geotags gives people quick access to exactly where our perfect shot was taken, sometimes without any additional contextual information about the site. Others have pushed back on this idea, arguing that geotags increase access, and that protesting them is a form of gatekeeping intended to reserve outdoor locations for a select few.

Certainly, social media contributes to the (over)popularity of outdoor destinations, but one cannot overlook the positive impact social media can have, especially on engaging people to take action for conservation, and

creating an inclusive outdoors community.

Social media has given people the opportunity to learn about, engage, and connect with natural spaces like never before. It is becoming a catalyst for many to get outside and enjoy the world around them. This has the potential to inspire and empower more people to protect the natural world for future generations to enjoy.

Social media also provides platforms to historically under-represented outdoorspeople. It allows people who have traditionally felt excluded from the outdoor and conservation communities to find others like them enjoying and protecting trails and natural areas. Everybody is able to see themselves represented and visualize themselves as capable of participating in outdoor experiences and conservation activities.

It is easy to blame social media. It can indeed be difficult to witness the damage to the natural environment caused by careless actions, or to have special places of solitude suddenly be busy with lots of people. But rather than dwelling on the ills of social media, we can dedicate ourselves to making the most of the opportunities it presents. This powerful tool can introduce people to the wonders of the Bruce Trail, reach thousands with messages of the responsible hiking, and foster a growing community of outdoor stewards.

TIPS FOR RESPONSIBLE SOCIAL SHARING OF YOUR OUTDOOR ADVENTURES

If you share your Bruce Trail photos or videos on social media, you have the power to be an ambassador for protected natural spaces and responsible hiking. Consider these tips next time you're posting:

Keep Safety in the Picture

Stay on the Trail to keep yourself(ie) safe and to avoid damaging trailside vegetation. It might mean you can't get your ideal shot, but the limitation may even force more creativity in your photography.

Consider What Your Images Portray

Give some thought to what your photos and videos are showing. A view that can only be had from off the trail? Hikers close to the edge of a cliff? Does it look like you are promoting irresponsible or unsafe behavior, even if you aren't? If yes, maybe reconsider posting, or use your caption to call out the special circumstances in that photo.

Lead by Example

Share images that demonstrate responsible and safe hiking and they can encourage others to do the same. Include tips and hashtags that will help

your friends and followers learn about responsible outdoor recreation. Share the stories and actions of people and organizations doing good work in this area.

Add Helpful Site Information

Provide context in your captions to help others understand more about the site or the steps you took to minimize your impact. If you choose to share the location of your photo, tag the park agency or trail organization, and encourage further learning in your caption.

Keep it Positive & Inclusive

Shaming someone (online or off) for their outdoor behavior is never endorsed by the BTC. Engage in respectful conversations. Avoid making assumptions about people's intentions or abilities, or creating a sense of 'us' and 'them'. Send positive shout-outs to those who demonstrate responsible hiking in their posts. •

"Social media, if used with consideration, is a powerful tool that can motivate a nation of outdoor advocates to enthusiastically and collectively take care of the places we share and cherish."

Leave No Trace Centre for Outdoor Ethics (<https://lnt.org>)



Boundary Bluffs – Peninsula section

Photo: Julia Marko Durin

Trail Changes & Notices

MARCH – MAY 2021, POST EDITION 30

FOR THE LATEST TRAIL CHANGE AND NOTICES, VISIT BRUCETRAIL.ORG/TRAIL_CHANGES

Trail Changes & Notices Online

Did you know? Our Trail changes online are up-to-date and searchable. You can search by Map Number, Club Section, Edition of Guide Affected, and even by text in the description. Visit brucetrail.org/trail_changes

COVID-19 Related Trail Restrictions

For the latest on any Trail closures or restrictions specifically related to COVID-19, visit brucetrail.org/trail_changes/361 Conditions may change. Always check before you head out.

Reservations Required

Be prepared to make parking reservations at some parks and conservation areas along the Bruce Trail. Parking reservations are currently required for:

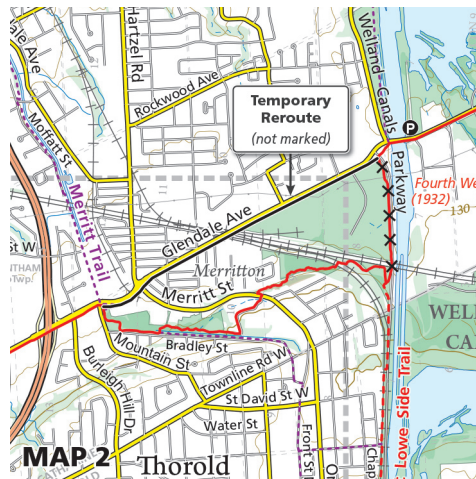
- Hamilton Conservation Authority (conservationhamilton.ca): Spencer Gorge CA (Webster Falls, Tew Falls, Dundas Peak)
- Conservation Halton (conservationhalton.ca): Mount Nemo, Rattlesnake Point, Crawford Lake, Hilton Falls CAs
- Credit Valley Conservation (cvcparcs.ca): Cheltenham Badlands CA
- Bruce Peninsula National Park (pc.gc.ca/bruce): *NEW* Reservations required for parking at Halfway Dump (June 18 to Sept. 7, 2021). Reservations required for parking at Grotto / Cyprus Lake (May 1 to October 31, 2021).



NIAGARA

Map 2 – Welland Canals Pkwy, Temporary Closure

The main Bruce Trail along the Welland Canals Parkway will be closed from Glendale Ave to the Bert Lowe Side Trail. The unmarked temporary reroute is along Glendale Avenue (for 2.1 km) from the intersection at the Welland Canals Parkway westbound to Mountain Street. This closure is in place until June 25, 2021.



Map 5 - New trail configuration at Mountainview CA

A new trail configuration has taken place within the Mountainview Conservation Area providing numerous looping options.

- New Main Trail = 980 metres
- Mountainview Side Trail = 900 metres
- Beamsville Bench Side Trail = 360 metres
- Angel Side Trail = 200 metres

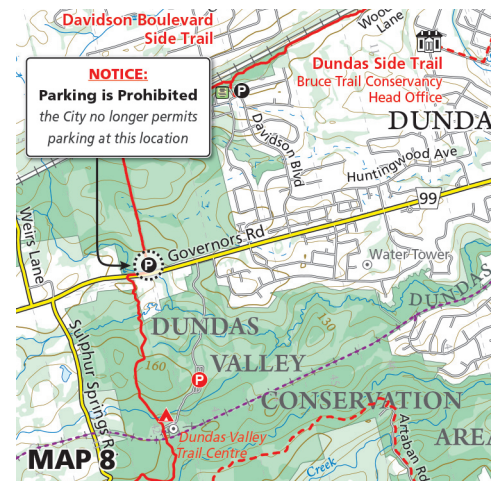


IROQUOIA

Map 8 – Governor's Road, No Parking

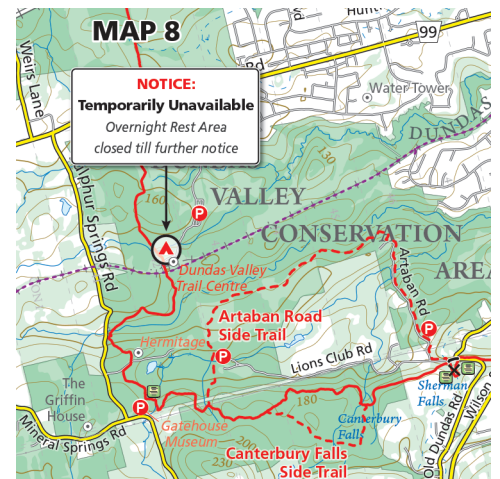
The City of Hamilton has prohibited roadside parking on Governor's Road at

the location noted on the map. This is no longer a recommended parking site.



Map 8 – Dundas Valley ORA, Temporary Closure

The Dundas Valley Overnight Rest Area is closed due to COVID-19 until further notice.



Map 8 – Tiffany Falls, 1 hour parking

Due to high visitation, the Hamilton Conservation Authority has limited parking at Tiffany Falls Conservation Area to one hour.

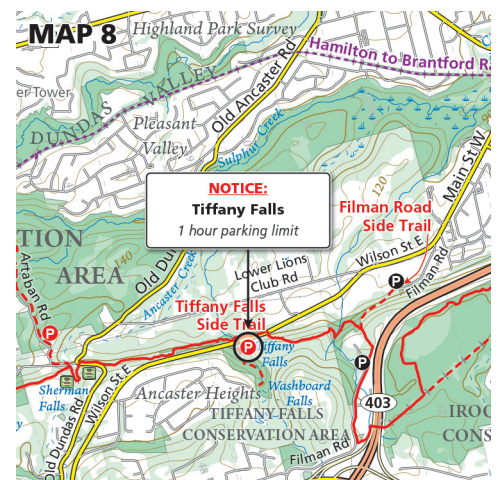


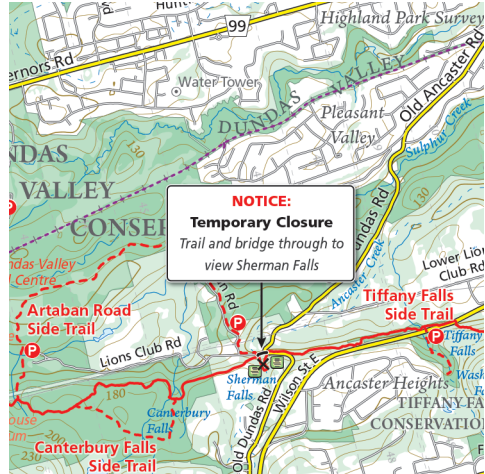


Photo: Mary Ellen S. Lohm

Red-spotted Purple Butterfly

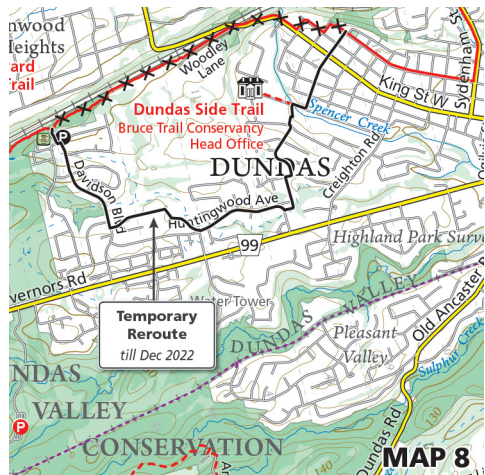
Map 8 – Sherman Falls, Temporary Closure

The bridge over Ancaster Creek at Sherman Falls is closed for repairs until further notice. The Bruce Trail has been rerouted onto Lion's Club Road for a short distance. Two side trails on either side of the creek leading to the bridge remain open and dead end at the bridge.



Map 8 – Dundas, Temporary Reroute

Highway 8 is completely closed between Bond Street North and Woodley Lane in Dundas until December 2022 as part of the Highway 8 improvement project. The Bruce Trail has been rerouted through Dundas neighborhoods as shown. Temporary Closure = 2.3 km Dundas Reroute = 3.7 km



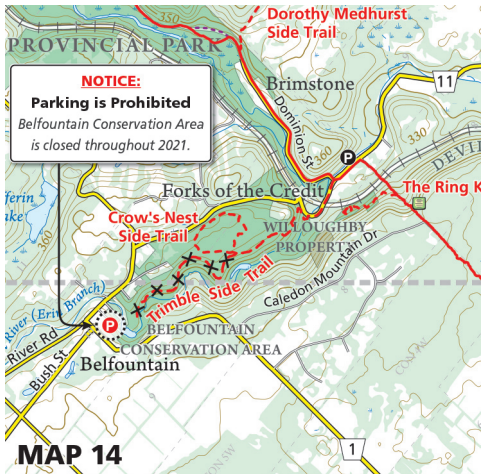
Map 9 – Waterdown Woods, Temporary Closure Lifted

The temporary closure of main Trail in Waterdown, published in the spring 2021 issue of Bruce Trail Conservancy Magazine was lifted March 26.

CALEDON HILLS

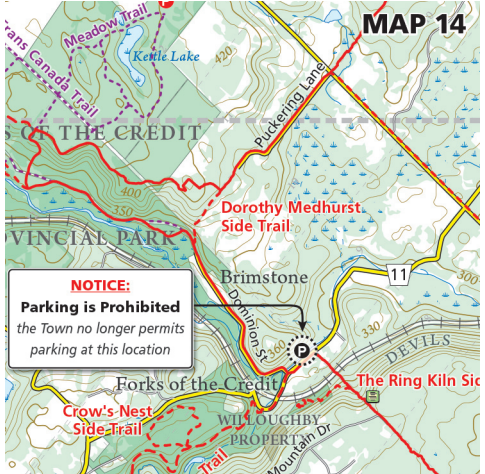
Map 14 – Belfountain Conservation Area, Temporary Closure

Belfountain Conservation Area will remain closed throughout 2021 due to restoration projects. As a result, the western portion of the Trimble Side Trail is closed where it meets the Crow's Nest Side Trail. The Crow's Nest Side Trail and the eastern portion of the Trimble Side Trail remain open. To learn more, visit cvc.ca/bcomp.



Map 14 – Forks of the Credit Road, No Parking

The Town of Caledon has prohibited roadside parking at the location noted on the map along Forks of the Credit Road. This is no longer a recommended parking site.



SYDENHAM

Map 34 - Kemble Mountain, Temporary Closure Lifted

The temporary closure of main Trail and Nels Maher Side Trail in Kemble, published in the spring 2021 issue of Bruce

Trail Conservancy Magazine, was lifted March 1. Grey Sauble Conservation Authority has completed its forestry work in the area.

PENINSULA

Map 36/37 – Neyaashiinigmiing, Temporary Closure Lifted

The Bruce Trail and side trails that traverse Neyaashiinigmiing (Cape Croker) re-opened for hiking on May 1, 2021. No vehicle access or parking within Neyaashiinigmiing at this time. To minimize the spread of COVID-19, hikers are asked not travel throughout the community.

Map 36 – Cape Croker Park, Temporary Closure Lifted

The temporary closure of Main Trail due to flooding in Cape Croker Park near the Snake Boardwalk has been lifted.





Photo: John Whitworth

OUR GENEROUS DONORS

Thank you to all 1,785 donors who chose to support the Bruce Trail Conservancy with a gift between January 1 and March 31, 2021.

Special thanks to the following donors who made a gift of \$10,000 or more during this time:

Zita & Mark Bernstein Family Foundation

James Robert Borbridge & Aileen Borbridge

Ca-Al Foundation

Estate of Martha B. Campbell

Echo Foundation

Environment & Climate Change Canada

Iroquoia BTC

Eberhard Leistner

Volkmar Leistner & Family

Region of Peel - Peel Greenlands Securement Program

The Andree Rheaume and Robert Fitzhenry Family Foundation at Aqueduct Foundation

Malcolm & Joelle Sanderson

Arnold & Glenyce Tweed

2 Anonymous Donors

I love my grandkids.
I also love the environment!

You don't have to choose.
Support a charity and the ones you love in your will.

Learn about the power of leaving a gift in your will to the BTC

Visit: willpower.ca/charities/bruce-trail-conservancy/

Contact: Gloria Vidovich, BTC Planned Giving & Donor Relations Officer, gvidovich@brucetrail.org or 905-529-6821 ext. 248



Bruce Trail
CONSERVANCY



OUR GENEROUS DONORS

The following donors gave \$250 or more between January 1 and March 31, 2021

Barbara Adams	Phyllis Colton & Andrew Petriw	Carol Gray	Kurt Maier & Family	Robert Pollard	Eileen Stark
Alicia's Infinity: Prints for Trails	Larry Colombo & Linda Robinson	Alex M. Grenzebach	Manulife	Richard Pomeroy	Aaron Stubbe
Fon Arunpairojana	Dean Connor & Maris Uffelmann	Douglas Griffioen	James Marshall	Sadhana Prasad & Family	Glen & Debra Swire
Rita Bailey & Phil Penner	Malcolm & Marta Coutts	Ian & Ann Grindall	Nancy Martin & Family	Don & Aggie Ramsden	Gaetan Tardif
Nathan Bain	John Crawford	Christian Grotirian	James Matthews	Raymond Raw & Family	Martha L. Taylor & Family
Daniel Balzerson & Family	Robert Crockford & Rosemary Russell	Norm Guice & Raquel Lara-Guice	Charles Maurer	RBC Foundation/RBC Dominion Securities	Rodney Taylor
Dror Bar-Natan	Bob Cronin	Craig Gutowski	Janice May	Region of Peel - Peel Greenlands Securement Program	TD Bank Group
Doug Bates & Robyn Baechler	Cameron Crowe & Family	Michael & Rita Hafeman	Robert McCuen	James A. Reive	Paul D. Thompson
Susan Batten	Shane & Margot Curry	Sandra Hager	Mike McCune	Mary Reynolds & David Paleczny	John Todd
Gary & Pat Beaudoin	Deborah Danis & Family	Barbara J. Hallam	Andrew McDonald	The Andree Rheaume & Robert Fitzhenry Family Foundation at Aqueduct Foundation	Toronto BTC
James Bellinger	Rolph Davis	Patricia Hamilton	Mary C. McKee	Roderick Rice & Family	Arnold & Glenyce Tweed
Paul & Pat Beneteau	Edward & Janice Day	Nancy Hamm & Family	Caroline McKenna	Anthony Riggs	John Van de Kamer & Family
Zita & Mark Bernstein Family Foundation	David Dell	John Hammond	Katie Mckerlie & Family	The Rogan Foundation	Jane van der Sluis
John & Linda Beyer & Family	Philip Dewan	Ryan Harrison	Elizabeth R. McMaster Birnie	Miriam Rogers & Family	Ted & Marge Van Geest
The Blue Bay Motel & Levack Family	Joshua Dey	Hendrik Hart	Christian Medved	Brenda Rolfe	Janina Vanderpost
Paul Blythe & Family	The Dickson Family Foundation	Roy Hewson & Family	Subhash Mehta & Family	William Rosenfeld & Family	Wayne Vanwyck
Kim Bolton	Tiger Drylac	Anna Hoad	Susan Meinzing & Family	Elaine Ross & Family	Jane & Peter Vickery
Richard Bonert & Family	Echo Foundation	Norah J. Hobbs	Sarah G. Metzger	Mike Osborn & Ros Rossetti	Michelle Visser
James Robert Borbridge & Aileen Borbridge	Jill Eisen & Family	The Hogarth Family Foundation Fund at the Hamilton Community Foundation	Brian & Brenda Miller	David Ruppel	Sharon & David Wadley
Joe Borges	Charles Elias	Brian & Charleen Hopkins	Mort Mitchnick & Barb McLean	Teri Russell-Hill & Family	Janet Walker
Frank Bossen	Jeff Elsie & Family	IBM Canada Ltd	Alan & Anne Morgan	Sam Rutherford & Family	Lenore Walters
Ted & Karin Bossence	Daniel F. Engels	Iroquoia BTC	Mary Mullens	Ed & Karen Saliwonchyk	Rick Waters
Frank Bouma	Mark Ewald	Pat & Kirk Johnston	Bruce W. Murray	Malcolm & Joelle Sanderson	Margaret Watson
David & Lynda Bowen & Family	Carol Ann Ferguson & Thom Christmann	Agnes Keenan	William Murray	Robert Schoenhofer	Russell Weiss
George Bowman	Paul Fieguth	Stephen Kelly	Brian & Valerie Nash	Helmutr Schueller	Michael Weissglas
Gordon Brocklebank	Tim Fischer	Shona Kennedy & Family	Environment & Climate Change Canada	Trudy Senesi	Fran & Ken Welch & Family
Gail Brown	Robin Fitzgerald	Brad Kirkconnell	Jordan Neysmith	Paula Sheppard & Family	Donna & Bob Wells & Family
Caroline Burgess & Family	C. A. Fitzsimmons	Greg Korber	Gordon Nicholls	Elizabeth Sherlock & Family	Geraldine Whiteley
Ca-Al Foundation	Jillian & Stephen Flower	Sebastian Kozlowski	Janis M. Nitchie	Roger & Sue Short	Doug Whittle
Estate of Martha B. Campbell	Ron Foxcroft & Family	Mary Krauel	David & Linda Noble	The Louis & Nellie Sieg Fund	John Whitworth & Family
Paula Carson	Edward B. Freeman	Diana Laubit	Agnes Nowaczek	Karen Sifton	Lesley Wiesenfeld
Lisa Casey	Diane & Stan Gasner	Michael Lawee & Family	Hope Ogilvie	Michael Sinclair	Jennifer Wild
Debbie Catto & Family	Ron Gatis & Family	Susan & Burnett Laws	Jean O'Grady	Art Smith	Grant Williams
Susan Caughran	Doug Gillard & Carol Horvat	Eberhard Leistner	Barbara Palmer	Dr. Kevin Smith & Ms. Marian Lips Fund	Dave Williamson
Anne Caza	Patrick Gleeson & Family	Volkmar Leistner & Family	Judy Palmer Family Foundation	Peter & Kerstin Smith	Marsharee Williamson
Mark Cestnik	Darren Goldstein	Kenn Lendrum & Family	Stephen Papillon	Smith's Funeral Homes	Richard Williamson
Fernanda Cieri	Trinia Gorr	Zeljko Lilek & Family	Steve & Maureen Peacock & Family	Christopher Spencer	Thomas Wilson
Ian Clark	George Goucher	Barbara Love	Kathleen Pickard		WorkSite Safety Compliance Centre Inc
Bonnie C. Cohoe	Art & Carolyn Grady	Marie Lucas & Family	Michael Pierrynowski		Janice Wright
	Mark Graham & Family	Christie MacInnes	Adam Plackett & Maria Kelleher		Loudon Young
		Julia Madden			Blossom & Allen Zink
					4 anonymous donors

Monthly Donors

Leslie Alexander & Family	Martha Bauer	Walter Brewer	Fleur Careil	Joe & Teresa Dale	Angela Eady & Michael Root
Sam Anderson	Steve & Jean Baxter & Family	Ken & Heidi Brisco	Malcolm J. Carr	Colleen Darrell & Gregory Huffman	Mitchell Eckert
Ann & Lydell Andree Wiebe & Family	Vikki Baylis & Family	Deborah Brown & James Jennings	Irene & John Carroll	Victor & Sandra Davis	Gordon Edgar
John Armstrong & Family	Wayne Beard	Gail Brown	Anne Cathrae	Albert De Jong & Family	Tom & Linda Edwards
Emma Arppe-Robertson	John Bedford	Joshua Brown	June Chambers & Family	Edward Deon	Richard Edwards
Lyne Arseneau & Family	Karen Bergmann	Jonathan Brubacher	Katherine Chapman	Lynda Deboer	David Eikelboom
Christopher Bain	Susan Bigland-Witton	Carol Budge	Bill & Sharon Chapman	Diane Delaney & Family	Jennifer Eliasmith
Neil Baldwin & Family	Heidi Bischof	Bill & Marjorie Buhlman	Gary Cherniak & Family	Paul Dennis & Susan Stechly	Andrew Elliott & Lauri Vanstone
Annette Balgord	Marilena Biscotti	Jeanne Bullock	Joanne & Mike Cicchini	Adrian DeVisser	Eadaoin Elliott
Christina Bardes	Bloom Depot Inc	Barbara Burrows & Family	F.W. Clarke	Steve Dickie	Grant Elliott
Michael Barnard & Family	Laurel Boatman	John Buttars	Sue Clouse-Jensen	Stephen & Rosemary Digby	Mike Erison
Patricia G. Barton	Karen Bonham & Family	Shaun Button & Family	Sally M. Cohen-Moule & David Moule	Heather DiMarco	Marlene Etherington
Tony & Joan Barton	Edward Borowski	Todd Caldwell & Shaun Moore	Wendy Coleman	Verity Dimock & Family	Lisa Etienne
Pier-Giorgio Bassi	Barbara Borthwick	Ewan Cameron	William Coleman	Andrew Dinsmore & Jean Koroway	Barbara Euler
Margaret Bates	Pamela Boutillier & Family	Douglas Campbell	Kelli Cornforth	Daphne Gaby Donaldson	Mary Federau & David Hass
John Bauer	David C. Bray & Family	Cory Campbell	Mary Lou Cronan	Michael Druker	Elizabeth Fedorkow & David Alles
	Mark Brett & Kathy Denomy	Louise Carberry	Eric Crose & Family		
			Doug & Loreen Cumming		
			Peter & Bernadette Curtis		

TRIBUTE GIFTS

Gifts were received to honour these special people:

Anniversary

Bill & Diane Hambleton - 55th

Birthdays

Sarah Baert
Manfred Becker
Thomas Bellington
Eileen Bidulka
Barbara Black
Deana Chadillon
Sally Cohen-Moule - 60th
David Cole -70th
Mary Houston
Carl Korte - 60th
Debbie Leach Sartor
Judy Ledger
Christopher Leite - 35th

Zita McWhinnie
Meghan O'Hara
Adam Purdy
Ian Spears
John Spears
Gareth Stackhouse
Mark Weicker

Engagement

Tim Mackay
Jesse McDonald

In Honour

Andrew
Shawn Bennett
Marlis Butcher
Fred Clutchey
John Collier

Larry Haigh
Stephanie Hall
Austin Kwong
K. & J. Love
Dino Varas

Seasonal

Elle Flanders & Tamira Sawatzky
Michèle Irwin

Thanks

Gail Darling
Bruce & Isabel MacRae
Ruth Moffatt
Michelle Skop
Kelly Stern

In Memoriam gifts were received in recognition of:

Elizabeth Avery
Barbara Mae Bayne
Mr. Beale
Rick Bedding
Scott Belyea
Joshua Paul Brennehan
Shirley Castles
Michael Chadsey
Thomas Clarke
Sheila Conlin
Beth Ranney Coons
David Cooper
Mansie Dunmore
Mrs. H. Essig
Riley Ferko
Dimitrijs "Jim" Filatovs
Judith Fox

Christopher Fulton
Bill Gawley
Georgina Rae Grey
Keith Hyde
Kevin James
Mark Jensen
Rosemary Lemieux
Brian R. Light
Sallie Lyons
Donald John Macaulay
Alex & Christine Matulewicz
Doreen L. Maxwell
Georgina McKelvie
George Munderich
Peter Neely
Gord Nickerson

Peter Norris
Darlene Phillips
Theresa Pierrynowski
Bess Ranney
Douglas Robertson
Terry Rose
Olive Roulston
Fred Shonbeck
Giuseppe "Joe" Sottile
Michael Sozonchuk
Fred & Joyce Stevens
Henry Thoonen
Lucas Ulbinas
Ton van Kemenade
Uwe Wassermann
Dan Welsh
Missy Woodward

Robert Smythe
Wendy Southall
Darryl Spector
Patrick Speissegger & Family
Elizabeth Staite
Paul Stanbury
Jonathon Stewart
Patricia Stewart
Michael Stoten
Paul Strathdee & Teresa Coulthard
Amanda Styles
Jasmine Sun
Brett Sura & Family
Patrick B. Taylor & Family
James Tennant
Saurabh Tewari
Ian Thompson
Ian Thompson
Trevor Thompson
John G. Thomson
Willard & Sharon Thorne
Dave Till

Brenda Tipper & Family
John Titgemeyer & Family
Anne Todd & Family
Tom Trimble
Suzanne Truchan
Katherine Turner
Paul Van De Kamer
Myra & Peter Van Katwyk
Laura Vayrynen
Emily Venditti
Gloria Vidovich
George Vnoucek & Carolyn Welch
Joseph Votto
Annette Vriends
David Wallis & Joan Jenkins
Kevin B. Warburton
Karen Ward
Stephanie Warner & Family
Ine Wauben
Dana Webster
Dorothy & Gerd Wengler

Evelyn Westen & Family
Mark Whitcombe
Janet White
Heather Whitney
Marianne & Maldwyn Williams
M C Hastings Withers
Glen & Karen Wood
Ralf Wroblewski & Inge Eckerich
Catherine Yolles
John Clifton Young
Fred Young
Adrian & Janet Zenwirt
Adam Zgraja
3 anonymous monthly donors

Mary Ferguson
Penny Finkbeiner
Doug Finley
Gary Foote & Family
Greg & Alice Forbes
William Ford & Family
Jeffrey Forgrave
Stewart Forrest & Family
Mary Fowler & Family
James Fox
Lawrence & Christine Foy
Barbara Frey
Douglas W. Fuller
Bill & Mary Elizabeth Fulton
Jonathan Fung
Hanne Fynbo
Robin Garrett & Family
Aaron Gascoyne
Tyler Gaunt
Vicki Gerth
Donna Gierszewski
Laura Gillis
Jan Graves & Family
Jeremy Graves
Katherine Gray
Marg Greaves
John & Jane Greenhouse
Rebecca Hagey
Stephen Hardacre
Anne & Neil Harrison
Jeff & Karen Heisz & Family
Donna Hemeon
Gail Henderson-Brown
Jane & Ian Hendrie
Mary Henriksen
Sarah Henriques
James Herington & Family
Andrew Higgins
Ryan Hobart
Mark Holden
John Horman & Family
Betty Howell
Dan Hussey
Monica Hypher & Brian Byrnes
Barbara Jackel
Ann Jackson & Denis Ho
Ronald Jackson
William Jackson
Steven Jacobs & Family
Herbert Jenkins & Family
Caitlin Johnson & Family
David Johnston & Family
Janette Johnston
Mark Johnstone & Family
Julie Jones
Catherine & Dan Kaloutsky
Sarah Kam
Stephen Kamnitzer & Family
Robina Kaposy
Ute Karlson-Lippold
Kayak Ontario
Daryl Keays & Maureen McGuigan

Stephen & Karen Keenan-Chyc & Family
Nicholas Keresztesi & Family
Jean Kerins
Brian Kerr & Family
Manpreet Khaihra
Phil & Cathy Kidston
Gisela Knappe
Patricia Knight
Alex Kraas
John Kranyics
Ernie Kuechmeister
Nicholas Kuhl
John Kuhne
Dita Kuhtey
Alkarim Ladha & Family
Ben Lafreniere & Family
David Lamb
Karen Laurence
Frank & Julie Lauritzen
Stephen Lavell
Kate Lazier & Jane Pypier
Peter & Judy Leeney
Terri Leroux & Family
Brandon Levac & Family
Christine Lewis
Louella Lobo & Family
Lisa Luyten & Family
John & Kathryn Lye
Errol MacKenzie & Jeanne Keldson
Karen MacLeod
Peter & Marilyn MacLoughlin
Susan & Leslie MacMillan
Christina MacNaughton & Family
Nancy & Robert Mann
Steve Manske
Leila Marandian
Kenneth Martin
Nicole Martin
David Mathieson
Leslie McBeth & Family
Janice McClelland & Don Blok
John & Elizabeth McCullam
Joan McDonald & Family
Laura McDonald & Family
Michael McDonald & Family
Mary & David McEwen
Maureen McFarland
Mary McGee & Andrew John Lee
Sylvia J. McGeer
Kevin McLean & Adrienne McRuvie
Richard & Karen McLean
Julie McManus & Family
Gail Meyer
Leslie Michel
Catherine Middleton
Darryl Minard & Family
Malcolm Moore

Susannah Morrison
Lena Mortensen
Ken Mullings
William Murphy & Family
Liz Murray
Flora Nadafi
Timothy Nash
Bill Nestorovich
Kristina Nethercott
Howard & Pamela Newman
Ian & Linda Nielsen-Jones
Rosalind Nightingale
Joan Nuffield & Family
Elizabeth Nyburg
Nels Nyman
Patrick O'Bee
Cindy O'Brien
Darlene Ormsby & Family
Jamie Osborne
Will & Marg Overton
Haan Palcu-Chang
Andrew W. Panko & Family
Scott Parker
M. Roy Parry
Kyra Paterson & Family
Bo Penny
Heather & Grant Peters
Kim Peters & Family
Rosemary Petrie
Catherine Philbrooke & Christopher Brown
Doug Pole & Family
Diane Pope & Family
Henry & Susan Popp
Holly Powell
Sarah Powell
Brendan Pynenburg
Joyce & Ross Redford
Kirk Roberts & Family
Ian & June Robertson
Christopher Robinson
Sandi Robinson & Family
Angela Rocchi
Paul Roney
Giovanna Rose-Grande
Chris Rourke & Family
Donna Rutherford
Craig Saunders
Bernardino Scala
Bob Seaton
Marietta Service
Peter Sharpe
Dave Shepherd & Family
Jill & Chris Shepherd
Lorraine Sherred
Nancy Sherwin
Mary & Ray Shier
Jocelyn & Ted Shipman
Jan Simpson & Richard Andrews
Glen R. Simpson
Sylvia Simpson
John Sinclair
Aaron Smith & Victoria Bye & Family
Donald F Smith & Family
Maureen Smith & Family

Bruce Trail Conservancy General Store

See our full selection of products and shop online at brucetrail.org

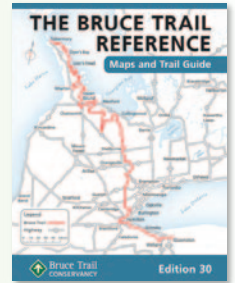


Bruce Trail Poster Map

Printed on heavy stock this beautiful, newly redesign poster map is perfect for hanging at home or at the cottage – maybe it will inspire your next Bruce Trail adventure! Poster Size: 23.94" x 35.94" **\$8.85**

Bruce Trail Reference Maps and Trail Guide

Edition 30 is here! 42 maps & trail descriptions in a sturdy 6-ring binder. Features trail changes over past 3 years. New section on Indigenous culture and revised introduction. Laminated flora, fauna & fossil field guide included. **Members \$34.95, Non-Members \$39.95.**



Bruce Trail Reference Guide Insert

Edition 30 – All the same great content as the Bruce Trail Reference but without the binder or vinyl sleeve. Best suited for those who have binder from a previous edition. Inserts come with a sticker for your old binder so you can easily identify which edition is inside. **Members \$24.95, Non-Members \$29.95.**

Downloadable Bruce Trail Reference Maps

Edition 30 – Individual Maps \$3.00. Full set of 42 maps in single download package. **Members \$24.95, Non-Members \$29.95.**



CREWNECK SWEATSHIRT
Burgundy. BTC logo on top left chest. 65% polyester, 35% cotton. Anti-pill finish. Unisex cut (XS to XXL)
Members: \$40.00
Non-members \$45.00

BTC TRAVEL MUG

18 oz. stainless steel, dark green mug with BTC logo. Vacuum insulated, double wall construction. Push-on lid with thumb-slide opening.
Members: \$22.00,
Non-Member \$24.00



BTC LICENSE PLATE FRAME

Updated design in green print features the BTC mission. **\$5.00**



NEW

2022 Bruce Trail Calendar

A stunning collection of Bruce Trail-themed art from Niagara Escarpment artists.
Members: \$15.00
Non-Members: \$18.00



BRUCE TRAIL ARROW SOCKS

New design. Great for on the trail or around town. One size (7-13). 80% combed cotton, 17% polyamide, 3% elastane. **\$13.95**



BLAZE PERFORMANCE T-SHIRT

White on navy. Soft cotton-feel with moisture-wicking and antimicrobial technology. 100% polyester jersey. Tapered Cut Scoop Neck or Straight Cut Crew Neck (XS-XXL). **\$20.00**

BTC BUFF

Multifunctional headwear from BUFF. New design features pattern of green diamonds and white blazes on black. 100% polyester microfiber. **\$24.95**



LOOPS & LATTES SERIES \$29.95 EACH



BTC CAP

Moisture wicking, structured cap in graphite grey with embroidered BTC logo. Adjustable strap. **\$19.95**



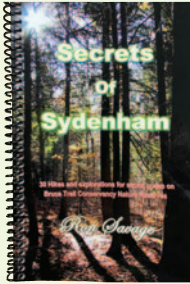
BTC DOG LEASH

For our canine Bruce Trail fans. 6 ft woven leash. **\$19.95**



BTC BOOKSHELF

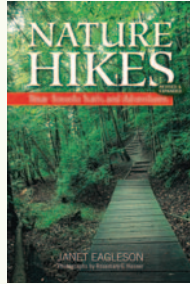
To order from our extensive collection of books please call 905-529-6821 or visit www.brucetrail.org



SECRETS OF SYDENHAM
\$20.00



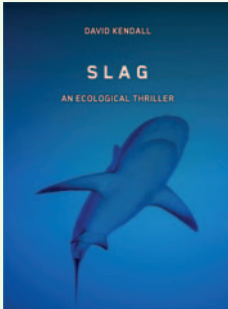
WATERFALLS OF ONTARIO, 3RD ED
\$29.95



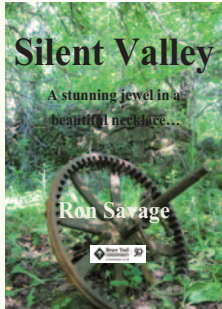
NATURE HIKES – NEAR-TORONTO TRAILS & ADVENTURES
\$24.95



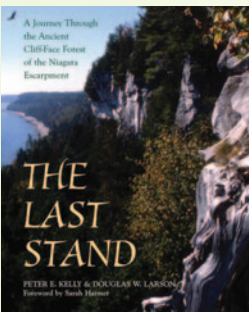
BUTTERFLIES OF ONTARIO & EASTERN CANADA
\$28.95



SLAG: AN ECOLOGICAL THRILLER
\$15.95

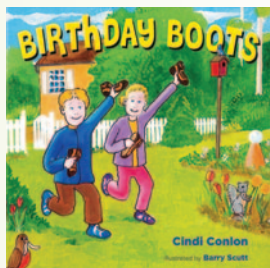


SILENT VALLEY
\$15.00



THE LAST STAND
\$29.95

Kids' Corner



BIRTHDAY BOOTS \$10.00



SARAH'S DINOSAUR \$5.00

END-TO-END Badge Package

10 badges. 1 purchase.

End-to-Enders can now receive their Bruce Trail End-to-End badge and certificate PLUS each of the 9 Club End-to-End badges in one package. Submit your hike logs to the BTC once you've completed the entire Trail and request this package. Those wishing to collect badges as they complete sections will still need to reach out to individual Clubs. The BTC does not sell the Club badges individually. But, if you can wait until the end, you can get all 10 badges at once. Please note: the set includes only the "Hike on Your Own" badges.

\$75.00 plus shipping. *Not available online.*



Learn more about End-to-Ends at brucetrail.org/pages/explore-the-trail/end-to-ends

Thank You!

WE'VE MADE HISTORY TOGETHER AT CAPE CHIN

A special thank you to all the new friends and loyal donors who supported the Bruce Trail Conservancy's largest solo land conservation effort in our history – MapleCross Nature Reserve at Cape Chin.

Because of you, **533 acres** of forest, wetland, pasture and Georgian Bay shoreline has been protected and **1.8 km** of Bruce Trail has been secured.

Learn more about this remarkable addition to our conservation corridor on page 8.



Bruce Trail
CONSERVANCY