

FALL 2022



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- Call 1-800-665-4453, or
- · Email info@brucetrail.org



Cover photo: Ancient Eastern White Cedars at Rattlesnake Point, by Michael Henry



MAGAZIN

BRUCE TRAIL CONSERVANCY

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Chief Executive Officer's Message



When I think of the Bruce Trail, one special tree comes to mind.

I know that may be hard to believe. How many wonderful trees must there be along the Niagara Escarpment? In the estimated 228,000 acres of forest along its length there are thousands upon thousands of trees. In the Bruce Trail Conservancy's protected natural areas alone there are at least 66 species of trees. We have soaring White Pines, brilliant Sugar Maples, endangered Butternut, and ancient Eastern White Cedars, to name a few. We have deep forests and lone sentinel trees. In the Escarpment's diverse and distinctive forests, there are many remarkable trees.

The tree I am thinking of is still a sapling, with all the hope and possibility that represents. It is a Tulip Tree that was planted on the BTC's Fisher's Pond Nature Reserve the year I began my role as chief executive officer.

This Tulip Tree's ancestor was a striking tree that caught the eye and the imagination of a young Dr. Philip Gosling, BTC Co-founder and Honorary President. In the early days of his work as the first trail director of the Bruce Trail Association, Dr. Gosling spotted a Tulip Tree along the nascent route of the Trail near Short Hills. Instantly appreciating this rare Carolinian species, Dr. Gosling gathered seeds from that trailside tree and planted them at his home in Guelph where, over the decades, two of them grew to a stunning 60-foot height.

In one of my first meetings with Dr. Gosling, he brought me into his beautiful backyard and presented me with a seedling from one of those special trees. I accepted this thoughtful gift on behalf of all BTC members, staff and volunteers. What an honour and responsibility this young tree represents. In planting the tree on BTC protected land, we reconfirmed a commitment to continue the legacy Dr. Gosling and all our early volunteers began. As it grows, we will continue to grow our ribbon of

wilderness and protect nature for future generations.

Trees can be powerfully symbolic. As Michael Henry reminds us in this issue of *Bruce Trail Conservancy Magazine*, trees are witnesses to our past and beacons for the future. Henry encourages us to explore some of the unique old-growth forests along the Bruce Trail and invites us to consider what they mean to us.

We know that beyond their symbolic importance, trees are crucial to our planet's health. They clean the air, mitigate climate change and provide habitat for countless wildlife species. And as many of you will have experienced, trees do wonders for our own mental and physical health.

In this issue you'll read about some of the remarkable trees of the Niagara Escarpment, including several species that are in danger of disappearing from our forests all together. With your support, the Bruce Trail Conservancy will continue to protect, restore and

connect people to these species and all the natural wonders of the Niagara Escarpment. •

Michael McDonald, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

I invite everyone to learn more about Dr. Gosling and the early days of the Bruce Trail through his new book *Bruce Trail Stories*: 1962-1967 Memoirs/Vignettes.

It's available through the BTC store (brucetrail.org/store or 1-800-665-4453; \$19.95).



Take the Bruce Trail Pledge

This October, we invite all who care about the Bruce Trail to commit to doing one of five simple yet powerful actions to support the Trail and the work of the BTC:

· Leave the Trail better than you found it.

Practice leave no trace principles. Collect litter on your hike and submit your data in our Hike it, Love it, Keep it Clean project.

• Share your plant & wildlife sightings.

Collect important biodiversity data as you hike, and learn more about Niagara Escarpment species as a citizen science volunteer.

Be an ambassador.

Share your love of the Bruce Trail and encourage others to support the Bruce Trail Conservancy. Share this issue of Bruce Trail Conservancy Magazine.

· Support conservation with a gift.

Make a donation to the Bruce Trail Conservancy and support the preservation and stewardship of Niagara Escarpment land.

Build an inclusive outdoors.

Be an active part of making the outdoors safe and welcoming for all identities and abilities.

To learn how these actions can make a difference, to find ideas, tips and resources, and to take the pledge, visit brucetrail.org/bruce-trail-pledge-2022

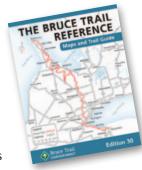


As our thanks to you for taking action with the Pledge, we'll send you a Bruce Trail Pledge 2022 button. Wear it with pride and let others know why you took the pledge.

Take the pledge and you'll also be entered to win a BTC prize (your choice of a Bruce Trail Reference Guide or a pair of BTC socks).

Each week in October, we'll draw for a prize among all pledge takers.

The sooner you take the pledge, the more chances you'll have to win.

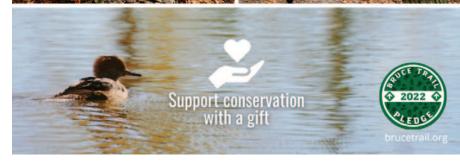












Share the Bruce Trail Pledge

With each person who takes the Bruce Trail Pledge, our community grows. As our community grows, our collective capacity to preserve a ribbon of wilderness increases.

With each action, we are making a positive difference in the future of our beloved Bruce Trail and in the conservation of the irreplaceable Niagara Escarpment. •





With its beautiful colours, crisp air and lack of bugs, fall is a wonderful time for hiking on the Bruce Trail. Fall is also a favourite season for other outdoor pursuits, including hunting.

With a little extra planning and proper precautions hikers and hunters can share the outdoors and ensure a safe day on the trails.

The Bruce Trail traverses many different types of lands and hunting may occur on some of them. In Conservation Areas, Provincial and National Parks, and Bruce Trail Conservancy land, hunting is generally prohibited. However the Trail passes through or near county forests, other public lands and private properties where hunting may occur, with the permission of the landowner.

Here are some tips to stay safe on trails during hunting season.

Be aware

Know when and where hunting is allowed. Hunting seasons vary by region, by animal, and by permitted method of hunting (e.g. bow hunting or rifles); see sidebar. You can find detailed information at: www.ontario.ca/page/hunting

Some areas may be closed or partially closed to hikers when hunting takes place. As always, check for any trail changes or closures before your hike at brucetrail.org/trail_changes and follow any signage you see on the Trail.

If you'd rather not hike on lands where hunting is allowed, choose trails

in popular parks and near cities and towns. Check park websites to confirm if/where hunting is allowed. In general, hunting is more popular in the northern half of the Bruce Trail - from the Blue Mountains section northward.

Be seen

Wear bright colours instead of beige, brown, white, or black. A fluorescent or "blaze orange" hat, vest, bandana, and/or pack cover will help you be seen easily.

Be heard

Make (some) noise so hunters will know you're on the trail. Talk to your fellow hikers. If you do hear shots, raise your voice and let hunters know that you are in the vicinity.

Stay on the trail

As you would at any time of the year, stick to the blazed trail.

Avoid hiking at dawn or dusk

This is when hunters will be most active and when visibility is low.

Protect your pet

Make sure your dog is also wearing 'blaze orange' so it's easily identifiable. Keep your dog on a leash and on the trail - no matter how well behaved they are. •

Hunting Seasons

The Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) regulates hunting in our province. Dates and locations vary based on the type of animal and the style of hunting, and change year to year.

The most popular hunting seasons on the Niagara Escarpment are:

Fall Deer Hunt:

Mid-September to end of December

Spring Wild Turkey Hunt: Mid-April to end of May

Find details at:

www.ontario.ca/page/hunting

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT UNITS

To find hunting season details from the MNRF, it helps to know what Wildlife Management Unit (WMU) or region you are interested in.

Here are the WMUs that the Bruce Trail passes though:

Bruce Trail Section WMU Peninsula 83A Sydenham 82A, 82B **Beaver Valley** 82A **Blue Mountains** 82A, 81B **Dufferin Hi-Land** 81A, 81B Caledon Hills 77B, 78D, 81B Toronto 79D, 79C 79D, 87D, 87E, 88 Iroquoia Niagara



Conservation in Action: New Protected Areas

The Bruce Trail Conservancy has established six new protected natural areas in the past few months. Together, these areas protect 120 acres of Niagara Escarpment habitats and secure 2.7 kilometres of the Bruce Trail.

Thanks to donors who support our urgent conservation work and landowners who work with us to sell or donate their land to the Bruce Trail Conservancy, these special places will forever be part of a protected ribbon of wilderness.

Woolverton Ridge Nature Reserve (expansion) - Iroquoia section

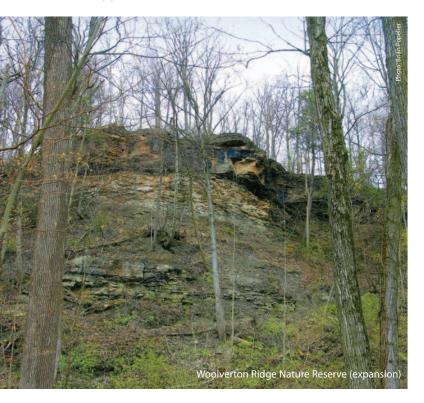
Grimsby, Map 5*

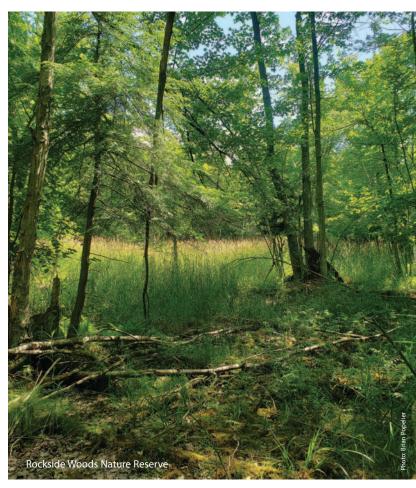
3 acres | 69 m of Bruce Trail Optimum Route

The Woolverton Ridge Nature Reserve has doubled in size with the protection of this latest property. Sitting beneath the Escarpment brow overlooking Grimsby, this protected area is connected directly to the original 3-acre Woolverton Ridge Nature Reserve preserved by the Bruce Trail Conservancy in 2021.

This addition represents an important step in removing the Bruce Trail from nearly 2.5 km of Ridge Road West and Woolverton Road. There is no trail 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.

In the meantime, the forested slope and woodland habitats of this nature reserve are protected from development and will continue to provide refuge for Escarpment wildlife in an increasingly urbanized area.





Rockside Woods Nature Reserve - Toronto section

Terra Cotta, Map 14

25 acres | 443 m of Bruce Trail Optimum Route
The Bruce Trail has passed through Rockside Woods Nature
Reserve for many years, thanks to generous handshake
agreements with the previous landowner. Now established as
a protected natural area, Rockside Woods preserves 25 acres
of ecologically valuable Niagara Escarpment land while
keeping it accessible through 443 m of Bruce Trail.

The forest habitats at Rockside Woods cover nearly the entire nature reserve. They create an ecological linkage within a larger regional woodland extending along the Niagara Escarpment from the village of Limehouse to the Forks of the Credit area. A verdant meadow marsh at the north end of the property is part of the provincially significant Caledon Mountain Wetland Complex.

The woodlands and wetlands of Rockside Woods are large, varied and healthy enough to support species at risk, including American Hart's-tongue Fern, Jefferson Salamander, and Canada Warbler in all stages of their life cycles.



CVC Property - Toronto section

Terra Cotta, Map 14

40 acres | 496 m of Bruce Trail Optimum Route
Just down the road from Rockside Woods Nature Reserve is a
40-acre property which was purchased by Credit Valley
Conservation (CVC) in partnership with the Bruce Trail
Conservancy. CVC holds title to the property and will be
responsible for its care. There is no trail currently on the
property. Protecting this natural area contributes to the
preservation and connectivity of essential Niagara
Escarpment habitats.



Fern Crevice Nature Reserve - Blue Mountains section Pretty River, Map 23

24 acres | 1,113 m of Bruce Trail Optimum Route
Just north of the popular Pretty River Provincial Park, Fern
Crevice Nature Reserve preserves a 24-acre wooded corridor
and ensures an ecological link between the park and Petun
Conservation Area. BTC ecologists have already identified the
presence of Species at Risk at Fern Crevice, including
Butternut (Endangered), American Hart's-tongue Fern (Special
Concern) and Louisiana Waterthrush (Threatened).



Over 1 kilometre of the Bruce Trail's Optimum Route is now permanently secured through Fern Crevice Nature Reserve. A reroute of the main Trail onto the property will also improve the hiking experience, moving it from an unopened road and allowing hikers to avoid the busy operations related to the adjacent ski club.

Stoney Birch Nature Reserve - Peninsula section *Hope Bay, Map 37*

3 acres | 353 m of Bruce Trail Optimum Route
Stoney Birch Nature Reserve is a key connector property.
Located on the Escarpment edge, between Hope Bay
Provincial Nature Reserve and another BTC protected natural
area, Stoney Birch creates permanent continuity for the trail
and connection of protected habitats. With the creation of
this nature reserve, the Bruce Trail is continuously secured on
permanently protected land for over 8 km from the village of
Hope Bay to just south of Cape Dundas.



The Bruce Trail crossed the land at Stoney Birch Nature Reserve for many years thanks to a voluntary handshake agreement with the generous landowner. This year, that landowner sold a portion of their property to the Bruce Trail Conservancy enabling it to be preserved in perpetuity.

The gently sloping terrain offers a view over Hope Bay through the trees - primarily White Birch, Balsam Fir and White Cedar. The ground's rocky outcrops are covered in moss and lichen with pockets of soil supporting Bracken Fern, Bearberry and Large Leaved Aster.

Conservation in Action: New Protected Areas continued

Dolostone Arch Nature Reserve - Peninsula section *Tobermory, Map 42*

25 acres | 200 m of Bruce Trail Optimum Route
With its iconic beauty and varied habitats, Dolostone Arch
Nature Reserve secures 200 metres of Bruce Trail, and makes a
vital contribution to the ecological health of the Niagara
Escarpment.

Located on Dunks Bay near Tobermory, Dolostone Arch Nature Reserve is an untouched natural oasis. Spectacular Escarpment cliffs overlook a pristine Saugeen (Bruce) Peninsula shoreline. Inland, the mixed forest sustains wildlife and plays a significant role in addressing the effects of climate change.

Dolostone Arch Nature Reserve features a series of small crevices and caves, and a natural bridge of dolostone, reminiscent of the popular Grotto just 14 km south. The splash zone from the waves on the shoreline creates a unique

microhabitat that supports uncommon species including Ontario Goldenrod, a species of conservation concern found hugging large boulders.

Most of the forest in this nature reserve is considered interior forest, which is the deep, isolated part of a forest found at least 100 metres from the forest edge. Interior forest habitat is critical to many area sensitive species including species of conservation concern like Woodthrush and Eastern Wood Pewee, as well as mammals like Black Bear and the elusive Fisher who rely on large tracts of forest for their survival. Dolostone Arch Nature Reserve is part of a very large woodland corridor extending for 57 km along the Escarpment from Whippoorwill Bay to the northern tip of the Saugeen (Bruce) Peninsula. •

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



New Feature in the Bruce Trail App: Report a Trail Issue

You can help the Bruce Trail Conservancy maintain over 1,300 km of trail by using the new "Report Trail Issue" feature in the Bruce Trail App.

Hundreds of volunteers care for the Bruce Trail and its many side trails: painting blazes, maintaining a clear treadway, building boardwalks, and more. Though volunteers regularly monitor and care for the trail, conditions can change quickly and it can help to have issues reported by hikers.

If you notice something that needs attention on the trail, you can send a report directly to the appropriate trail volunteers using the "Report Trail Issue" function found in the Pin tool of the app.

The reporting function lets you send a location (with GPS coordinates), a description and even a photo, to the trail volunteers in the Bruce Trail Club responsible for that area. You don't need to know what section you are in or who to contact. The app takes care of that and sends your report to the right Club.

With these reports our trail crew will have the details they need and you will have helped to keep the trail safe and navigable for future hikers.

What Should Be Reported?

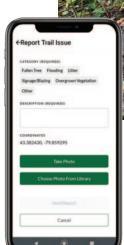
Helpful issues to report include: downed trees, overgrown vegetation (tall weeds or grass in need of trimming), flooded areas, tripping hazards, missing blazes or signs, structure damage (boardwalk, side logging, steps, stiles), or garbage dumps.

How to Report a Trail Issue Using the Bruce Trail App

- 1. In the Explore page of your Bruce Trail App, pan to the part of the map with the trail issue.
- 2. Select the pin icon.
 - select the pin leon.
- 3. Tap the screen to drop a pin on the location of the issue.
- 4. Choose "Report Trail Issue".
- 5. Select a category of trail issue and enter a description (both are required fields).
- 6. Take a photo or choose one from your photo library (optional but very helpful).
- 7. Press "Send Report" to submit your report to the Trail maintenance team.
- 8. You will see a notice pop-up saying that your report has successfully been submitted.

If you are not connected to the internet:

If you do not have access to the internet while on the Trail, you will not be able to report an issue in real-time. Instead, save the location as a pin and you can send the report later



when you are connected. How? Drop a pin and select "Save Pin". Take a photo with your camera app (optional). When you are back online, open your Saved Pins (Main menu > Saved Pins, Routes & Hikes > Saved Pins) and open the pin you saved. From there you can "Report Trail Issue".

What Happens to Your Report?

Your trail issue report will be sent automatically by email to one or more Trail volunteers in the appropriate Club. They'll use the information to prioritize and plan next steps. You won't receive any follow up on your report unless the volunteers need clarification on the issue or location.

Another Tool in the Pack

Trail volunteers use several methods to monitor trail issues and to plan and prioritize their work. The trail issue reporting feature in the Bruce Trail App is now another tool to support their ongoing work and a way that we can all play a part in keeping the trail safe.

Visit brucetrail.org/bruce-trail-app for more information.



It's late in the morning of October 13, 1812, several hours after General Brock was killed leading a disastrous charge to retake Queenston Heights from American militia.

Chief John Norton and 80 Indigenous men, mostly Haudenosaunee, creep through a young oak forest west of the captured British artillery position at the height of land. Norton crouches down behind a young oak, takes aim and fires off his first shot. Soon splinters of wood are exploding from the trees around him as hundreds of American troops return fire. A musket ball lodges itself into the

tree beside Norton, embedded deep in the wood grain. This scene repeats itself for the next few hours as they move and fire from different positions in the woods, confusing the American militia into thinking a much larger force is attacking. This buys time and costs American morale until British reinforcements arrive and eventually recapture the strategically important hill.

Next spring the trees begin to heal their wounds.

Two hundred years later, I rest my hand against a 260-year-old White Oak, admire its crown high above, and wonder if it has a musket ball embedded deep inside its trunk. The Red, White and Bur Oaks that greet you as you begin to hike the Bruce Trail from its southern origin arguably do a better job

commemorating the battle of Queenston Heights than the nearby Brock Monument. Because unlike the monument, they were there for the battle. Growing alongside the old oaks are Sugar Maple, Beech, Slippery Elm and even Butternut trees. These are younger than the oaks, having grown up in their shade or on the edge of the forest – but even many of these "young" trees reach 180 years old.

The Red, White and Bur
Oaks that greet you as you
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arguably do a better job
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Queenston Heights than the
nearby Brock Monument.

This old-growth forest has been largely overlooked, located next to a famous monument and an even more iconic trailhead – but all three are intimately connected to the Niagara Escarpment, a 400-million-year-old ancient seabed that

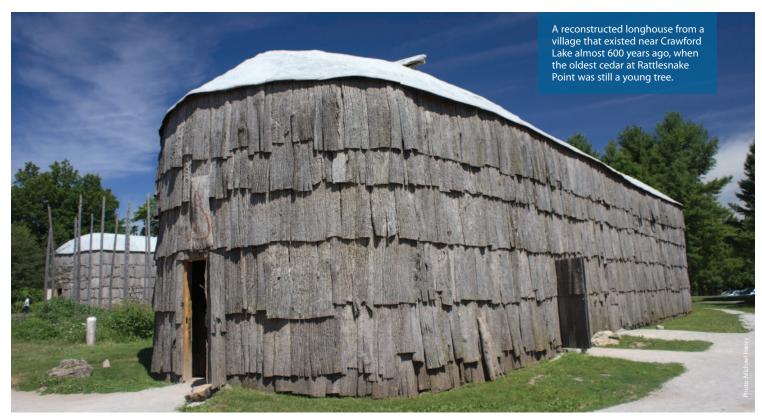
seems to grow in height as erosion wears down the surrounding landscape. Armies fought over the height of land where the Escarpment meets the Niagara River. The Bruce Trail begins at the same point and winds the entire length of the Escarpment. And the soils near the edge of the escarpment are too thin for agriculture, so much of the length of the Escarpment is a necklace of forest across southern Ontario, old-growth forests scattered along it like pearls, Brock Monument being the first.

The Oldest Trees

I'm putting the finishing touches on a walking guide to old-growth forests of Ontario's Greenbelt, 10 of which are found along the length of the Escarpment. Many others are omitted because they are harder to access, including Lion's Head with Ontario's oldest tree – a 1,300-year-old Eastern White Cedar hanging off the 40 metre high cliffs. Despite its spectacular and inspiring nature I left it out of the guide because it's so darn hard to see! If you want to see ancient cedars one of the easiest places to get a look at them is Rattlesnake Point.

In the mid-1980s professors and students from the University of Guelph gathered at the cliff edge at Rattlesnake Point to discuss the nascent Cliff Ecology Research Group that they intended to form. It would study all the life forms of the cliffs including mosses, lichens, insects, and plants. They noticed the cedars and wondered why they were there but thought of them as a small, presumably short-lived tree that is as common in suburban hedges as anywhere, of no more interest than the beetles that sheltered under their roots (that is to say, still pretty interesting). Everything changed in 1988 when Doug Larson and a summer intern named Ceddy Nash aged some of the cedars along the cliff edge and found they were up to 400 years old! Over the next few summers the Cliff Ecology group began to pick over the cliffs of the Niagara Escarpment to learn the ages of the cedars. They found trees at Mount Nemo and Kelso Conservation Area between 400 and 900 years old. When they reached Lion's Head Provincial Nature Reserve they found multiple trees over 1,000 years old.

Ever since I learned this story it has amazed me that it took until 1988 for us to realize that small gnarled trees on the cliff face in plain view of Canada's most populated region were nearly 1,000 years old. What else have we been missing? I suppose amateur old-tree hunter Nate Torenvliet helped answer that question a few years ago when he



found a 580-year-old Black Gum tree in a slough near Niagara Falls. Like the oaks of Brock Monument these old trees connect us to our history and have got to be a little humbling to anyone who stops long enough to think about it.

The oldest cliff cedar at Rattlesnake Point has been growing for over 600 years. A short hike down the valley brings you to Crawford Lake. It's a meromictic lake, which at its simplest level means the lake water doesn't turn over seasonally as it would in most other lakes, leaving perfectly preserved annual deposition of sediment and pollen on the lake bed. These layers can be used by paleobotanists to reconstruct past vegetation from pollen. That's how remnants of the now famous longhouse villages adjacent to Crawford Lake were discovered in 1972. Pollen from maize (corn) was found in the lake from about 1310 to 1535 AD, and the longhouses that have been reconstructed are on the site of a village that existed from around 1436 to 1457, when the oldest cedar at Rattlesnake Point was still a young tree. It's easy to imagine an Indigenous hunter pausing to look out from the dramatic viewpoint almost 600 years ago, the young cedar growing on the cliffs beneath his feet. A hawk wheels on an updraft over the unbroken forest cover below. How could he imagine the changes that would be wrought on that landscape over the ensuing centuries or the alliances, the broken promises, the tragedies still many years in the future. He turns and walks back into the woods to hunt for deer.

Unique 'Tells' of Old-growth Trees

Old-growth forests are common along the Escarpment because it is marginal habitat, which is best exemplified by the ancient cedars but true to some extent of almost all the remaining old growth. This poses a bit of a dilemma – if the trees are typically small for their age, how do we recognize that they are old? Trees have their own unique 'tells'. In the case of ancient cedars, the trunks tend to become very asymmetrical. Parts of the root system of ancient cedars, and their associated trunk and crown, will die, while other parts continue growing. Dead branches can persist for centuries and the trunk can become flattened or spiral. The trees can become very messy looking, weird and gnarled.



Above all they are found growing in very isolated places such as cliff faces or talus slopes, where they are safe from fire, herbivores, and thoughtless humans.

Other (forest-grown) trees also reveal their age through trunk and branch characteristics. If you want to know if a tree is old, look up. The upper trunk will remain very fat (the tree is more column-like than tapered). The branches tend to be clustered near the top of the tree - few, large, often twisted. Old hardwood trees are sometimes compared to a celery stalk. The bark at the base of the tree may be deeply ridged or plated; or more often balding, shedding from the tree leaving a relatively smooth but patterned trunk. Many old-growth forests have been identified along the Escarpment but some may still be undocumented, and certainly old trees are scattered along its length. Next time you hike the Bruce Trail you can imagine you're on a sort of scavenger hunt, alert for old trees with all their strange character and beauty just one more delight of the Niagara Escarpment.

The Value of Old Trees

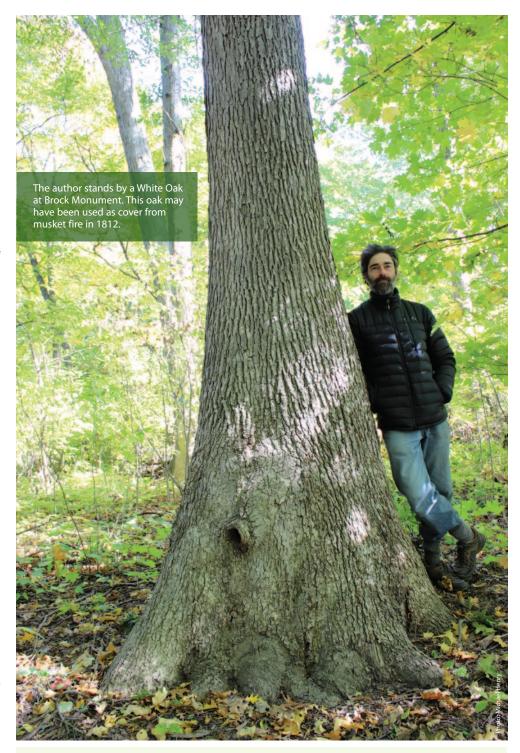
Being in the presence of trees that predate Ontario's towns and cities can be humbling and magical, but we're realizing that their value goes far beyond that. Old trees and old forests can have greater genetic diversity than younger ones. Some of the research to prove this was done at the turn of the millenium, when it may have seemed more academic – but in this era of tree-killing invasive species and climate change we know it can mean the difference between a tree species surviving or disappearing, or how well it can adapt and shift its range.

Even a single old tree can evolve, as mutations accumulate within the tree over centuries, and some beneficial mutations may be passed on through its seeds. This is in stark contrast to how animals evolve, and is still a new field of study. Seeds from old trees are increasingly prized by amateur and professional seed collectors for these reasons, and because they represent the only seed known to be adapted to local conditions (younger trees may have been planted or cross-bred).

Old-growth forests are a rare habitat,

tiny fragments of a once common ecosystem. In practice that means they may host Spotted Salamanders, Hoary or Silver-haired Bats, and rare lichens – as well as countless species of insects and birds that are increasingly rare in our young and fragmented landscape. The Niagara Escarpment, the Oak Ridges

Moraine, and other Greenbelt forests are reservoirs of superior habitat and genetically diverse seed in an increasingly human landscape. If you want to find hope for the future then an old-growth forest, or even an individual old tree, is not a bad place to start. •



Michael Henry is the lead author of Ontario's Old-Growth Forests, he maintains the list of Ontario's oldest trees, and is leading the Algonquin Park Old-Growth Forest Project in partnership with the Wilderness Committee. You can learn more about his work at oldgrowth.ca.



Think of an endangered species and often a mammal, bird or amphibian will come to mind. Trees seem like such permanent fixtures - strong and ubiquitous in the Ontario landscape - we may not realize many tree species are at risk of extinction.

On the next few pages you'll read about some of Ontario's vulnerable trees and three ways the Bruce Trail Conservancy is working to turn the tide for these species: reintroducing species

through planting disease-resistant stock; creating protected natural areas and monitoring for species at risk; and tracking emerging invasive species that threaten Escarpment forests.

Recovering an Endangered Species

The American Chestnut (Castanea dentata) has almost disappeared from eastern North America due to an epidemic caused by a fungal disease called the chestnut blight (Cryphonectria parasitica).

There is no proven natural resistance to the disease found in the remaining population. Once a towering mainstay of Ontario forests, today, few mature American Chestnuts remain, and this species is at risk of being lost forever.

The Bruce Trail Conservancy is investing in the health of our forests and is participating in an American Chestnut Species Recovery plan with a goal of reintroducing the species into its native range throughout the forests of southern Ontario.

The American Chestnut was a primary and important food source for a variety of wildlife (from bears to birds) producing abundant and highly nutritious food year after year. Due to its fast growth and tolerance of rocky, acidic and poor soils the species is also particularly valuable in helping restore degraded landscapes into diverse, healthy forest.

The Canadian Chestnut Council is breeding blight-resistant American Chestnut trees, using pollen from surviving resistant trees, and planting them with the goal of creating self-sustaining populations of locally-adapted, resistant chestnuts. Restoring the American Chestnut will be a conservation achievement of historic proportions, turning around what is considered to be one of the worst ecological disasters to strike the world's forests.

The Bruce Trail Conservancy has partnered with the Canadian Chestnut

Council to plant a research plot containing 120 of these new American Chestnut trees at our Fisher's Pond Nature Reserve. The trees will be closely studied and monitored over the coming years by BTC staff, volunteers and researchers. In addition to this research plot, the BTC is planting another 528 American Chestnut trees on BTC protected lands and 120 on a neighbouring landowner's property at Cape Chin. These concerted efforts and partnerships offer hope for the recovery of this valuable tree in our forests.



Protecting Escarpment Forests

Through ongoing work to establish and care for protected natural areas, the Bruce Trail Conservancy is preserving habitat and safeguarding many of Ontario's species - including several rare and at risk tree species.

Rare and At-Risk Tree Species in BTC Nature Reserves

Of the 89 species of conservation concern whose presence has been recorded in BTC protected natural areas, eight of them are trees.

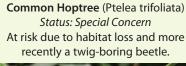
American Chestnut (Castanea dentata)
Status*: Endangered
At risk due to chestnut blight (fungal disease).



Black Ash (Fraxinus nigra)

Status: Threatened

At risk due to the emerald ash borer.





Eastern Flowering Dogwood (Cornus florida)
Status: Endangered
At risk due to dogwood anthracnose (fungus)
and habitat loss and fragmentation.



Pawpaw (Asimina triloba)

Status: Vulnerable (S3/N3, NatureServe)

Unique to the Carolinian Forest zone in southwestern Ontario.



Northern Pin Oak (Quercus ellipsoidalis) Status: Vulnerable (S3/N3, NatureServe)



Red Mulberry (Morus rubra)

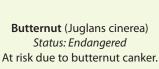
Status: Endangered

At risk due to loss of habitat and hybridization with introduced White Mulberry.



Other provincially or federally listed tree Species at Risk historically found on the Niagara Escarpment, not yet observed on BTC-managed land include: Blue Ash, Cherry Birch, Cucumber Tree, and Kentucky Coffeetree.

*Status is based on federal listing (COSEWIC) unless otherwise noted.





• Get to know these trees and others in your area through Ontario's Tree Atlas: www.ontario.ca/page/tree-atlas

You Can Help:

- Report sightings of these or other rare trees through iNaturalist to the following projects: Bruce Trail Conservancy and NHIC rare species of Ontario.
- Support restoration and habitat preservation efforts of the Bruce Trail Conservancy and other organizations with a donation or through volunteering.

Tracking Emerging Invasive Threats to Escarpment Trees

Two new invasive insects recently recorded in Ontario could pose a threat to forests on the Niagara Escarpment. Early detection will be key to managing their spread, and hikers can help.

Spotted Lanternfly and Hemlock Wooly Adelgid join the list of forest pests and pathogens impacting our forest ecosystems, including Spongy Moth, Emerald Ash Borer and Butternut Canker. Get to know these latest invaders. The more people who are looking for them, the better chance we have of slowing their spread and preserving valuable trees and forests.

Hemlock Woolly Adelgid

Hemlock Woolly Adelgid (HWA or Adelges tsugae) are aphid-like insects that attack hemlock trees by sucking sap from the base of their needles, draining the trees of their energy and killing them. They are tiny (1.5 mm) but their egg sacs are the most noticeable sign, looking like 'woolly' cotton balls or clumps of snow at the base of needles.



Impact

Eastern Hemlock (Tsuga canadensis) is the only native host of HWA in eastern Canada, and a foundation species in many forests. Today, HWA is affecting about half the range of Eastern Hemlock in North America, with mortality as high as 98 per cent. This rapidly spreading insect kills trees of all sizes and age-classes within 4-15 years of infestation. Hemlock has no apparent resistance to the adelgid; it rarely recovers from attack, and there are currently no effective biological or chemical controls of HWA in forested ecosystems.

Where is it?

First detected in Ontario in 2012, the presence of HWA has been confirmed in some parts of Ontario including Niagara Falls, Wainfleet, Fort Erie, and most recently Grafton.

How does it spread?

The HWA is only mobile during its 'crawler' stage so the species cannot move on its own from area to area. It must rely on being carried by wind, birds and other forest-dwelling animals; or through the movement of nursery stock, firewood, wood chips and even holiday decorations from infested areas.

Spotted Lanternfly

Spotted Lanternfly (SLF or Lycorma delicatula) is a colourful invasive planthopper, originally from Asia, whose feeding



and excretion habits weaken hardwood and fruit trees. SLF will lay muddy-grey egg masses on any available hard surface including trees, vines, stones, vehicles, and patio furniture. Movement of these objects can spread SLF to new areas.

Impact

Spotted Lanternflies feed in swarms on over 70 plant species including cultivated grapes, fruit trees, black walnut, maples, and oaks. Their feeding causes ruined or mealy fruit - making them incredibly destructive and a major threat to Ontario's wine and fruit industries. Though not known to cause tree mortality, the swarms stress affected trees by severely depleting their sugar supply, leaving them susceptible to other health issues.

Where is it?

SLF is not yet known to occur in Canada, but it has been detected just across the border in New York State. The Bruce Trail Conservancy has partnered with the Canadian Food Inspection Agency to help spread the word about these insects and detect them before populations become established.

IF YOU SPOT THESE SPECIES, REPORT THE SIGHTINGS TO:

Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) www.inspection.gc.ca/pests

EDDMapS

www.eddmaps.org

Invasive Species Centre www.invasivespeciescentre.ca

How does it spread?

Spotted Lanternflies spread as adults by attaching themselves with their strong feet to people, animals and vehicles. They also spread as eggs, which are laid



on nearly any flat surface in large, difficult to spot egg masses. These masses are covered in a shiny, grey, putty-like material that darkens and turns brittle overtime. Their primary host plant is the Tree-of-Heaven, itself an invasive species. Spotting and reporting Tree-of-Heaven can help to control the spread of SLF.



You can help

- Learn to identify these species at their various life stages. Visit www.invasivespeciescentre.ca for more information.
- Monitor their preferred plant hosts (Eastern Hemlock and Tree-of-Heaven) for signs.
- Check hard surfaces for SLF egg masses (September – May), especially when transporting materials from areas of known SLF detections.
- Buy local firewood and do not move firewood.
- Report your sightings (see box above for contacts)

Fall Colours and Climate Change

A walk on the Bruce Trail is a spectacular way to experience the diverse and changing colours of Niagara Escarpment forests in the fall. Maples blaze red and orange. Birches turn hillsides to gold. Deep green hemlocks strike a bold contrast. Beeches hold onto their tan leaves while oaks and ashes lend copper and purple to the mix.

The fall 'foliage season' varies from year to year in intensity, colour, and duration. It's never the same show twice. Yet, climate change could bring about longer term changes to this annual display. By affecting the seasonal rhythms of trees, tree health and the composition of forests in general, climate change could have an effect on what fall on the Bruce Trail looks like in the years ahead.

Disrupting seasonal triggers

While many things influence when deciduous trees change their leaves, two main cues are day length and temperature. As summer turns to fall, daylight hours shrink and nights get cooler, both of which trigger trees to stop photosynthesizing and producing the chlorophyll that makes leaves green. This allows underlying pigments in the leaves, mostly yellow and orange carotenoids, to become visible. Some tree species are also triggered to produce anthocyanins, especially in response to direct sunlight, giving leaves red, purple and burgundy tones.

As warmer summer temperatures last longer into the fall because of climate change, trees don't get the same triggers and may hold onto their green pigment longer, delaying the onset of fall colours. While every tree is different, researchers are finding that earlier spring bud burst, warmer temperatures and a dry fall are linked to a later fall foliage season. Other research is finding that anthocyanin production is reduced by warmer temperatures and by increased atmospheric nitrogen, so red hues may become muted with climate change.

Reducing tree health

Stressed trees do not produce fall foliage that's as vibrant as healthy trees. Drought, high winds and disease are just a few common tree stressors that are expected to increase in frequency and intensity with climate change. These stressors can cause trees to lose their leaves prematurely, skipping the colour change all together.

Changing forest composition

Climate change may also change what tree species grow where, gradually changing the forest's palette.

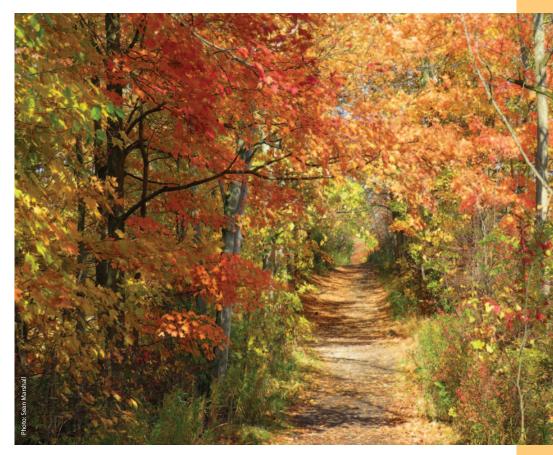
Warmer temperatures and extreme weather events are already changing the distribution and range of tree species - favouring those populations of tree species best able to adapt to new climate conditions and altered disturbance patterns. This means, for example, that some species may gradually migrate northward, and that invasive species may have a greater chance of taking hold. A reduction in species diversity may result in a more monochromatic landscape.

Why does this matter?

The impacts of climate change on fall foliage are more than just an unfortunate change to our viewscapes. They can be visual indicators of forest

health and biodiversity. Similarly, because life cycle events like fall colours can be so sensitive to climate change, researching patterns in fall foliage is becoming a major avenue to study and predict the impacts of climate change.

Though we may not be able to affect all the complex factors that influence fall colours, the Bruce Trail Conservancy is taking important steps to mitigate climate change and to help our Escarpment forests adapt through preservation and stewardship of natural areas. When forests are protected and kept intact, they can continue to provide important services such as storing carbon, filtering water, sheltering wildlife, and providing fall inspiration. Helping our forests to thrive in a changing climate can help preserve their benefits - including fall color displays well into the future. •



Kids Corner

When I was on the Bruce Trail,
I saw leaves, flowers, and some trees.
It was beautiful, I couldn't take my eyes off them.
It was so relaxing. I was so calm.
It was so peaceful that you could hear
the sound of the most quiet
chirp of a bird in the trees.
The trail gave respect to us,
and we gave respect to the trail.
We need to show respect to it
because if we don't, we won't
be able to have fresh air.
If there are no more trees and
plants, we won't be able to live,
and that's why we need to respect nature.

- Ruby B., age 8

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@brucetrail.org. Don't forget to include your name, age, description of your entry, and permission from your guardian.



Trees on the Bruce Trail come in all shapes and sizes. Their leaves, nuts, berries and branches provide food and shelter for animals and insects. Colour this page to create your very own fall collection of tree parts.



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

Bruce Trail App Has All Latest Trail Changes

Our Bruce Trail App for iOS and Android devices lets you have the most up-to-date trail data on your phone. Trail reroutes, temporary closures, parking details, and BTC protected areas are updated regularly and are ready when you open your app.

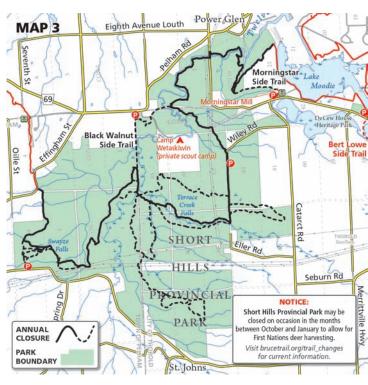
Visit brucetrail.org/bruce-trail-app

NIAGARA

Map 3 - Short Hills Provincial Park, Annual Closure

Short Hills Provincial Park will be closed to the public to honour treaty rights with a First Nation Deer Harvest. The park, including the Bruce Trail and side trails within the park, will be closed on the following dates and will re-open at 8 a.m. the following morning:

- Wednesday, October 12
- Tuesday, October 25
- Saturday, November 5
- Wednesday, November 23
- Saturday, December 3
- Wednesday, December 14 For more information visit www.ontarioparks.com/ park/shorthills/alerts



Reservations Required

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

- Conservation Halton (conservationhalton.ca):
 Mount Nemo, Rattlesnake Point, Crawford Lake, Hilton Falls CAs
- Ontario Parks (reservations.ontarioparks.com):
 Forks of the Credit, Mono Cliffs
- Hamilton Conservation Authority (conservationhamilton.ca):
 Spencer Gorge CA (Webster Falls, Tew Falls, Dundas Peak)
- Credit Valley Conservation (cvc.ca): Cheltenham Badlands CA,
- Bruce Peninsula National Park (pc.gc.ca/bruce): Halfway Dump and at the Grotto / Cyprus Lake
- Lion's Head, McCurdy Drive (www.northernbruceparking.ca)
- Little Cove Road (www.northernbruceparking.ca)

IROQUOIA

Map 6 - Devil's Punchbowl Lookout, Temporary Closure

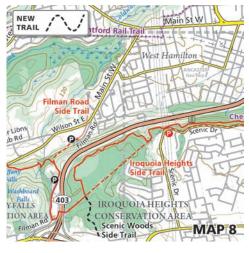
The scenic lookout at Devil's Punchbowl is closed for repairs until further notice. The parking fee has been reduced to \$5 per day. For more details visit: conservationhamilton.ca/conservationareas/devils-punchbowl/



Map 8 - Scenic Woods Side Trail

A new Scenic Woods Side Trail connects Old Mohawk Road with the Iroquoia Heights Side Trail.

Scenic Woods Side Trail = 610 metres





Map 8 - Dundas Valley Overnight Rest Area, Closed

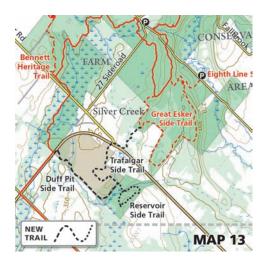
The overnight rest area (ORA) in Dundas Valley Conservation Area has been closed permanently by Hamilton Conservation Authority and is no longer available for camping.



TORONTO

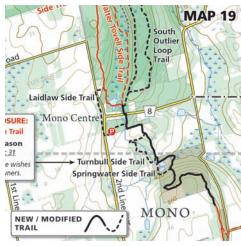
Map 13 - Silver Creek, Reroute and New Trail The creation of the BTC's Silver Creek protected natural area has prompted a new side trail configuration with the addition of the Trafalgar Side Trail and the renaming of a portion of the Duff Pit Side Trail.

Duff Pit Side Trail = 1.3 km Reservoir Side Trail = 1.2 return trip Trafalgar Side Trail = 1.6 km



CALEDON HILLS

Map 19 - Mono Centre area, Reroute
A new 2.9 km route for the main Trail
has been established as a result of the
recently established Whitetail Refuge
Nature Reserve. The reroute has changed
the length of the following side trails:
Turnbull Side Trail = 920 metres
Laidlaw Side Trail = 1.1 km
South Outlier Loop Trail = 4.1 km
Springwater Side Trail = 320 metres

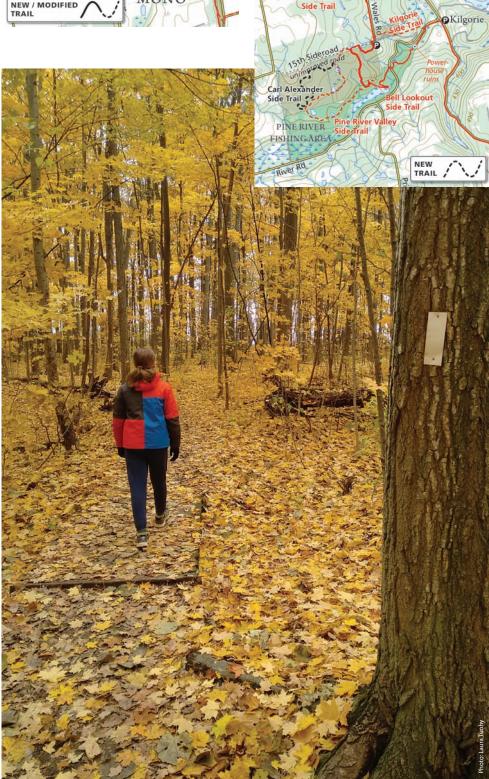


DUFFERIN HI-LAND

MAP 20

Map 20 - Carl Alexander Side Trail

A new side trail has been created on the BTC's Pine River Nature Reserve. The 1.4 km Carl Alexander Side Trail has been created and named to honour Carl for his long-time support in a multitude of volunteer roles with the Dufferin Hi-Land Bruce Trail Club. This trail creates a 2.5 km loop with the Pine River Valley Side Trail.





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

BEAVER VALLEY

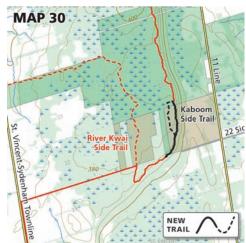
Map 24 - Parking change near Loree Forest As per the Town of the Blue Mountains, this off road parking area near Len Gertler Memorial Loree Forest now has the following details attributed to it: Capacity: 20 cars; Fee: \$10 per hour; Time Limit: maximum 4 hours. Town of the Blue Mountains residents can park free if they display their resident tag.



SYDENHAM

Map 30 - Kaboom Side Trail

A new side trail has been created on the BTC's Bayview Bluff property. The Kaboom Side Trail is 550 m and creates a 1.1 km loop with the main Bruce Trail.



Map 31 - KOA Side Trail and Campground, Annual Closure

The Owen Sound KOA Campground, the KOA Side Trail, and a portion of the Bruce Trail through the property is annually closed from October 1 to May 9 at the request of the landowner. Please respect the landowner's wishes.



Map 34 - Tumbled Rocks Side Trail

A new Tumbled Rocks Side Trail has been developed to explore the area on and around the BTC's Tumbled Rocks Nature Reserve (created in 2020). Looping with the main Trail, this side trail forms a more challenging alternative route.

Tumbled Rocks Side Trail = 830 metres Forms a 1.5 km loop with the main Bruce Trail.



Map 34 - Slough of Despond Side Trail, Reroute

The northern section of the Slough of Despond Side Trail has been rerouted to best accommodate the landowner and optimize the location of the trail.

Slough of Despond Side Trail = 8.7 km



PENINSULA

Map 36 - Sydney Bay Road, No Parking This location on Sydney Bay Road, between Boundary Road and Park Road, is no longer a Bruce Trail recommended parking area. •







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Gautreau Kate Lazier & Jane Pyper Angela Lee & Joshua

Brown Peter & Judy Leeney

Terri Leroux & Family Marcus Leung Brandon Levac & Family Christine H. Lewis

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Errol MacKenzie & Jeanne Keldson Peter & Marilyn MacLoghlin

Susan & Leslie MacMillan Chris MacNaughton & Marilyn O'Rourke Jane Malyon

Nancy & Robert Mann Steve Manske Cathy Mark Kenneth Martin

Nicole Martin David Mathieson Catherine May Darryl May

Leslie McBeth & Family Janice McClelland John & Elizabeth

McCullam Joan McDonald & Family Laura McDonald & Family

Michael McDonald & Leigh Kirschner & Family

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Sylvia J. McGeer Cheryl-Anne McLaughlin Kevin McLean & Adrienne McRuvie

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Darryl Minard & Family Eugene Mlynczyk Malcolm Moore Susannah Morrison

Matthew Hoffman & Lena Mortensen Ken & Sue Mullings Ryan Munroe

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Bill Nestorovich Kristina Nethercott Howard & Pamela

Newman Linda Ng Ian & Linda Nielsen-Jones

Rosalind Nightingale Evan Notley

Joan Nuffield & Family Nels Nyman Patrick O'Bee

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Family Scott Parker M. Roy Parry Kyra Paterson & Family

Daniel Patterson Scott Pearson Bo & Brian Penny

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Christine Riedel Kirk Roberts & Family Ian & June Robertson

Christopher Robinson Sandi Robinson & Family Paul Roney

Chris Rourke & Family Kyle Ruddy

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Mooyoul Ryu Rolande Sarabia Craig Saunders & Family Bernardino Scala

Bob Seaton Brian Seipp & Judy Watt Marietta Service

Peter Sharpe Lorraine Sherred Nancy Sherwin Mary & Ray Shier

Jasmine Sun Brett Sura & Family Patrick & Linda Taylor & Jocelyn & Ted Shipman Family

TRIBUTE GIFTS

Gifts were received in commemoration and honour of:

60th Wedding Anniversary Gordon & Irena Germann

80th Birthday

Retirement David R. Johnson

In Honour Jorge Bernhard Jeanne Bullock Gail Burgess Cairn To Cairn Crew (C2C)

Bud Christensen Granma/Helen Clark Aggie Davidson Linden Forster Cindy Greenlaw Quinn Hand Michael Hatton Linda James-Lefebvre Paula Jessop Shelagh Keesmaat Esther Keltz Anna Kromer Tomas Larouche Janet Leiper Thom Leiper

Colleen Mabalay James Mallinson Duncan Neil McFadgen Jean McKenzie Ruth Moffatt Mike Pratt Mike Pratt
Sherry Pribik
Shannon Rancourt
Derrick Richards
Miriam Richards
Paula RokitnickiWojcik
David Rowney
Rick Sabourin
Jon Sasaki

Sarah Sherman Ted Sivell Mia Sohar Barbara Sonzogni Carol Swanson Max Trower & Gemma Stanton-Gemma Stanton Hagan Steven White Will Wigelsworth Tamara & Tim Wilson Isaac Wismer Michael Ziegler Suzanne Ziegler

Gifts were received in memory of:

John Alexander Tommaso Antonini Jantje Baan Eugene (Gene) Beaudry Stanley Brodie Jack Cain Claire Capon Leah Cebrynski Chick Kam Gin Ok-Soon Chung Thomas Clarke Lila Joan Corner James Couse George & Vera Cunningham

Glen Simpson

Sylvia Simpson

Bye & Family

John Sinclair

Robert Smith

Robert Smythe

Darryl Spector

Eileen Stark

Coulthard

Satu Suikki

Heather Stuive

Darlene Stericker

Ionathon Stewart

Wendy Southall

Patrick Speissegger &

Venkatesh Sridharan

Paul & Dora Stanbury

Michael & Ann Stoten

Paul Strathdee & Teresa

Claire Rivlin & Family

Elizabeth & Phillip Staite

Andrews

Janice Simpson & Richard

Aaron Smith & Victoria

Donald Smith & Family

Maureen Smith & Family

Lynne Davies Trevor Demeris Deborah Doyle Teresa Eisner Helene Filiatrault Diane Gasner Debbie Gibson Melanie Goodine Lesley C. Hall James A. Henderson Lorne Howe Matti C. Ingerman Kevin James Donald Kerr Tickles Knebel

James Tennant

Paul Thomas

Joseph Votto

Katherine Vriend Dykstra

Diane Walker & Rob Bell

David Wallis & Joan

George Larter Sylvie Marcoux Mariners Ice
Breaker (RATN,
WRD, DD, CD, RN,
CGN) Carolle A. Mitchell Harry Moerschner Janice Moreau James Edward (Ted) Mullens Alistair Murray Carrol Nicholls Robert Oakley Sherri Ogilvie Marian Patten Walter Philips Trevor Price Steve Robbins

Peter Rostern

David Sarginson Murray Sewell Beth Simmt Jennifer Siren Raymond Smemanis Angelo Spano-Fred Turne John Valleau Dan Welsh Henry Donald (Don) Williams John D. Wismer Fred Young

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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

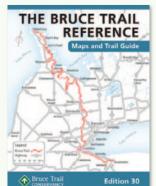
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Details at brucetrail.org/bruce-trail-app \$2.99/mth or \$28.99/yr subscription

VINTAGE LOGO BTC HAT

Featuring the original Bruce Trail logo from 1963. 100% Cotton. Velcro strap. Khaki green with a weathered look. Members: \$20, Non-Members: \$25



NEW

BTC WINTER TOQUE

Light grey knit toque with vintage Bruce Trail logo in white. One size fits most. 100% Acrylic. \$15.00

NEW

Downloadable Bruce Trail Reference Maps

2023 Bruce Trail Conservancy Calendar Featuring original Bruce Trail inspired artwork by

Edition 30 – Individual Maps \$3.00. Full set of 42 maps in single download package.

Members \$15.00, Non-Members \$18.00

various artists.





BRUCE TRAIL CAMP SOCKS

30% wool, 60% acrylic, 10% polyamide. One size. Members \$16.00, Non-Members \$18.00



Enamel pin replica of our diamond trail marker for the Main Trail (white), or Side Trails (blue). 1 inch x 1 inch. \$5.00







QUARTER-ZIP FLEECE

Navy blue with white logo on left front. 100% polvester fleece.

Members \$45.00, Non-Members \$50.00

NEW

BLAZE T-SHIRT - LIGHT BLUE

Cotton feel with sweat-wicking technology. 100% polyester, Ladies and Unisex cuts. Sizes XS to XXL

Members \$20.00, Non-Members \$22.00





CONTEST DESIGN T-SHIRT

Features design by Hannah Lebedyk, winner of the BTC Youth Council's t-shirt design contest. 100% polyester, Ladies and Unisex cuts. Sizes XS to XXI

Members \$20.00, Non-Members \$22.00

BTC DOG LEASH

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

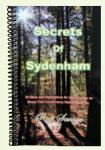


HOLIDAY ORDER DEADLINES:

DEC. 1 (INTERNATIONAL), DEC. 9 (USA), DEC. 11 (REST OF CANADA), DEC. 15 (ONTARIO). IN-STORE PICKUP AVAILABLE UNTIL DEC. 21.

BTC BOOKSHELF

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



SECRETS OF SYDENHAM \$20.00



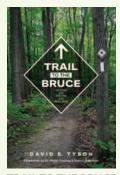
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PLANTS OF SOUTHERN ONTARIO \$32.95



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Bruce Trail Stories

NEW

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NEW

2023 NOTE CARDS

Set of 13 blank notecards featuring original artwork from the 2023 BTC Calendar. Envelopes included. **\$20.00**

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.

\$90.00 Not available online.



Learn more about all our badges at brucetrail.org/badges



