

Wellington Walks



Your guide to over

40

trails in Wellington County

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Introduction

We hope that you enjoy the 5th edition of Wellington Walks, a guide to 200 kilometres of trails within Wellington County. With over 40 trails to choose from in Centre Wellington, Erin, Guelph/Eramosa, Mapleton, Minto, Puslinch and Wellington North, you are sure to find the right trail for you. Whether you are looking for a quiet nature walk, breathtaking river views, heritage treasures, or a village tour, these trails won't disappoint.

Wellington County is vast, covering an area of 2,570 square kilometres (992 square miles) and falling within the borders of six Conservation Authorities. Not surprisingly, there are many unique natural features to be found: the towering limestone cliffs, caves and glacial potholes of Rockwood and the 22 metre deep Elora Gorge and scenic overlooks, to name a few. Put on some comfortable shoes and set off. You'll be glad you did.

Do it for your health!

Trail Organizations

The contribution of trail organizations and volunteers in the development and ongoing management of many of our trails deserve to be recognized. We thank them for their vision and commitment to making trails available in our communities. Please consider volunteering or donating to your local trail groups to support their important work.

Elora Cataract Trailway Association _____ info@trailway.org
www.trailway.org

Grand Valley Trails Association _____ info@gvta.on.ca
www.gvta.on.ca

Guelph Hiking Trail Club _____ hike@guelphhiking.com
www.guelphhiking.com

Hike Ontario _____ info@hikeontario.com
www.hikeontario.com

Kissing Bridge Trailway
www.kissingbridgetrailway.ca

Trans Canada Trail _____ 1.800.465.3636
www.thegreattrail.ca _____ info@tctrail.ca

Conservation Areas

Grand River Conservation Authority	519.621.2761
400 Clyde Road, Cambridge	1.866.900.4722
Elora Gorge Conservation Area	519.846.9742
Guelph Lake Conservation Area	519.824.5061
Rockwood	519.856.9543
www.grandriver.ca	
Halton Conservation Authority	905.336.1158
Mountsberg Conservation Area	905.854.2276
www.conservationhalton.ca	

Municipal and Tourism Contacts

County of Wellington	519.837.2600
Administration Centre, 74 Woolwich Street, Guelph	1.800.663.0750
www.wellington.ca	
Guelph and Wellington County Tourism Services	visit@guelph.ca
www.visitguelphwellington.ca	1.800.334.4519
Township of Centre Wellington	519.846.9691
1 MacDonald Square, Elora	
www.centrewellington.ca	
Town of Erin	519.855.4407
5684 Trafalgar Road, Hillsburgh	
www.erin.ca	
Township of Guelph/Eramosa	519.856.9596
8348 Wellington Road 124, Rockwood	
www.get.on.ca	
Township of Mapleton	519.638.3313
7275 Sideroad 16, Drayton	1.800.385.7248
www.mapleton.ca	
Town of Minto	519.338.2511
5941 Highway 89, Harriston	
www.town.minto.on.ca	
Minto Chamber of Commerce	519.510.7400
Township of Puslinch	519.763.1226
7404 Wellington Road 34, Aberfoyle	
www.puslinch.ca	

Township of Wellington North _____ 519.848.3620
 7490 Sideroad 7 West, Kenilworth _____ 1.866.848.3620
www.wellington-north.com
 Mount Forest Chamber of Commerce _____ 519.323.4480
www.mountforest.ca

Hospitals

Cambridge Memorial Hospital _____ 519.621.2330
 700 Coronation Boulevard, Cambridge

Georgetown Hospital _____ 905.873.0111
 1 Princess Anne Drive, Georgetown

Grand River Hospital KW _____ 519.742.3611
 835 King Street West, Kitchener

Groves Memorial Hospital _____ 519.843.2010
 131 Frederick Campbell Street, Fergus

Guelph General Hospital _____ 519.822.5350
 115 Delhi Street, Guelph

Headwaters Orangeville _____ 519.941.2410
 100 Rolling Hills Drive, Orangeville

Louise Marshall Hospital _____ 519.323.2210
 630 Dublin Street, Mount Forest

Palmerston and District Hospital _____ 519.343.2030
 500 Whites Road, Palmerston

O.P.P. Detachments



Crisis Phone _____ 911
 Detachments Toll Free _____ 1.888.310.1122

Centre Wellington _____ 519.846.5930
 470 Wellington Road 18, Fergus

Palmerston Office (Teviotdale) _____ 519.323.3130
 6725 Wellington Rd 109, Palmerston

Rockwood Office _____ 519.856.1506
 5145 Wellington Road 27, Rockwood

Trail Etiquette and Safety

Not all of the trails in this guidebook are located on public property, please be respectful to the owners and stewards of the trails.

The Ontario Trails Council is a charity that promotes the development, preservation, management and use of recreational trails in Ontario. This section on trail etiquette and safety is courtesy of the Ontario Trail Council's website, which promotes the safe and responsible use of trails (source: www.ontariotrails.on.ca).

Hiking the Trail Dos and Don'ts

- Research the regulations and special concerns for the area you are planning to hike. Hike only along marked routes, especially on farmland.
- For your safety and to protect soil from erosion, do not take shortcuts.
- Please do not climb fences; use the stiles.
- Pets are best left at home. If you do bring them, keep them on a leash and away from water sources. Please clean up after them.
- Respect the sounds of nature. Avoid loud voices and noise such as mobile phones and radios.

Hiking Courtesies

- Respect the privacy of people living along the trails.
- Keep dogs on a leash.
- Be courteous to other hikers – share the trail.
- Walk, ride or cycle in single file in the middle of the trail, even when it is wet or muddy.
- Stay to the right of trail and pass on the left.
- If a person is climbing up a hill they have the right of way if you are climbing down.
- Bike riders yield to both hikers and horseback riders, hikers yield to horseback riders.
- Visit trails in small groups; split larger parties into smaller groups.
- Unless you are passing someone on a trail, try to maintain a distance between yourself and other hikers.

Minimal Impact Approach

- Leave flowers, wood, rocks and plants behind in their rightful place for others to enjoy.
- Avoid tree damage. Do not break branches or strip bark off trees.
- Leave the trails cleaner than you found them. Carry out all litter.
- Fires are not permitted along trails.

- Do not build structures, fire rings, furniture or dig trenches.
- Schedule your hiking to avoid high times of use. Aim to lessen the impact of human activity on one area.
- Remember that although trails are for public use, it is our responsibility to preserve this resource for all to enjoy.

Ecosystem Healthy Manners

- Garbage disposal is an important issue on trails. Pack out all garbage.
- Do not assume all waste is biodegradable. For example, orange peels do not decompose easily.
- If you stop for a picnic, leave your spot cleaner than you found it.
- Take only pictures and fond memories with you. Leave only a footprint on the path you have respected.

Bike Smarts

- Respect the terrain and ride within your ability. Check the difficulty rating on your trail map and know your limits.
- Respect the environment – stick to the trail and don't carve short cuts. Local trail builders do an outstanding job of maintaining trails and preventing erosion, so do your part by staying on track.
- Respect other users - slow down or stop when passing horses, hikers or runners. Simply put - share the trail.
- Remember a patch kit.

Common Sense Safety

- Be aware of weather conditions and reports.
- Be alert of dangers such as poisonous plants, wildlife and falling debris.
- Be careful near cliff edges and fast moving water.
- Wear a helmet when cycling or trail riding.
- In winter wear sunglasses, as snowblindness can be very painful and debilitating.
- When in doubt of trail conditions – turn around and head back the way you came slowly and calmly.
- Watch for wildlife on roadways, especially at night.

Getting Lost

- Research the regulations and special concerns for the area you are planning to hike.
- Be aware of sunset and how many hours you have before you are hiking in the dark. Don't get caught in the dark.
- Always hike with a partner if possible, if you must hike solo, inform others of your route in advance.
- Remain in one place if you become lost or separated from your group.
- Find an open place and wait for rescue. Don't go wandering around.
- Don't separate from each other if you are unsure of your location.
- If you lose the blaze markings when hiking on a marked trail, retrace your steps until you see the blaze, then search more diligently for the next blaze until you do find the correct route of the trail.

Near Water

- Practice safety around water. Wear a Personal Floatation Device (pfd) if appropriate.
- Supervise children at all times.

Look, Don't Touch

- Leaves of three, let them be! While on trails, be sure to avoid poisonous plants such as Poison Ivy and Poison Oak.
- Do not feed or try to pet or play with wild animals.
- If you come across animals that are clearly sick or injured do not move them. Contact a wildlife officer, the SPCA or the OPP.
- Leave everything as you found it.
- If you must carry away a memento of your visit, make sure its only a photograph.
- Report vandalism to the group responsible for trail maintenance.

Hunting Season Safety

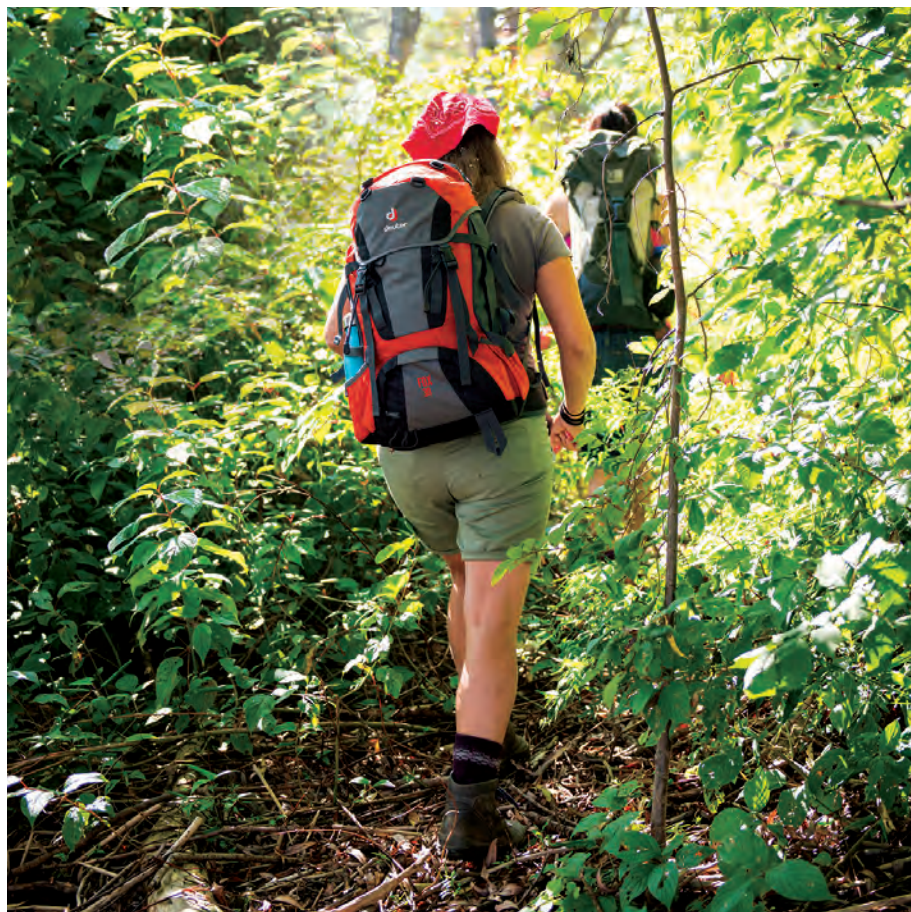
- Hunting occurs year round for some game, but most seasons are in the fall. Most significant for hikers is the shotgun season for deer, which is 6 days starting first Monday in November, and, most years, also 6 days starting first Monday in December, too. Staying out of rural woods those weeks is advisable.
- Be heard. You can whistle or sing a tune to alert hunters you are in the area and stay on the trail, do not wander off into dense woods.
- For additional detail on Ontario's hunting contact the Natural Resources Information Centre 1.800.667.1940.
- Visit the Ministry of Natural Resources web site for more information.

Wildlife at a Distance

- Observe wildlife from a distance. Do not follow or approach wild animals.
- Never feed wildlife. Feeding animals in the wild damages their health and alters natural behaviours.
- Avoid wild animals when they are: mating, nesting, rearing young or seeking food in the winter.
- Protect yourself, your family and pets from rabies.

Feedback

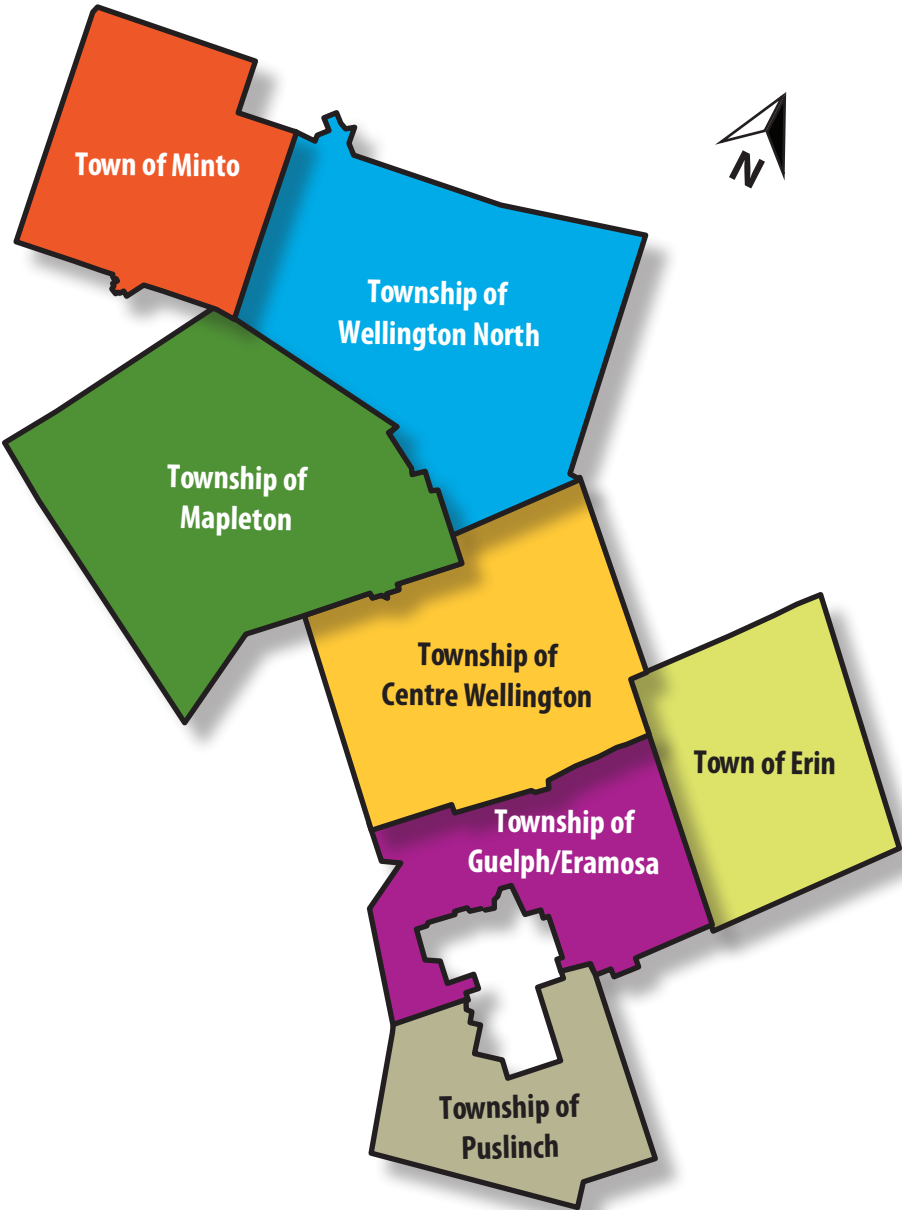
- Was this guide helpful? Contact the County of Wellington Planning and Development Department 519.837.2600 with your questions, comments, concerns.
- View this booklet on line at www.wellington.ca
- Help us contribute to AllTrails to have remote access using your mobile device.



Trail Legend

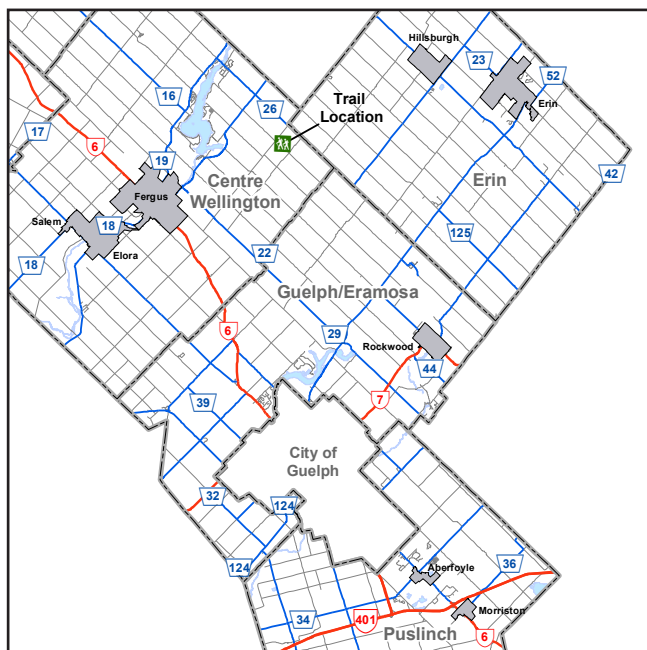
	Trail		Parking
	Watercourse		Walking
	Waterbody		Cycling
	Urban Area		Cross Country Skiing
	Rural Area		Snowmobiling
	Woodlot		Horse Back Riding
	Floodplain		
	Park/Conservation Area		
	Building/Dwelling		

The County of Wellington



Benham Tract





Distance: 2 km

Difficulty: Difficult

Trail Use: Walking, cycling

Surface: Natural surface

Cost: No cost

County of Wellington



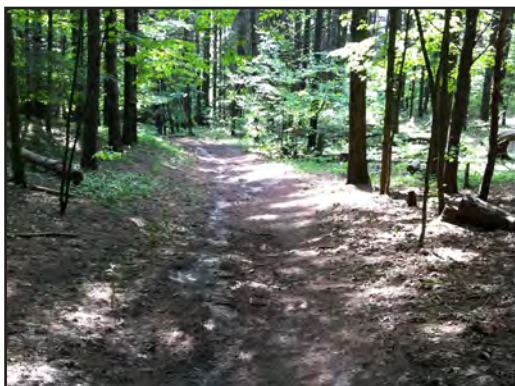
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Benham Tract - 6155 Seventh Line

The Benham Tract was purchased by the County of Wellington in 1952 from Malcom Wishart. The tract was named after the former reeve of Eramosa Township, Earnest Benham.

This tract is located on a rehabilitated gravel pit. The topography is rolling with several side trails. The terrain is challenging, but the scenery is well worth the effort.

The Provincially Significant Speed River wetland complex crosses through the eastern half of the property. A winter deer yard is also present. You can see the rehabilitated gravel pit from the parking lot.



For more information, contact:

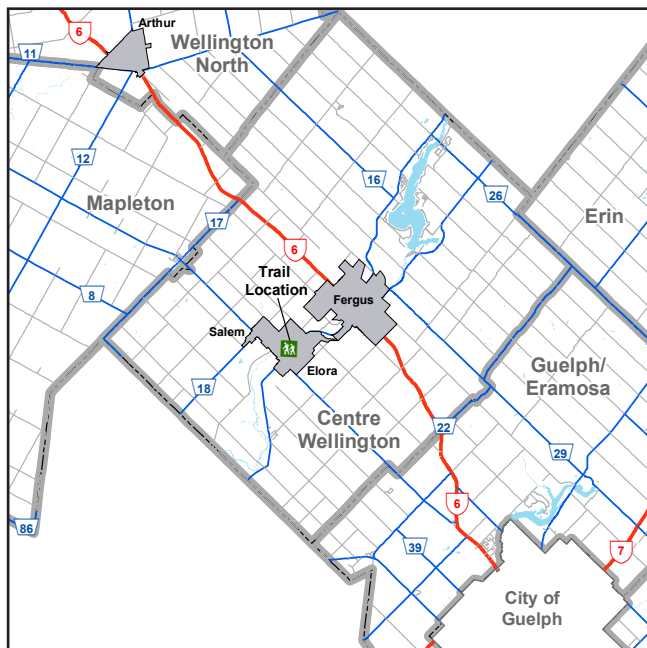
County of Wellington

519.837.2600 x 2140

www.wellington.ca

Bissell Park Trail





Distance: 1 km

Difficulty: Easy

Trail Use: Walking, cycling

Surface: Natural surface, gravel, boardwalk

Cost: No cost

**County of
Wellington**



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Bissell Park Trail - 127 Mill Street

Named after the Bissell family of Elora, the family owned and operated a farm implement factory in the World War I era before the Grand River Conservation Authority took ownership in the 1960's to create what is now Bissell Park. Located in scenic Elora, the trail is the perfect spot to stroll and enjoy a quiet view of the Grand River. For more information on this park's history, visit the County of Wellington Museum and Archives.

For more information, contact:

Township of Centre Wellington

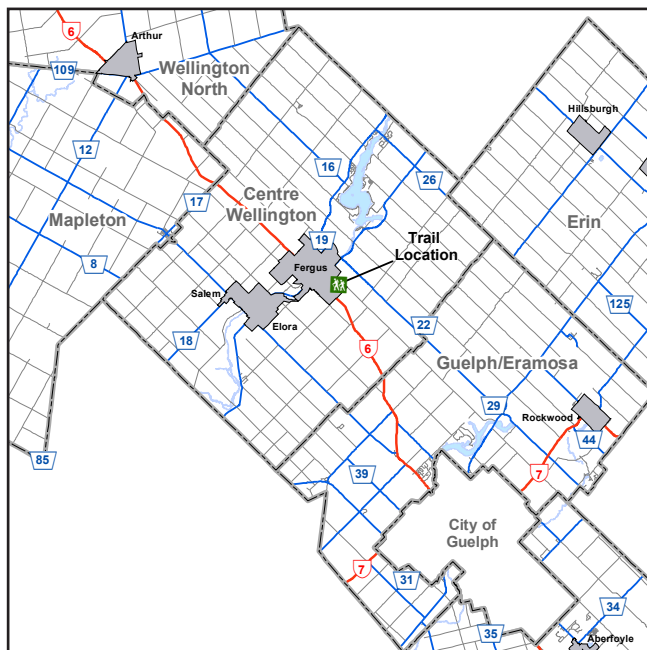
519.846.9691

www.centrewellington.ca



Centre Wellington Community Sportsplex Trail





Distance: 1 km

Difficulty: Easy

Trail Use: Walking

Surface: Natural surface

Cost: No cost

**County of
Wellington**



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Centre Wellington Community Sportsplex Trail, Fergus

This trail is located behind the Centre Wellington Sports Complex in Fergus. The tree stand provides a sense of being further removed from an urban setting while you are minutes away from the comforts of home.

For more information, contact:

Township of Centre Wellington

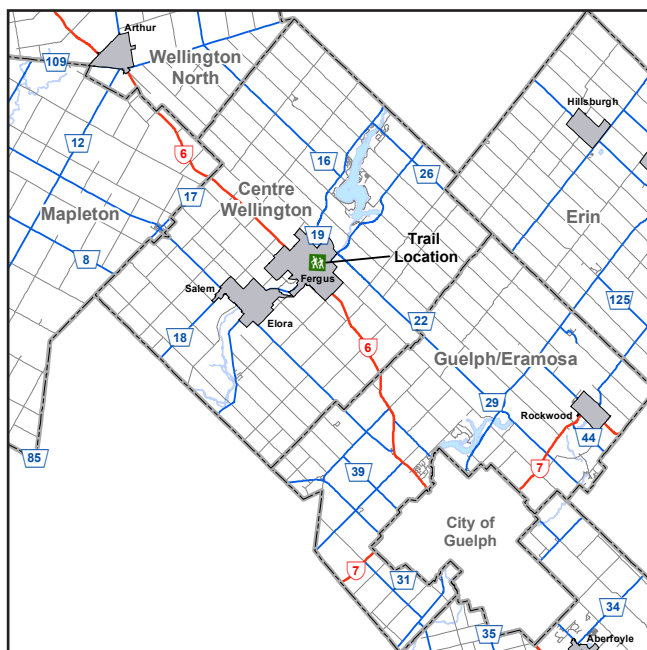
519.846.9691

www.centrewellington.ca



Confederation Park Trail, Fergus





Distance: 0.7 km

Difficulty: Easy

Trail Use: Walking

Surface: Natural surface

Cost: No cost

**County of
Wellington**



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Confederation Park Trail, Fergus

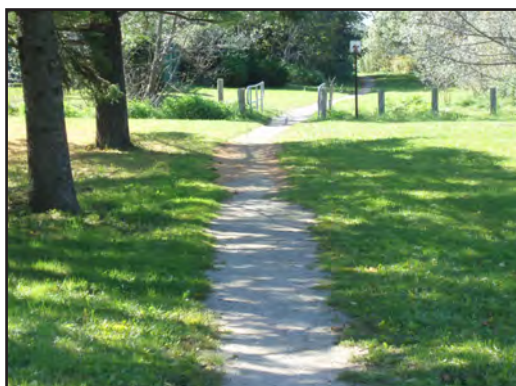
The Confederation Park trail is located in Fergus and runs along the Grand River. The main trail is flat and provides an easy walking course, while additional branches of the trail wind through shady cedars providing varied surroundings and trail surfaces.

For more information, contact:

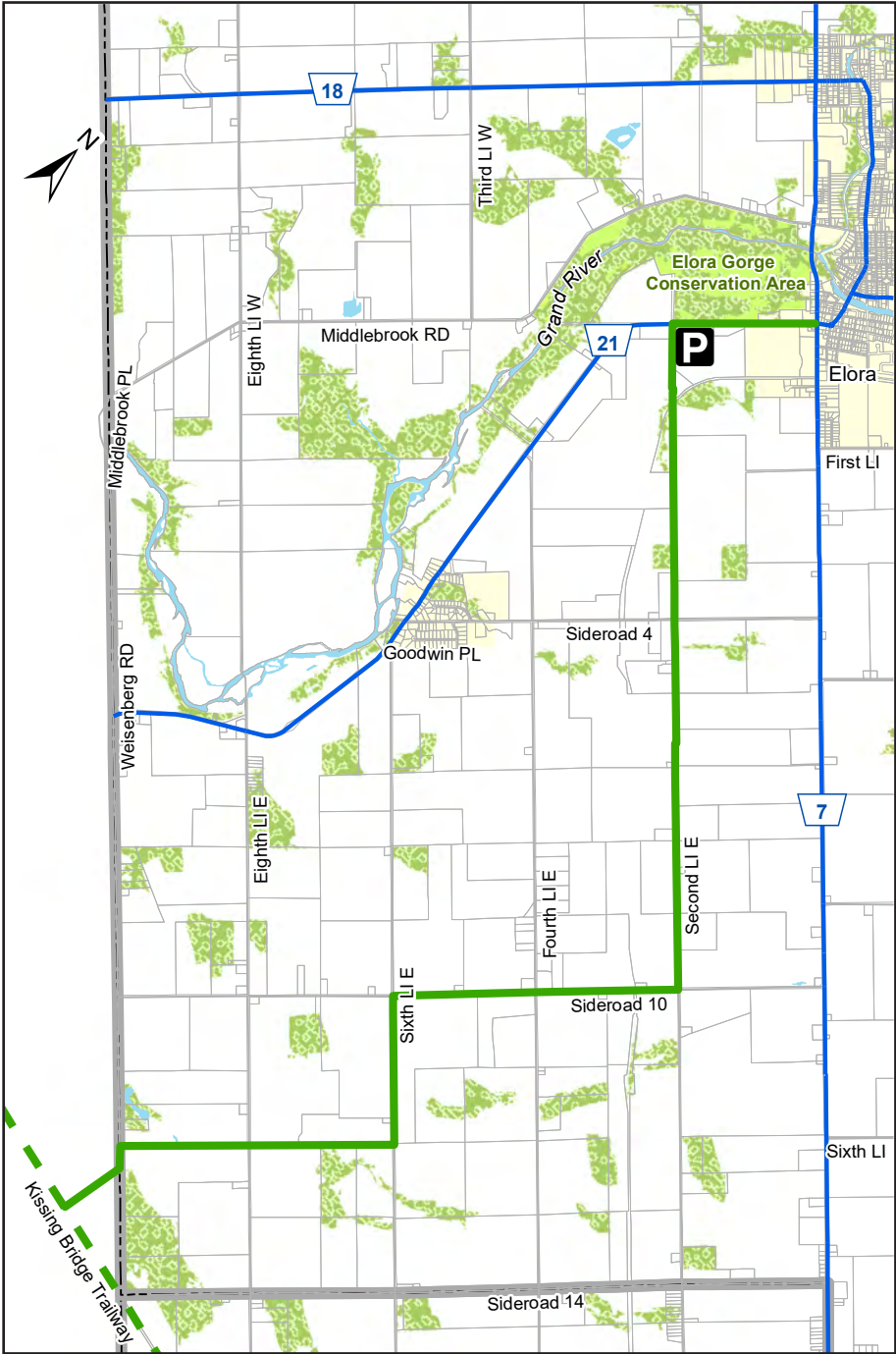
Township of Centre Wellington

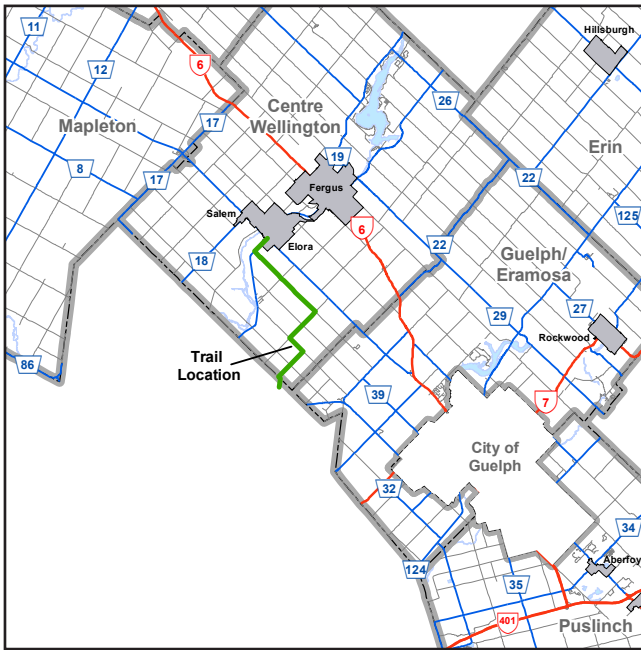
519.846.9691

www.centrewellington.ca



Cottontail Road Trail





Distance: 12.6 km

Difficulty: Easy

Trail Use: Walking, biking, horseback riding

Surface: Stone dust, natural sections on road surface

Cost: No cost

County of Wellington



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Cottontail Road Trail

At 12.6 km in length, this trail is a portion of the Trans Canada Trail System which connects over 24,000 km of trails across Canada. Completed in 2015, the trail is a combination of off road, on road and on shoulder trails. Starting just outside of Elora, the closed road allowance of Cottontail Road is now a granular trail, closed to cars, connecting to Sideroad 4.

Following the signage the trail extends all the way to the Kissing Bridge Trail.

For more information, contact:

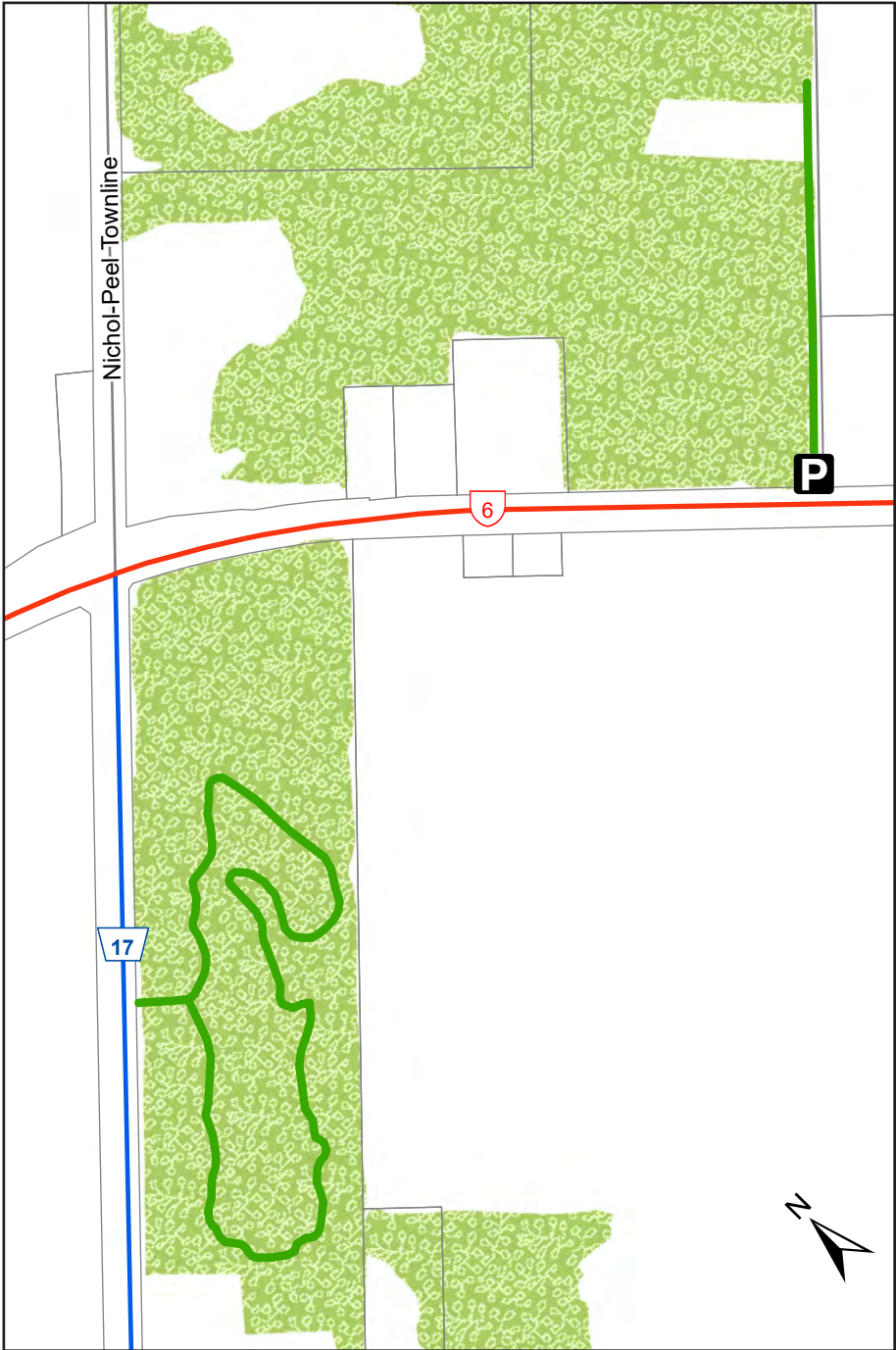
County of Wellington

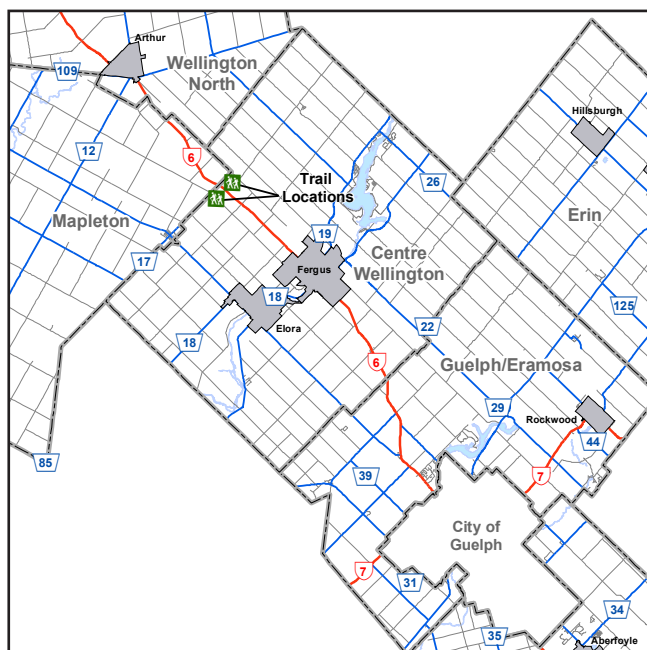
519.837.2600 x 2140

www.wellington.ca



Cumnock Tract





Distance: 0.5 km

Difficulty: Easy to difficult

Trail Use: Walking

Surface: Natural surface

Cost: No cost

County of Wellington



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Cumnock Tract - 7749 Wellington Rd. 17

Named after the former village of Cumnock which once featured a rail station, the Cumnock Tract was purchased by the County of Wellington in 1964. The tract is divided into two parcels by Highway 6. The trail located on the west parcel is somewhat rugged and not your typical groomed trail. The trail on the east parcel is flat and suitable for all walking levels. A coldwater stream crosses through the west parcel.

For more information, contact:

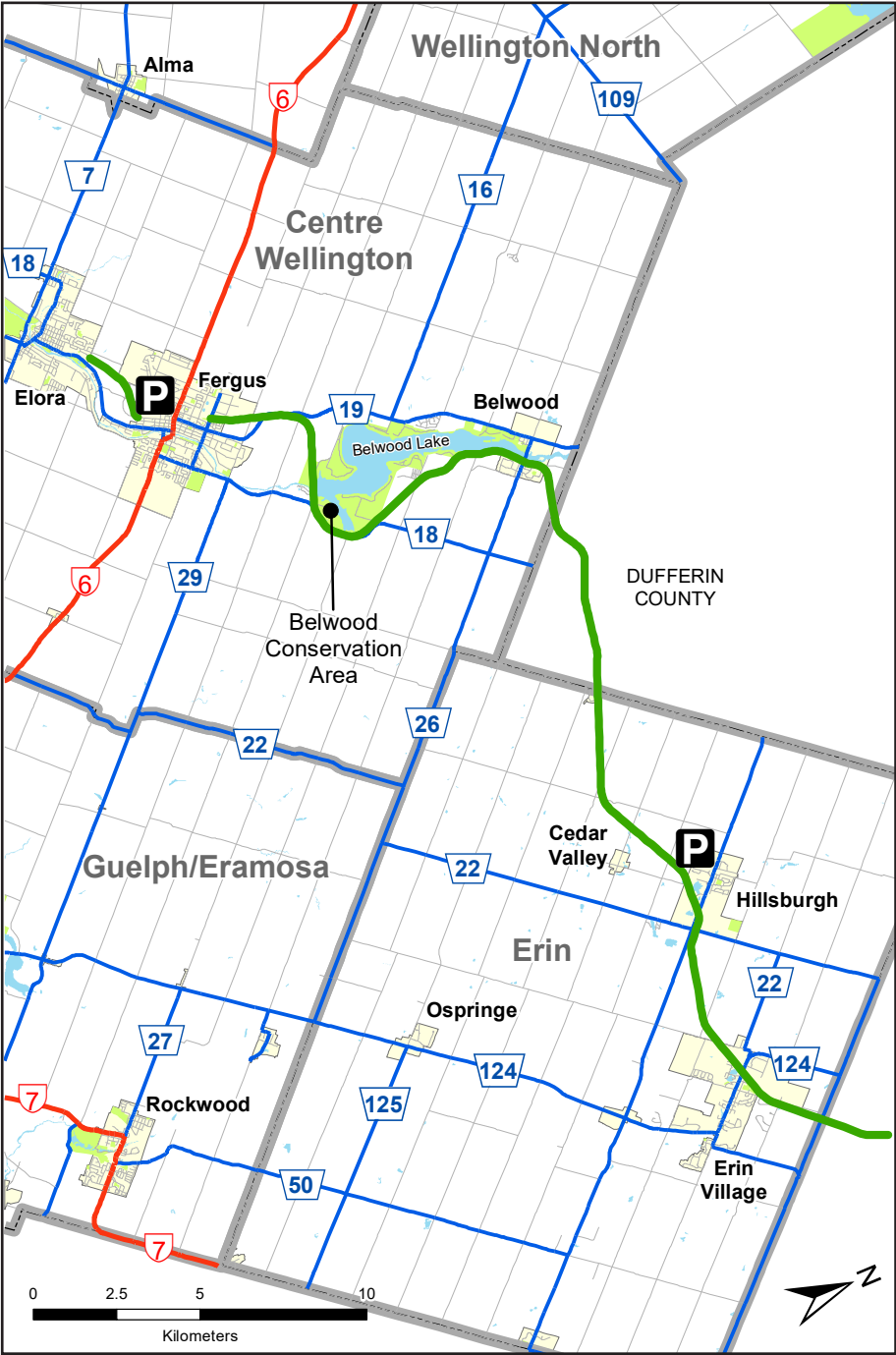
County of Wellington

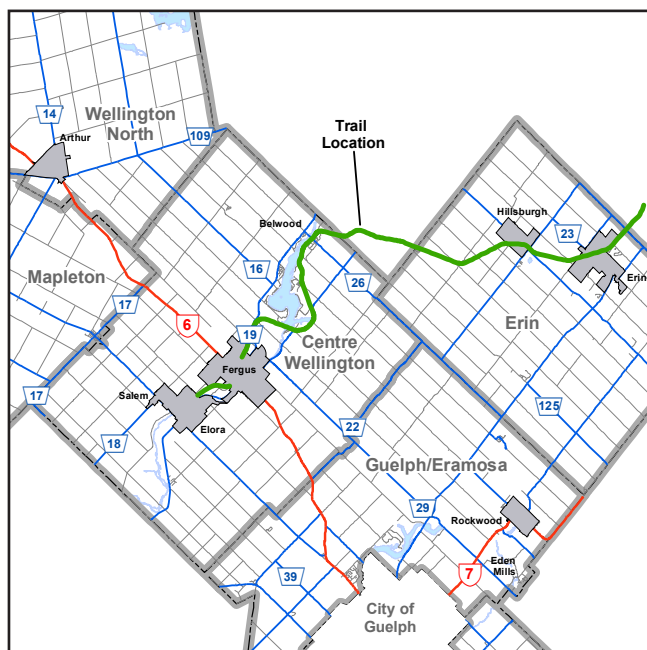
519.837.2600 x 2140

www.wellington.ca



Elora Cataract Trailway





Distance: 47 km

Difficulty: Easy

Trail Use: Walking, cycling, cross country skiing, horseback riding, snowmobiling

Surface: Natural surface

Cost: No cost

County of Wellington



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Elora Cataract Trailway

The Elora Cataract Trailway was originally the route of the Credit Valley Railway. In 1883 it was leased to the Canadian Pacific Railway and operated until 1988, when it was abandoned. The railway right-of-way was acquired by the Grand River and Credit Valley Conservation Authorities in 1993. The trail is managed by the conservation authorities in cooperation with a community group, the Elora Cataract Trailway Association.

At approximately 47 km in length, the trailway stretches from Elora, in the Township of Centre Wellington, to the community of Cataract in Peel Region. Not only does the trailway offer recreational opportunities in the countryside, it also provides connections between a variety of communities in the County, including Elora, Fergus, Belwood, Orton, Hillsburgh and Erin.

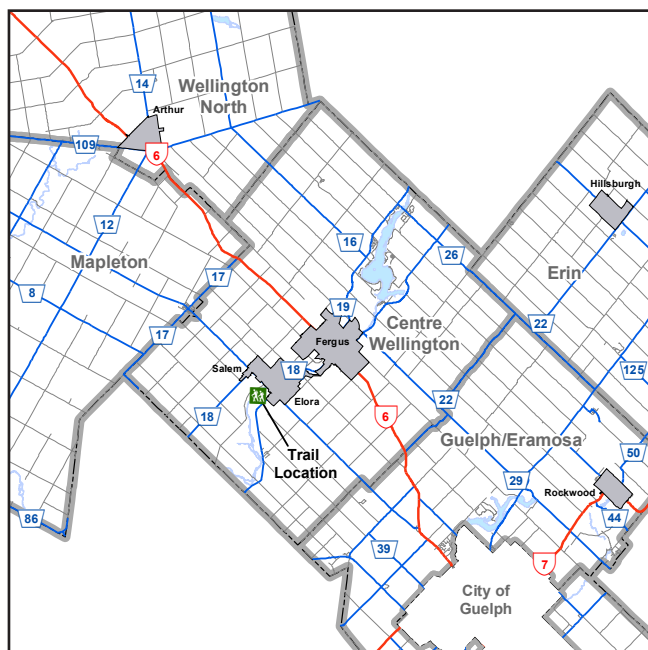


For more information, contact:

County of Wellington
519.837.2600 x 2140
www.wellington.ca

Elora Gorge Park





Distance: 3 km

Difficulty: Easy

Trail Use: Walking, cycling

Surface: Natural surface, stone dust, pavement

Cost: No cost

**County of
Wellington**



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Elora Gorge Park

Located west of Elora in the Township of Centre Wellington, the Elora Gorge Conservation Area offers a unique 22 metre deep gorge and numerous other natural features for visitors to enjoy. The Conservation Area also offers a wide range of recreational features such as swimming, tubing, kayaking, fishing, children's playgrounds and several kilometers of walking trails. In addition to the trails marked on this map, several trails branch off the main road.

Visit the park for a day, camp for a weekend or stay for the summer at one of the seasonal campsites.

For more information, contact:

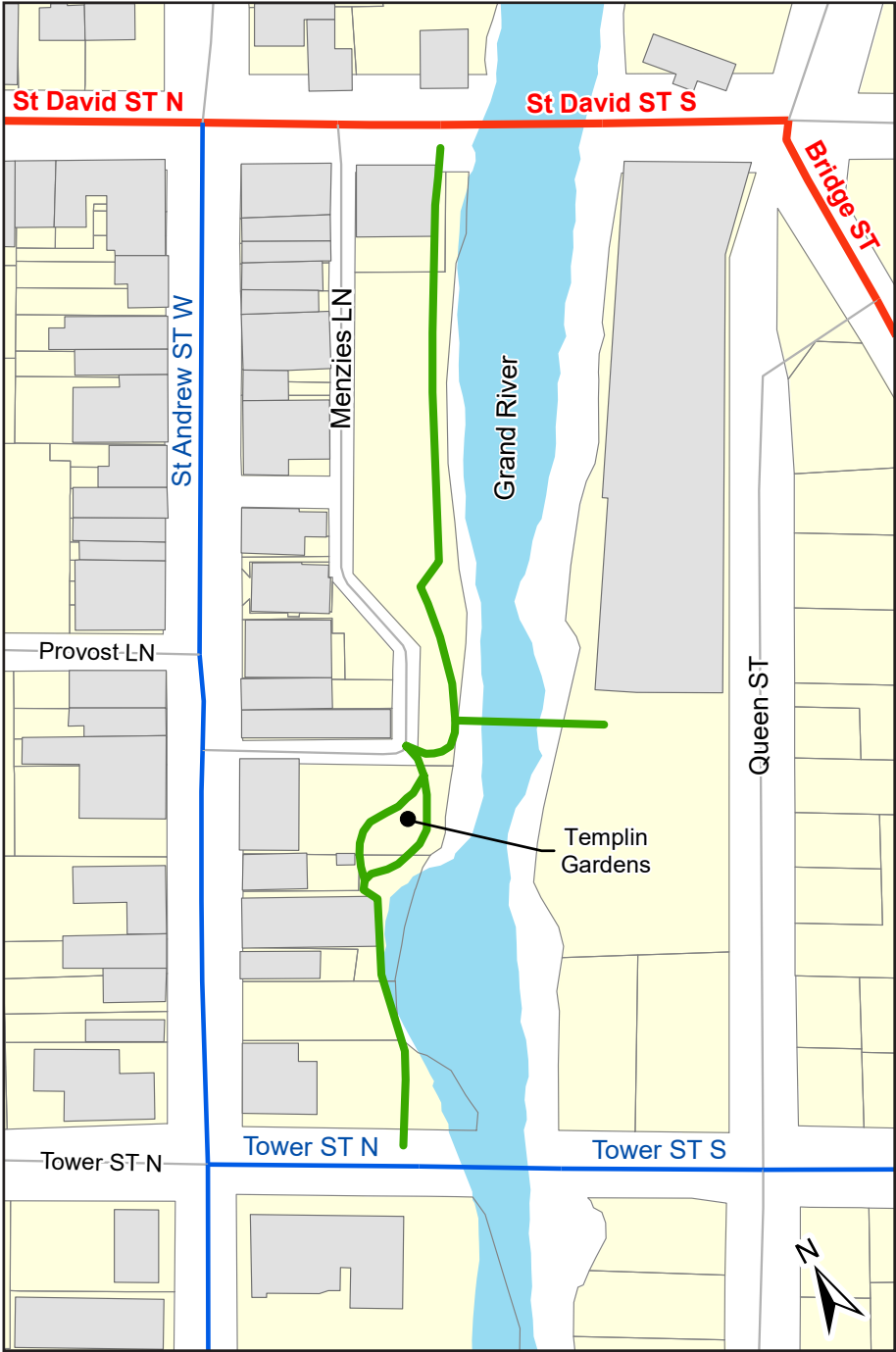
Grand River Conservation Authority

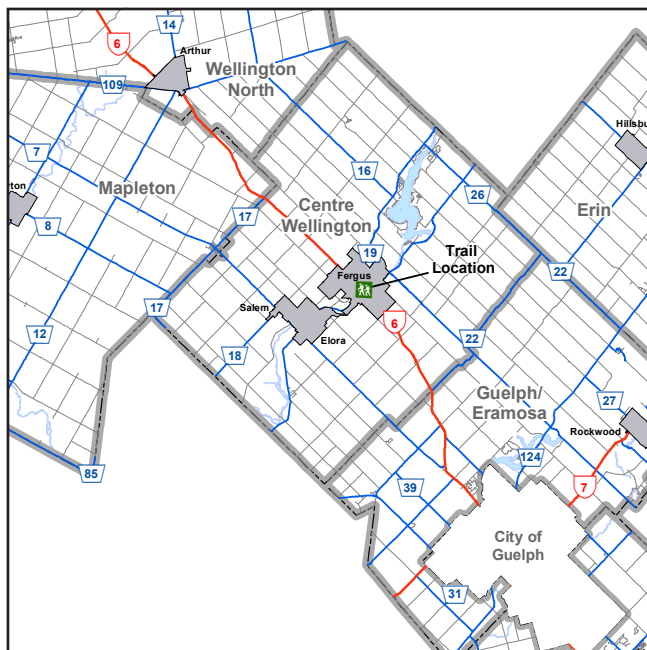
519.621.2761

www.grandriver.ca



Templin Garden Trail





Distance: 0.5 km

Difficulty: Easy

Trail Use: Walking

Surface: Natural surface,
cobblestone

Cost: No cost

**County of
Wellington**



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Templin Garden Trail

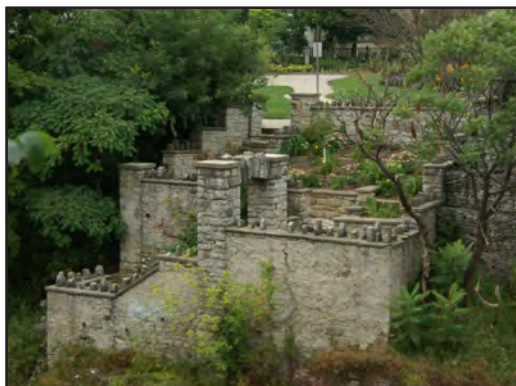
Tucked behind a busy downtown street is one of Fergus' best treasures. Templin Gardens was built by John C. Templin as a gift for his wife, an avid gardener. In addition to the many flowers, the gardens today contain a fishpond, a rock garden and steps leading to a balcony overlooking the Grand River.

For more information, contact:

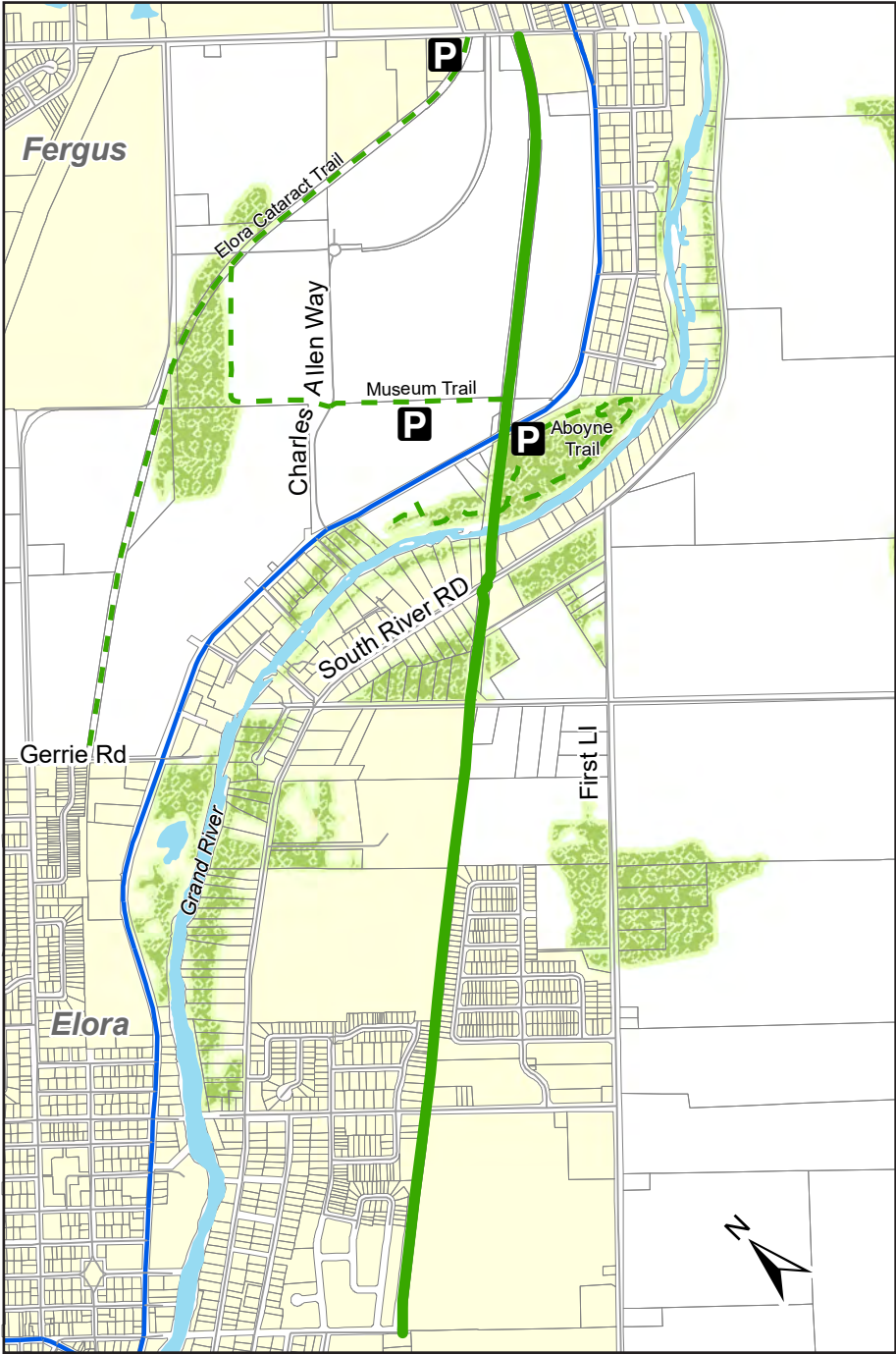
Township of Centre Wellington

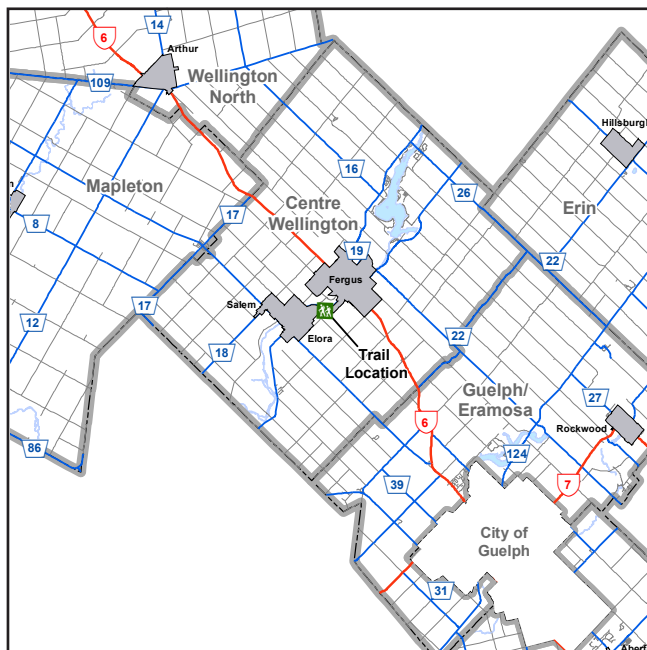
519.846.9691

www.centrewellington.ca



Trestle Bridge Trail





Distance: 4 km

Difficulty: Easy

Trail Use: Walking, biking,
cross country skiing

Surface: Stone dust

Cost: No cost

County of Wellington

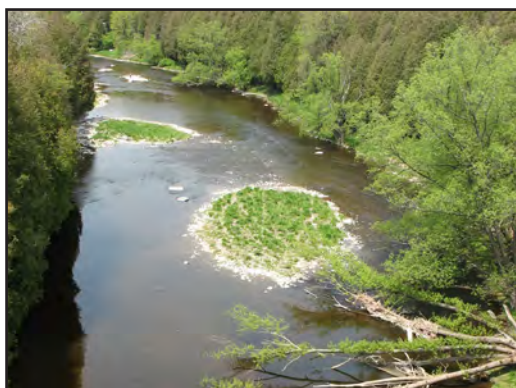


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Trestle Bridge Trail

The trail is named after what is the third railway bridge at this site. The piers rest on two of the original cut stone foundations built in 1869. Canadian National Railways used the bridge until the line was abandoned in 1989. This bridge represents one of the important historic features for which the Grand River was designated a Canadian Heritage River in 1994.

The Trestle Bridge Trail is a 3.5 km trail connecting Fergus and Elora. Half of the trail (between Beatty Line and Gilkison Street) is owned by the County and the remainder is owned by the Township (between Gilkison Street and 500 m east of Wellington Road 7). While crossing the bridge, take a moment to enjoy the river views and the historic County museum.



For more information, contact:

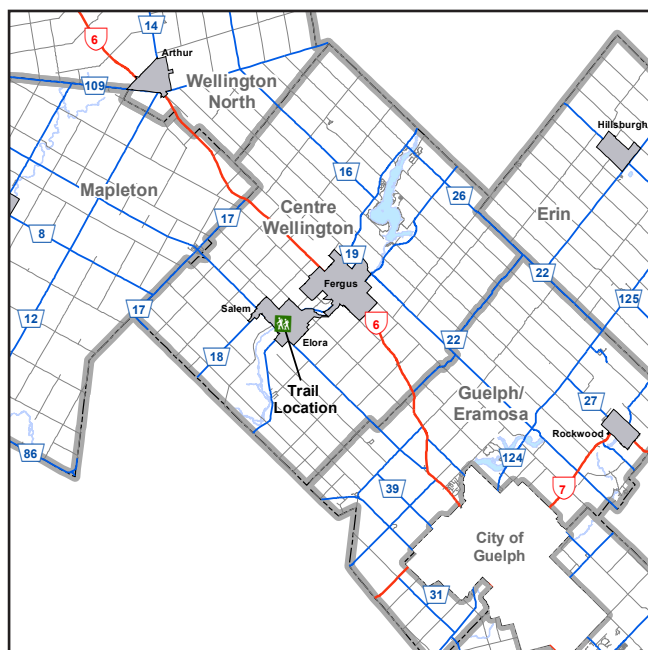
County of Wellington

519.837.2600 x 2140

www.wellington.ca

Victoria Park Trail





Distance: 0.5 km

Difficulty: Easy

Trail Use: Walking

Surface: Natural surface

Cost: No cost

**County of
Wellington**



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Victoria Park Trail

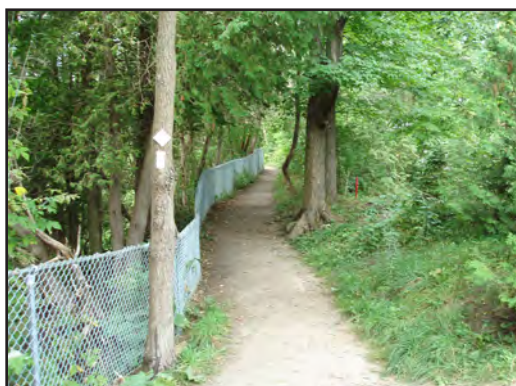
Providing a spectacular view of gorges created by the Grand and Irvine Rivers, the Victoria Park trail is the ideal place to take in these views. The trail has a look out spot known as 'Lovers Leap' as well as stairs to access the river bed.

For more information, contact:

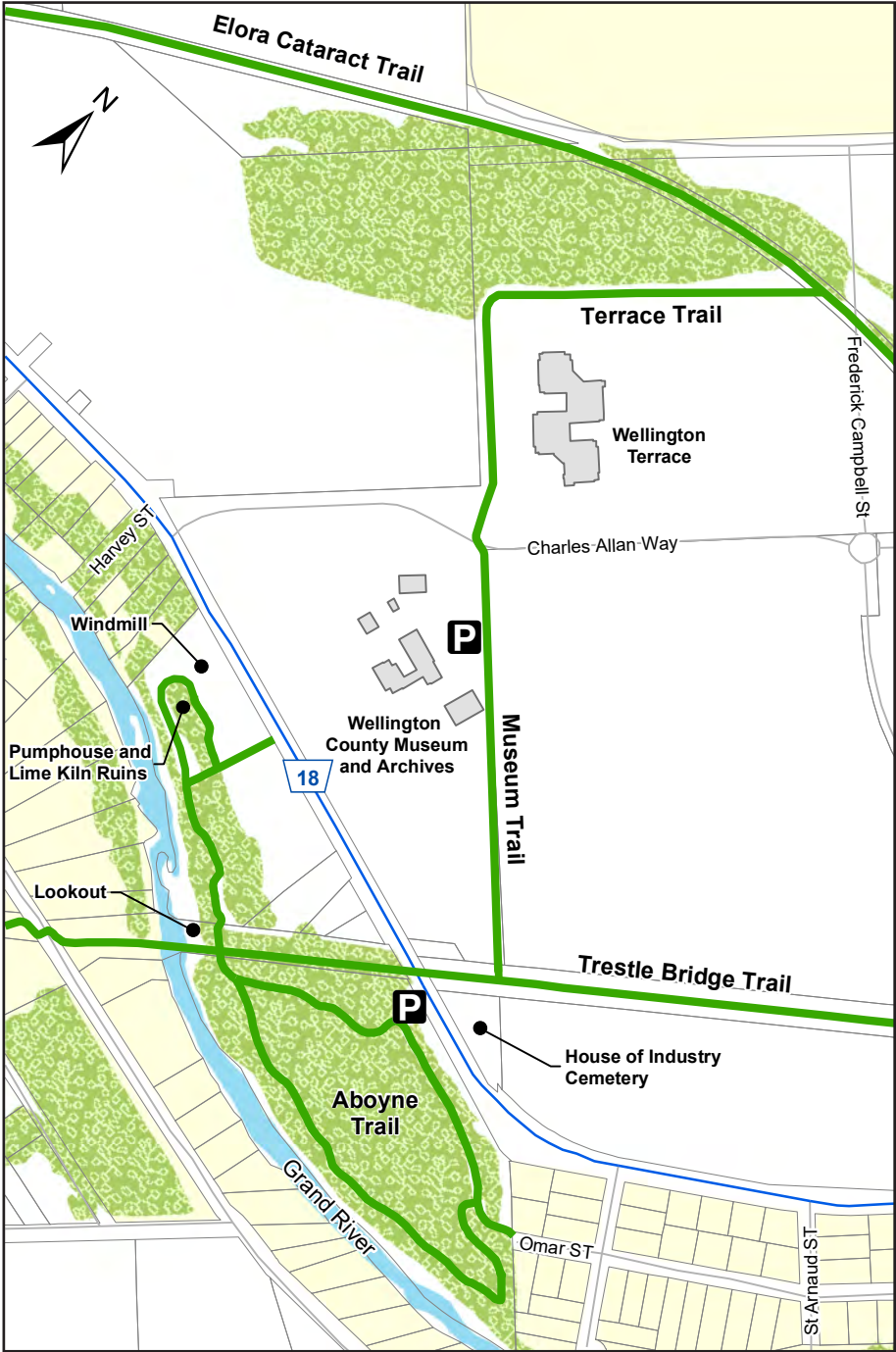
Centre Wellington

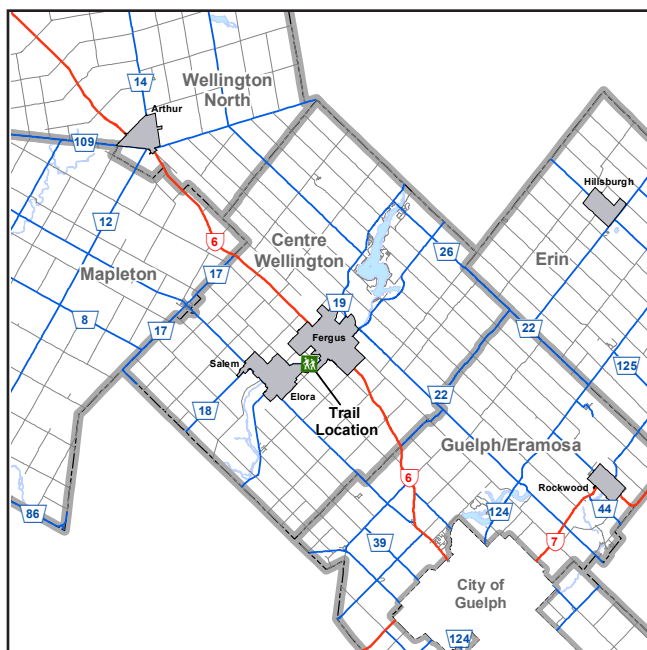
519.846.9691

www.centrewellington.ca



Wellington Place Campus Trails





Distance: 4 km

Difficulty: Easy

Trail Use: Walking, cycling,
cross country skiing

Surface: Stone dust

Cost: No cost

County of Wellington



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Wellington Place Campus Trails

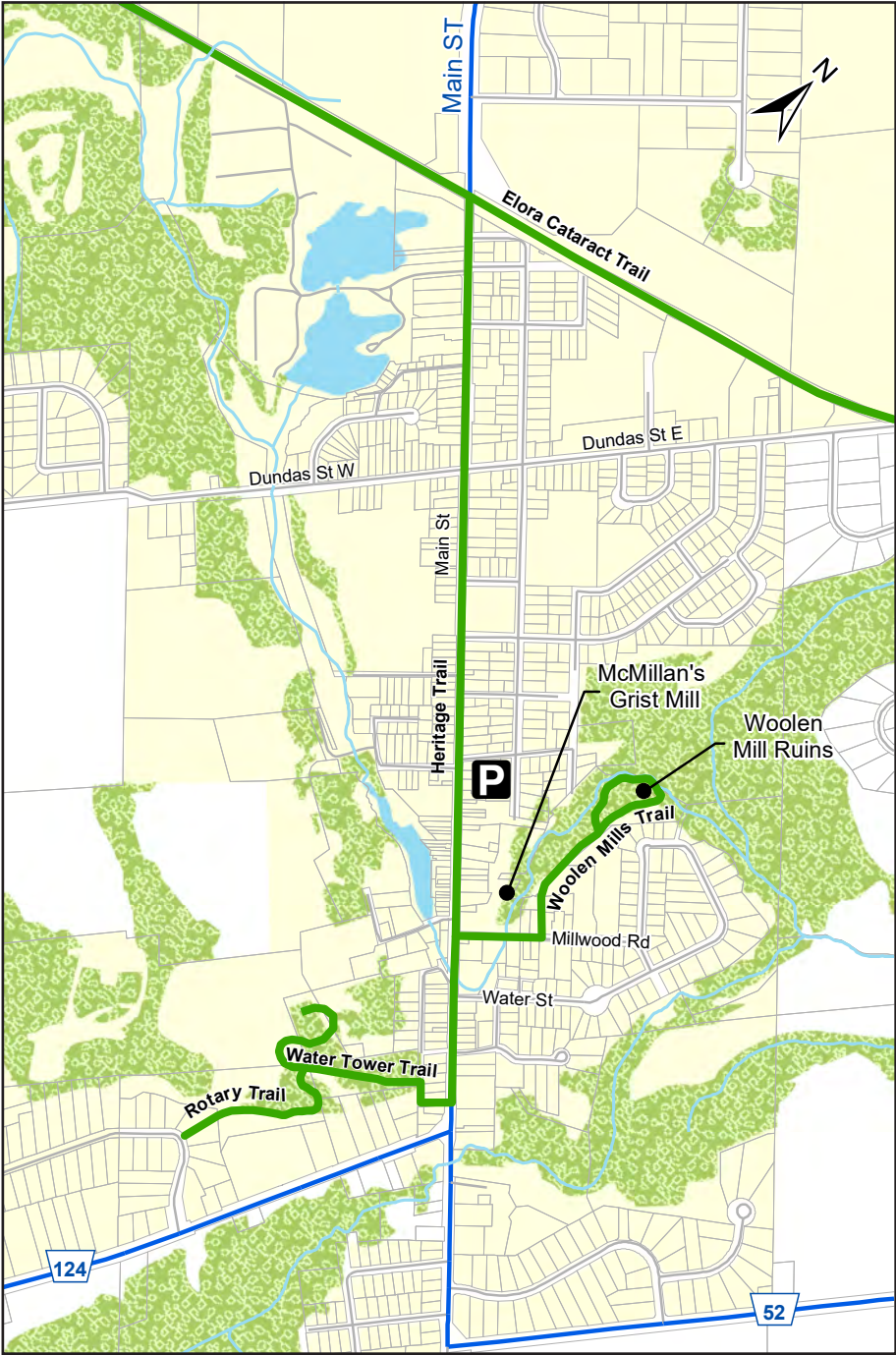
The museum trail links the Trestle Bridge Trail and the Elora Cataract Trail. The museum trail runs alongside a number of County facilities referred to collectively as 'Wellington Place.' Centrally located within the County, Wellington Place is home to the County Museum and Archives (designated a National Historic Site), a County library, and the Wellington Terrace Long Term Care Facility. For more information on this area, please visit the County of Wellington Museum and Archives.

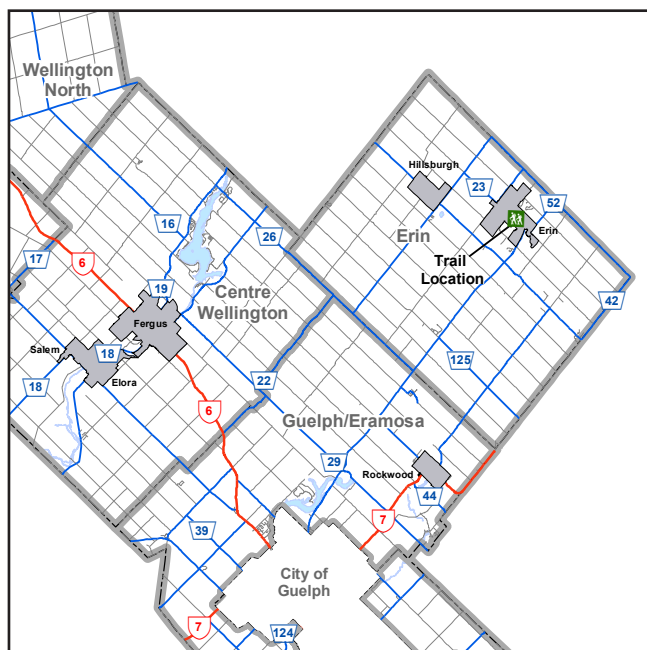
For more information, contact:

County of Wellington
519.837.2600 x 2140
www.wellington.ca



Erin Village Walking Trail





Distance: 5 km

Difficulty: Easy

Trail Use: Walking, cycling

Surface: Natural surface, gravel, concrete

Cost: No cost

**County of
Wellington**



Planning and Development Department. May not be reproduced without permission.

Erin Village Walking Trail

This series of walking trails in Erin village provides a glimpse into the history of this pretty town. If you take a turn down Millwood Road, proceed to Woolen Mill Lane to view the Woolen Mill ruin and historical interpretive signage on the Trail. You will find examples of some of Erin's early industries including Mundell's Planing Mill, McMillan's Grist Mill, and the Woolen Mill Ruin. Take a stroll down Heritage Trail (Main Street) and enjoy a variety of well-maintained heritage storefronts and historic stately old homes.

Take March Street or Church Street to discover the 'Height-of-Land' and 'Stanley Park' segments of the trails. These areas are both perfect diversions to enjoy the natural beauty nearby while visiting the local shops. These trails are well marked in both directions. Some of the trails cross private property. Please respect the rights of the landowners.

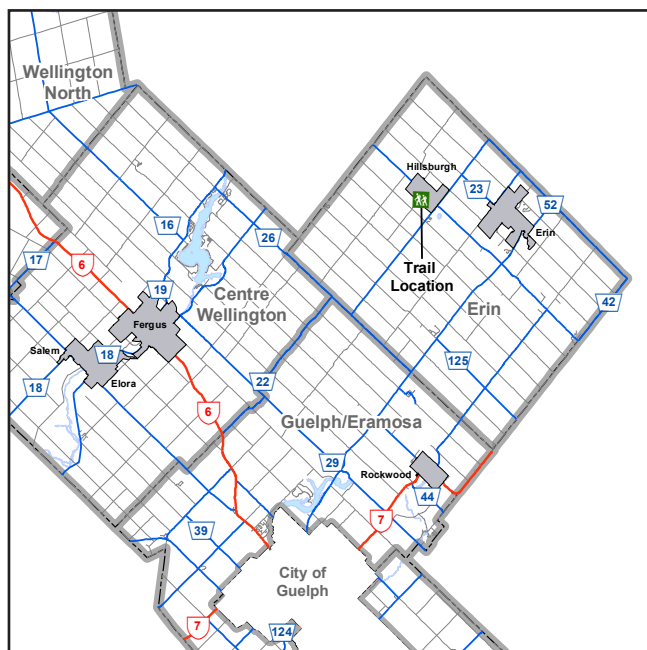
For more information, contact:

Town of Erin
519.855.4407
www.erin.ca



Hillsburgh Library





Distance: 250 m

Difficulty: Easy

Trail Use: Walking

Surface: Mulch,
natural surface

Cost: No cost

**County of
Wellington**



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Hillsburgh Library - 9 Station Street

This trail allows users to experience the Hillsburgh Dam waterbody. Located near the downtown of Hillsburgh the trail also provides access to the Elora Cataract Trail and allows residents to utilize the Hillsburgh Library grounds. The trail is a low impact trail that is primarily mulch under the existing tree canopy reducing the impact the on the ecosystem surrounding the library and Dam area.

For more information, contact:

County of Wellington

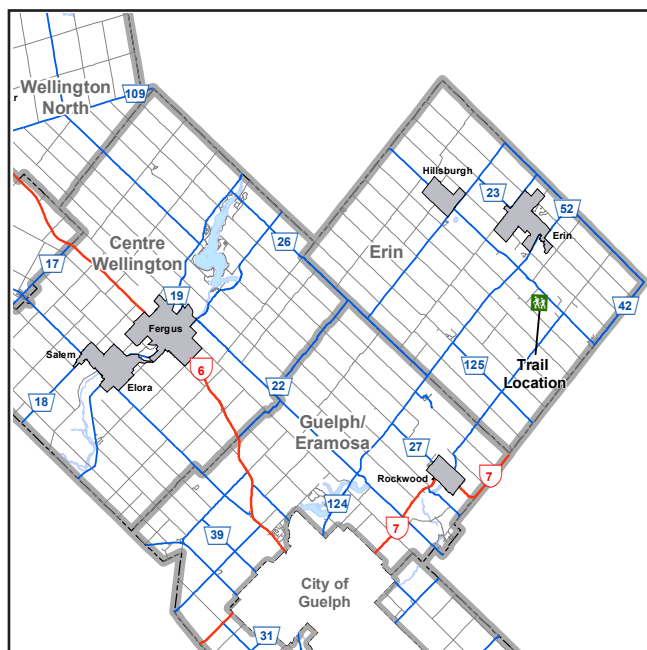
519.837.2600 x 2140

www.wellington.ca



Peacock Tract





Distance: 2 km

Difficulty: Moderate

Trail Use: Walking

Surface: Natural surface

Cost: No cost

County of Wellington



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Peacock Tract - 5196 Trafalgar Rd.

The Peacock Tract was purchased by the County of Wellington in 1946 from Anna Gray. The former Peacock School was located here and is the source of the tract name.

The trail winds through second growth forest and rolling terrain. Remains of the foundations of former structures are visible along the trail.

There is a nice upland forest stand around the loop at the trail's end. The forest is part of Brisbane Woods an Environmentally Sensitive Area (ESA) and a Regional Area of Natural and Scientific Interest (ANSI).

For more information, contact:

County of Wellington

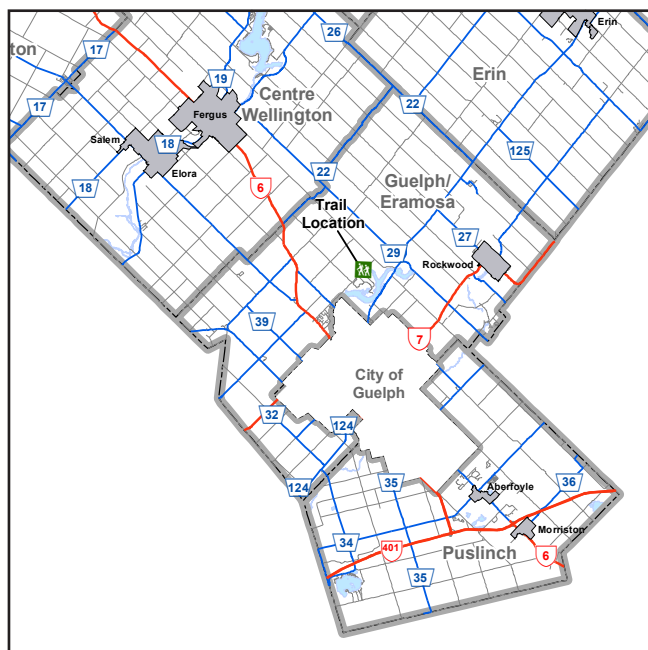
519.837.2600 x 2140

www.wellington.ca



Guelph Lake





Distance: 3.5 km

Difficulty: Easy

Trail Use: Walking, cycling

Surface: Natural surface, gravel

Cost: GRCA Park Fee

County of Wellington



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Guelph Lake

Located north of Guelph in the Township of Guelph/Eramosa, the Guelph Lake Conservation Area offers a wide range of recreational activities such as camping, canoeing, non-motorized boating, windsurfing, swimming and fishing. There are also two beaches and picnic shelters. While these facilities are accessed by a series of internal Conservation Area roads, the Grand River Conservation Authority (GRCA) also offers a series of hiking trails in a wooded area on the west side of Conservation Road, opposite Gate 4 to the park.

For more information, contact:

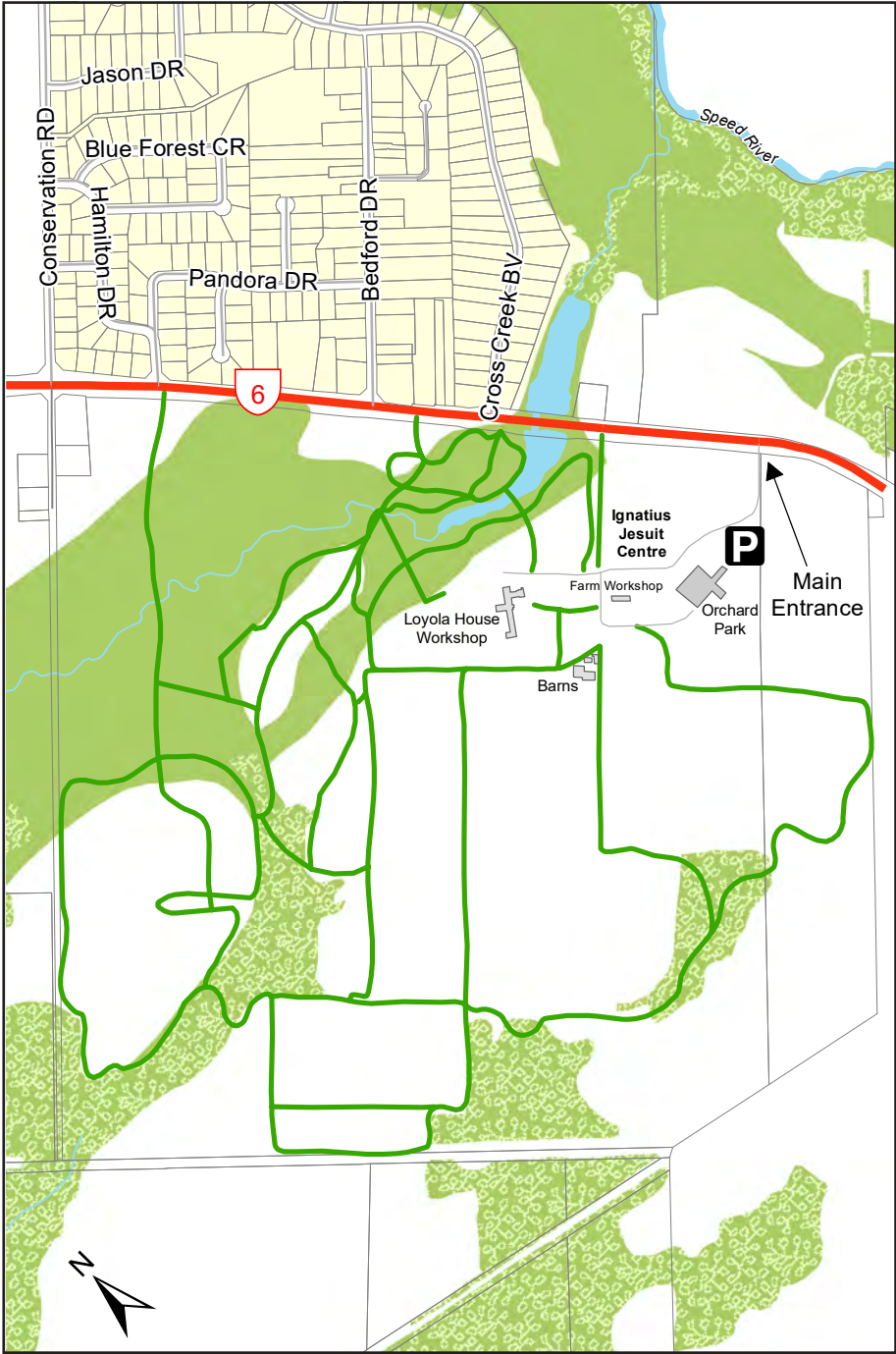
Grand River Conservation Authority
519.621.2761

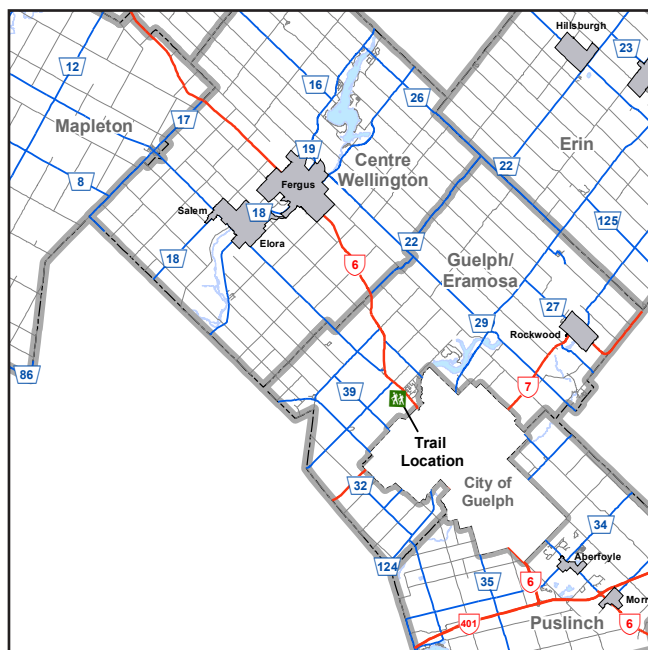
Guelph Lake Conservation Area
7743 Conservation Road, Guelph ON
519.824.5061

www.grandriver.ca



Ignatius Jesuit Centre Walking Trails





Distance: 13 km

Difficulty: Moderate

Trail Use: Walking

Surface: Natural surface

Cost: No cost

County of Wellington



Planning and Development Department. May not be reproduced without permission.

Ignatius Jesuit Centre of Guelph

The Ignatius Jesuit Centre is a 240 hectare (590 acre) land holding on both sides of Highway 6 in the Township of Guelph/Eramosa just outside of Guelph. The property also includes the Loyola House Retreat and Conference Centre and the Orchard Park Office Centre.

Located on the west side of Highway 6, the Charden Trail and Daffodil Path is one of four intricate trail systems maintained by the Centre. The trail is named after Pierre de Charden, S.J. As Fr. Charden is known as one of the first Jesuits to write about ecological issues, the trail suitably showcases part of the Marden Creek South Wetland Complex. The Daffodil Path is a section of the trail dedicated to the memory of Jane Buse, who was a member of the Ignatius Farm Community.

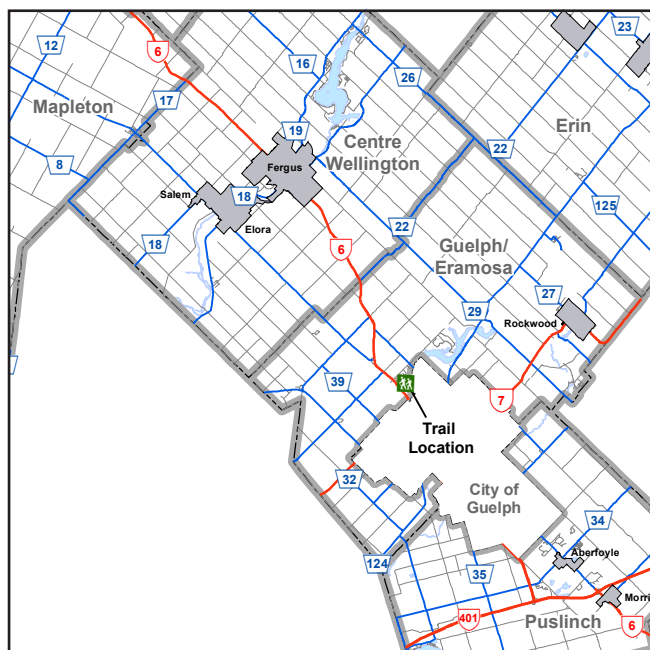


For more information, contact:

Land Manager 519.824.1250 x 238
landcoordinator@ignatiusguelph.ca
www.ignatiusguelph.ca

Ignatius - Fr. Holzer Trail





Distance: 4 km

Difficulty: Easy
with some moderate
sections

Trail Use: Walking

Surface: Natural
surface, stone dust

Cost: No cost

**County of
Wellington**



Planning and Development Department. May not be reproduced without permission.

Ignatius Jesuit Centre of Guelph: Fr. John Holzer Trail Villa by the Speed Trail

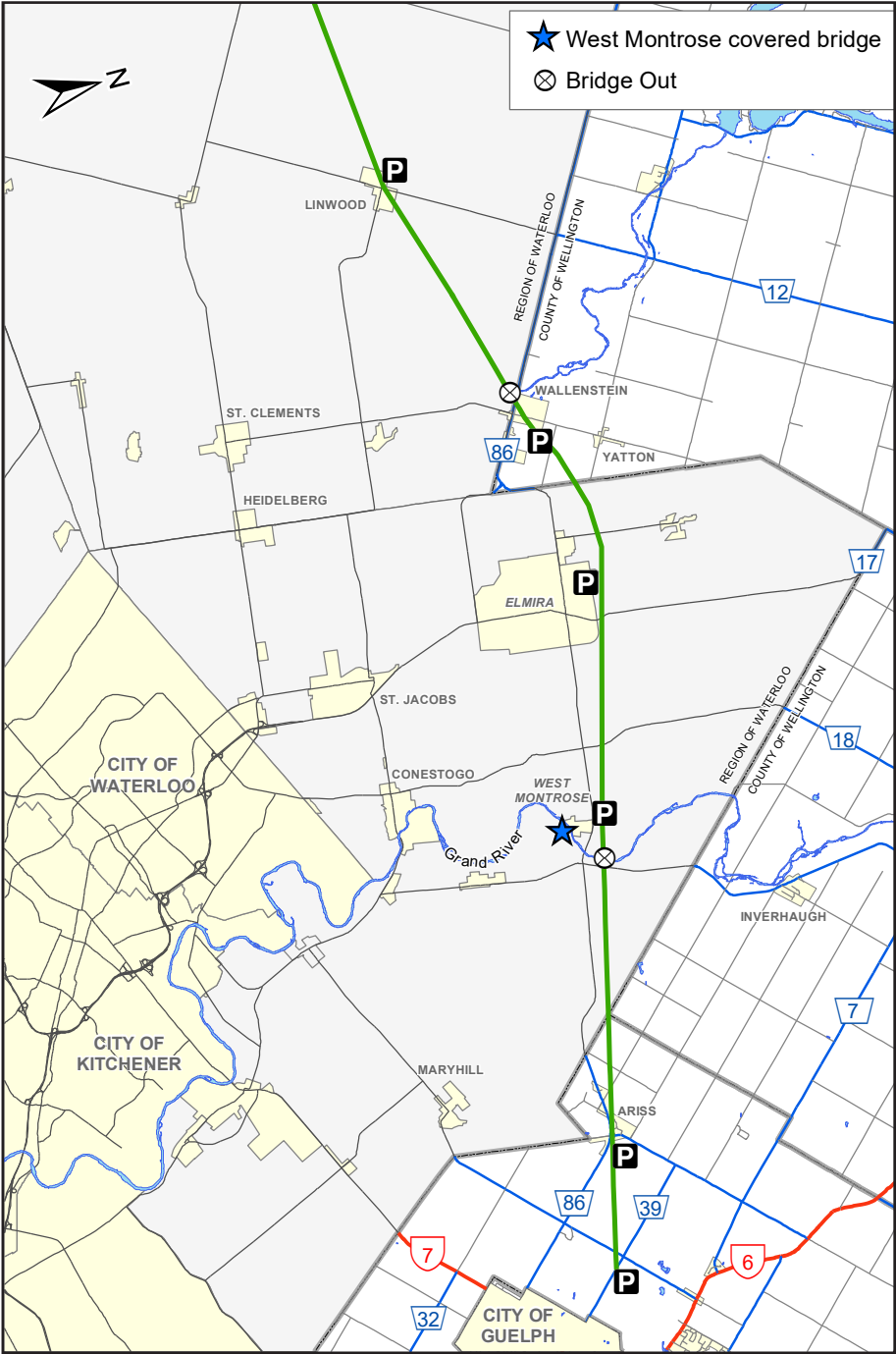
The Ignatius Jesuit Centre is a 240 hectare (590 acre) land holding on both sides of Highway 6 in the Township of Guelph/Eramosa just outside of Guelph. On the east side of Highway 6, in addition to protecting the lands along the Speed River, the Centre has plans for an Old Growth Forest Project.

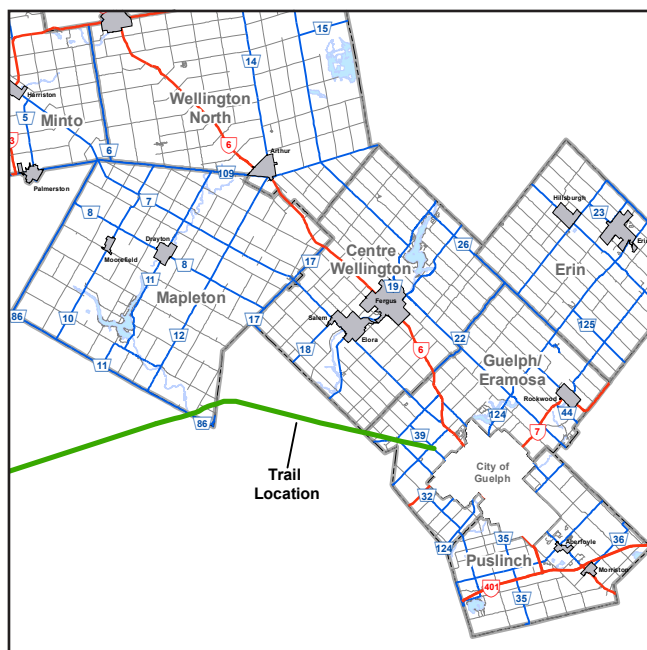
These two trails follow the river and eventually connect to Victoria Road. The John Holzer, S.J. trail recognizes the important early contributions of Fr. Holzer, who was appointed pastor of the Church of our Lady Parish in Guelph in 1852. Silence is integral to the retreat experience for guests at Loyola House; please be mindful of retreatants when using the Centre's trails. Dogs must be on leash and no bicycles are permitted on the trails. Tours are available.

For more information, contact:
Land Manager 519.824.1250 x 238
landcoordinator@ignatiusguelph.ca
www.ignatiusguelph.ca



Kissing Bridge Trailway





Distance: 45 km

Difficulty: Easy with some moderate sections

Trail Use: Walking, cycling, cross country skiing, snow mobiling

Surface: Natural surface, stone dust

Cost: No cost

County of Wellington



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Kissing Bridge Trailway

Built in 1904-06, at the height of the railway building boom, the Canadian Pacific Railway line from Guelph to Goderich once transported goods and passengers to Lake Huron. This multi-use recreational trail is being developed through a series of partnerships between the County of Wellington, Region of Waterloo and the steward groups who are building and maintaining sections of the trail.

In addition to the West Montrose covered bridge or Kissing Bridge, the trailway offers a number of attractions including picturesque farms, towns, villages and the beautiful rural landscape. The eastern 28 kilometres of the trailway is registered as part of the Trans Canada Trail.

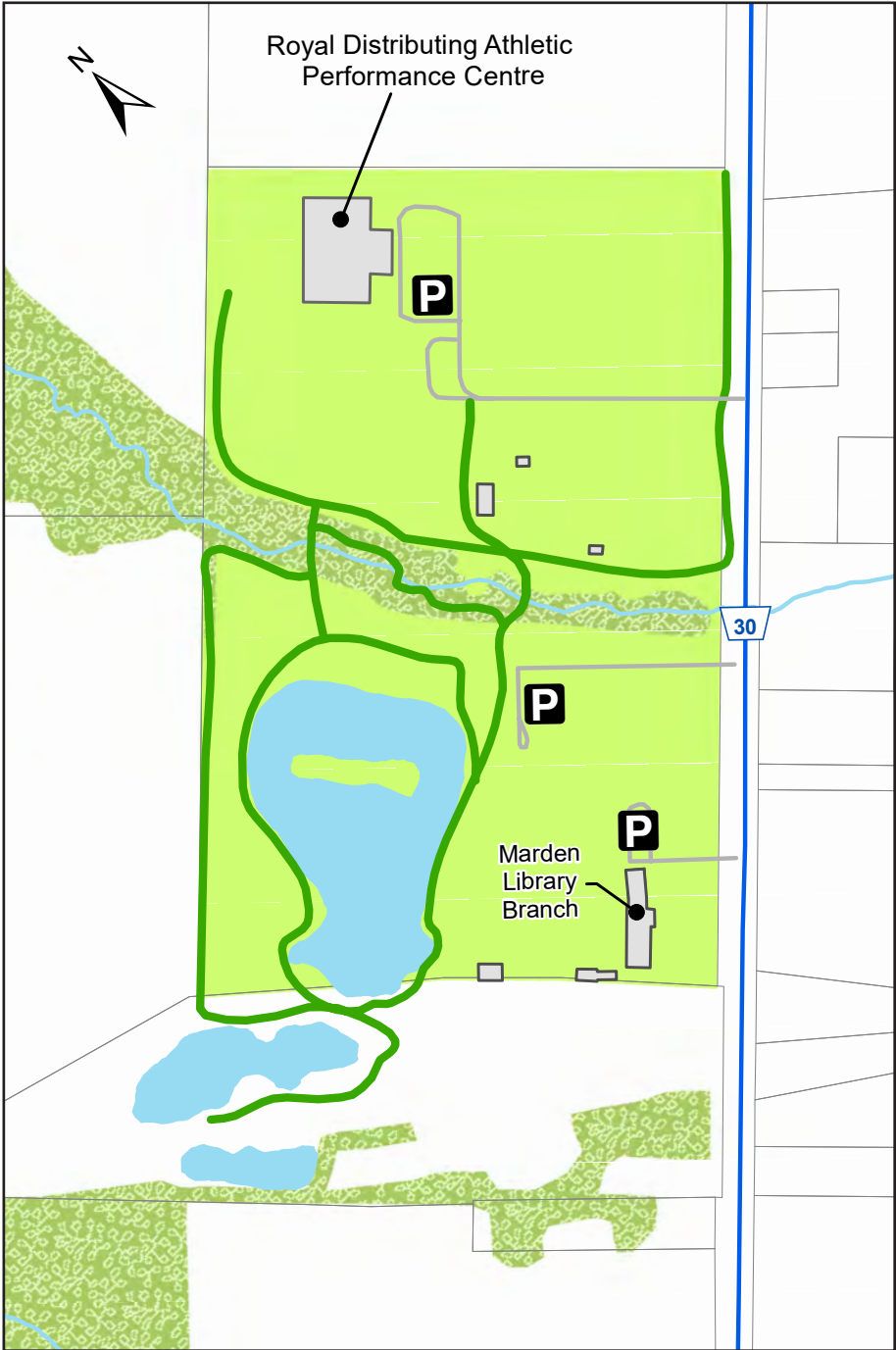
For more information, contact:

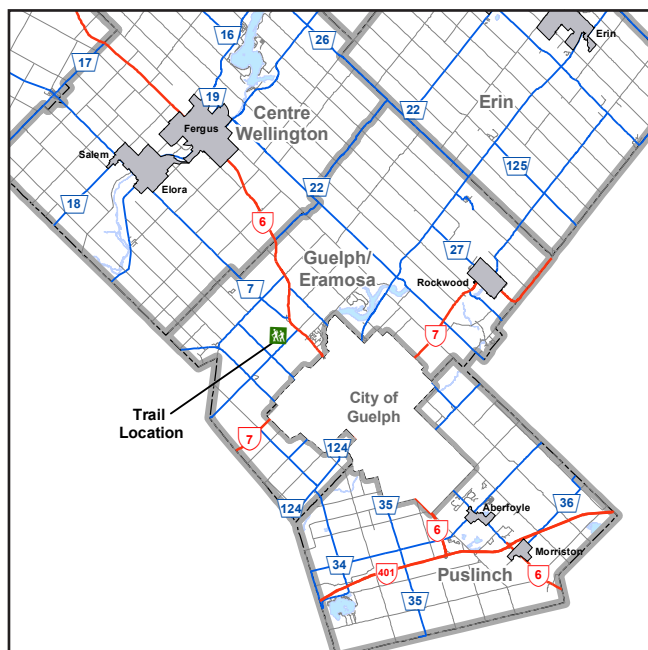
County of Wellington
519.837.2600 x 2140
www.wellington.ca

Region of Waterloo
519.575.4400
www.regionofwaterloo.ca



Marden Park Trail





Distance: 2.5 km

Difficulty: Easy

Trail Use: Walking

Surface: Natural surface, stone dust

Cost: No cost

County of Wellington



Planning and Development Department. May not be reproduced without permission.

Marden Park Walking Trails - 7368 Wellington Road 30

At 27 hectares (68 acres) in area, Marden Park has something for everyone. Located at 7376 Wellington Road 30 in the Township of Guelph/Eramosa (2 kilometres west of Highway 6), this park is a secluded country escape minutes from the city.

Features include:

Sports fields; Natural areas to explore; Picnic shelters; Ball diamonds; A beach area; Trout stream; Community centre; and County library branch.

Marden Park hosts a variety of sporting activities, picnics, fishing, hiking and even outdoor weddings.

For more information, contact:

Township of Guelph/Eramosa

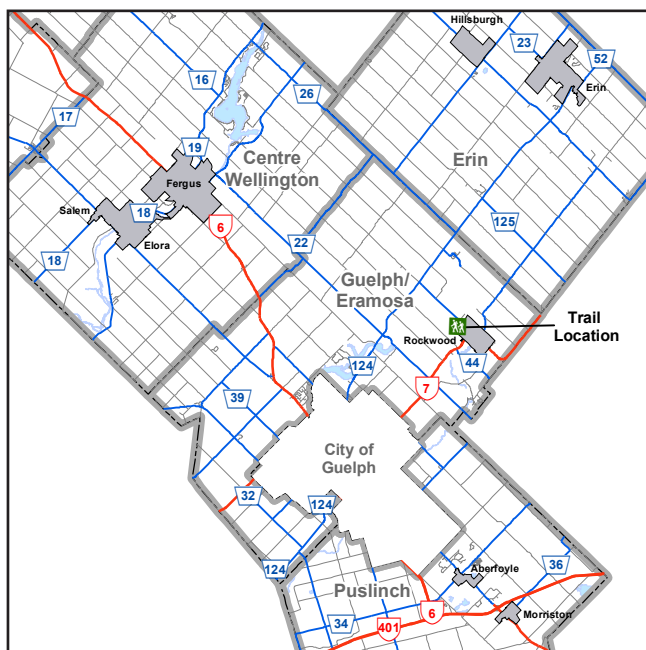
519.856.9596

www.get.on.ca



Rockmosa Park





Distance: 2 km

Difficulty: Easy

Trail Use: Walking, biking

Surface: Asphalt

Cost: No cost

County of Wellington



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Rockmosa Park - 110 Rockmosa Drive

Located just North of the railway tracks in Rockwood, opening in 2019, this park features a soccer field, mini fields, tennis courts, splash pad, community centre and playground. The trail surrounding the park is asphalt and provides easy access to all the amenities the park has to offer. Refer to the Township of Guelph/Eramosa mapping for additional details.

For more information, contact:

Township of Guelph/Eramosa

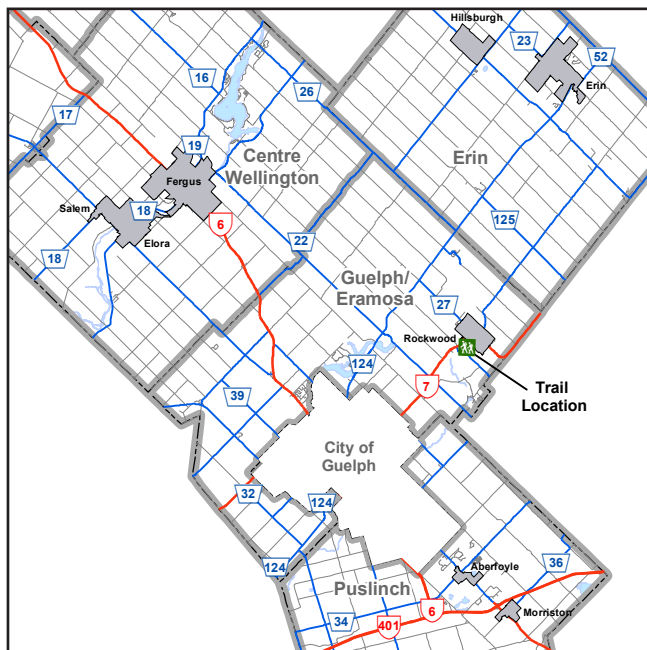
519.856.9596

www.get.on.ca



Rockwood Conservation Area





Distance: 4 km

Difficulty: Easy with some moderate sections

Trail Use: Walking, cycling, cross country skiing

Surface: Natural surface, pavement

Cost: Park entrance fee

County of Wellington



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Rockwood Conservation Area Trails - 161 Fall Street

This park, located along the Eramosa River in Rockwood, offers a range of recreational activities that one would expect at a Conservation Area (e.g. camping, canoeing, kayaking, swimming and picnicking). What sets this park apart are the natural features which include glacial potholes, glacial bluffs, and caves. The conservation area has over 200 ancient potholes, some of which can be viewed along the Pothole Trail. There is also a trail leading to a network of 12 caves and other trails featuring natural areas in the park.

The ruins of a woolen mill (circa 1867) which were restored by the Grand River Conservation Authority (GRCA) are also a popular destination for park visitors. Read more about the history of the mill and all the park has to offer at www.grandriver.ca.

For more information, contact:

Grand River Conservation Authority

519.621.2761

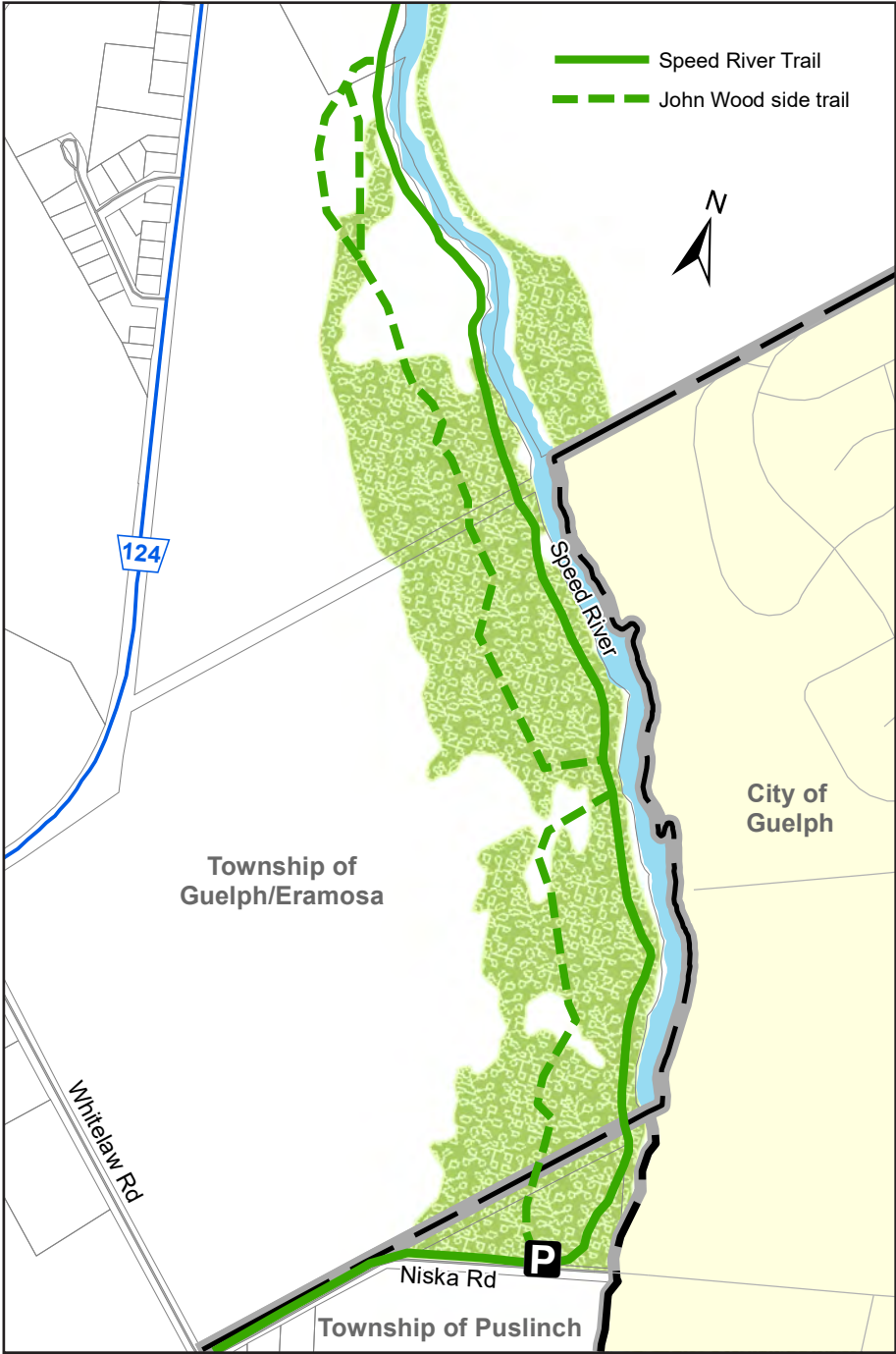
www.grandriver.ca

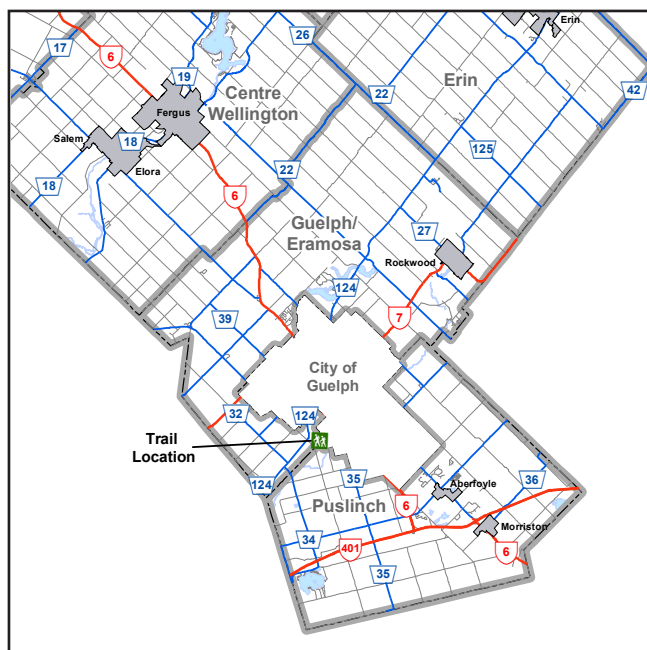
Rockwood Conservation Area

519.856.9543



Speed River Trail





Distance: 2.4 km
Depending on loop taken
Difficulty: Moderate
Trail Use: Walking
Surface: Natural surface
Cost: No cost

County of Wellington



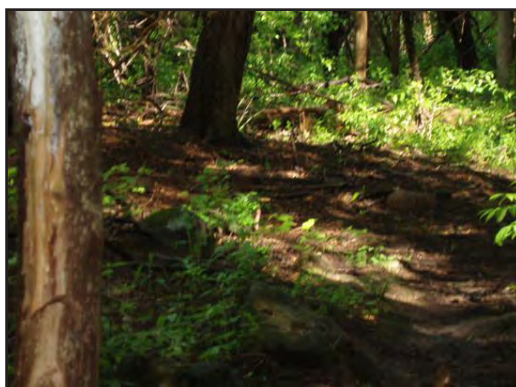
Planning and Development Department. May not be reproduced without permission.

Speed River Trail: John Wood Side Trails

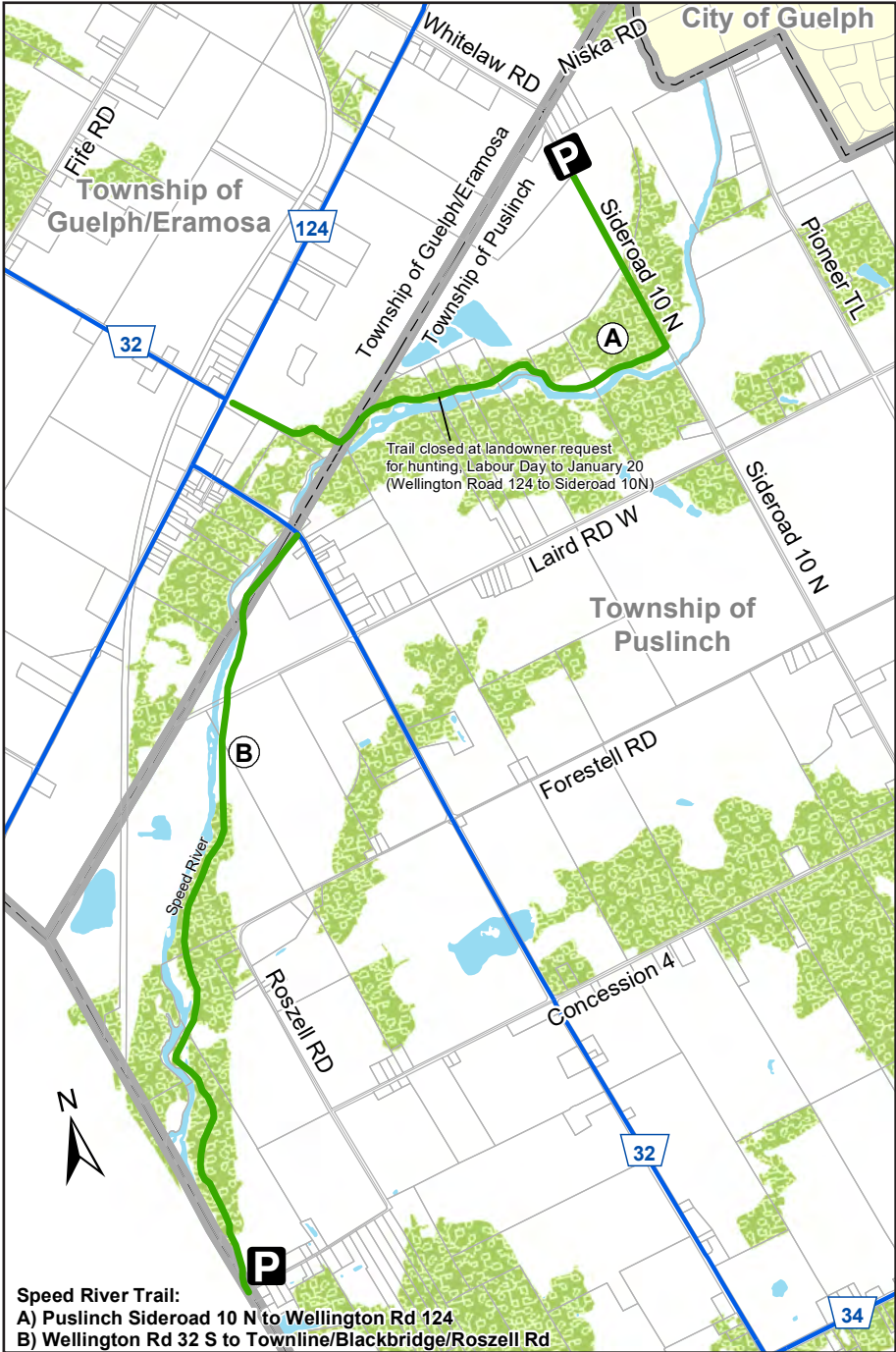
The Speed River Trail provides a link between Guelph and Cambridge following the Speed River, southwest from Guelph. The John Wood Side Trails are marked with orange blazes off the main trail. When combined with the adjoining Speed River Trail, they form two loops. These trails were constructed in 2008 and have been made possible through the generous access provided by the landowner, Woodland Properties.

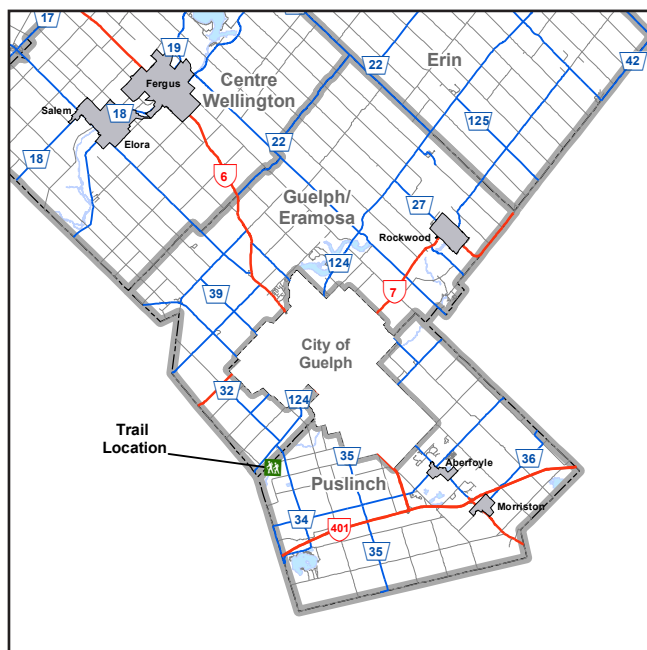
For more information, contact:

Guelph Hiking Trail Club
Box 1 Guelph ON N1H 6J6
www.guelphhiking.com



Speed River Trail





Distance: A) 4 km

B) 5 km

Difficulty: Moderate

Trail Use: Walking

Surface: Natural surface

Cost: No cost

County of Wellington



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Speed River Trail: Puslinch Sideroad 10 N to Wellington Rd 124

Wellington Rd 32 S to Townline/Blackbridge/Roszell Rd

The Speed River Trail has been made possible through the generosity of private landowners who have granted the Guelph Hiking Trail Club permission to establish the trail in 1973 and for their members and the public to use it. The trail as a whole provides a link between Guelph and Cambridge following the Speed River, southwest from Guelph. This map highlights two areas of the trail following the river, mainly in the Township of Puslinch.

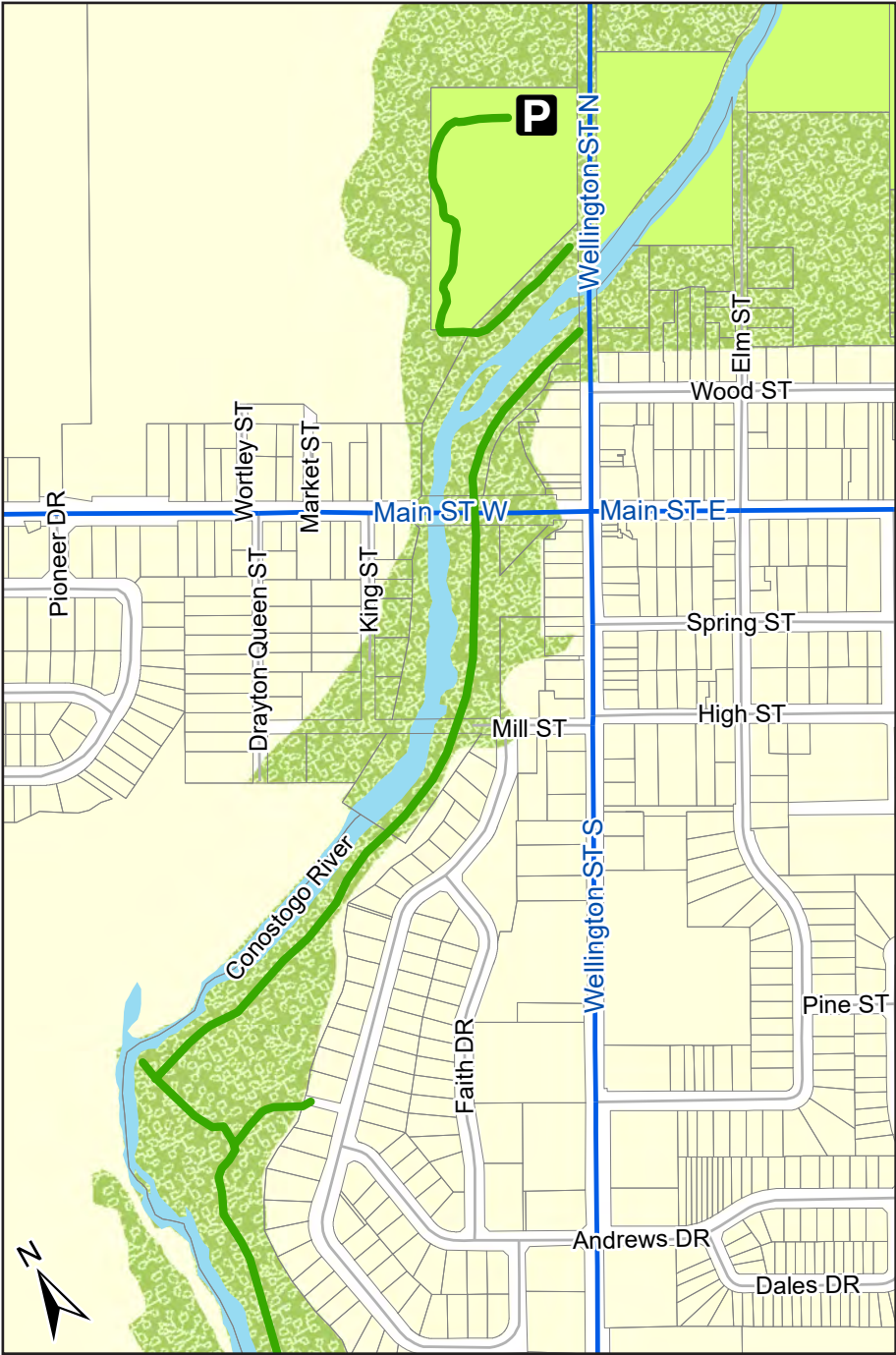
The trail is marked by single orange blazes.

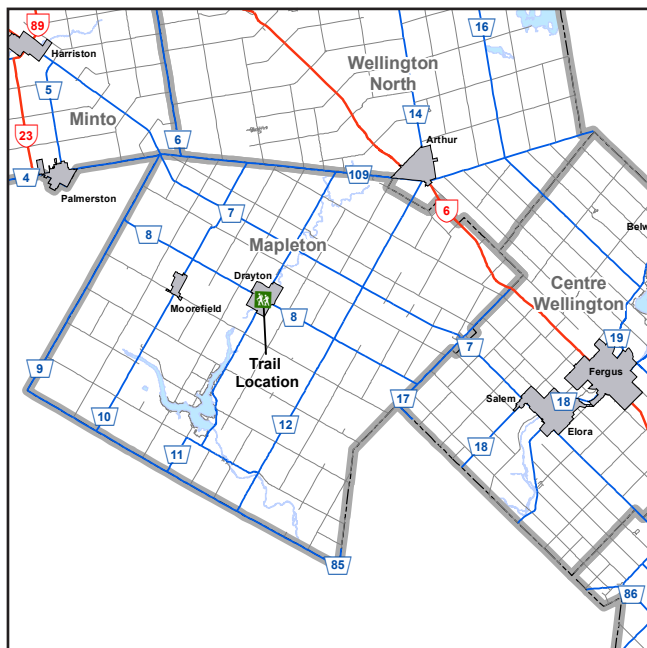
For more information, contact:

Guelph Hiking Trail Club
Box 1 Guelph ON N1H 6J6
www.guelphhiking.com



Drayton Riverside Walking Trail





Distance: 1 km

Difficulty: Easy

Trail Use: Walking

Surface: Natural surface, stone dust

Cost: No cost

County of Wellington



Planning and Development Department. May not be reproduced without permission.

Drayton Riverside Walking Trail

The Drayton Walking trail is a perfect spot to take in the beauty of the Conestogo River. You can either walk, run or bike along the river and stop at your leisure at the many benches lining the trail to enjoy the serenity of your surroundings.

For more information, contact:

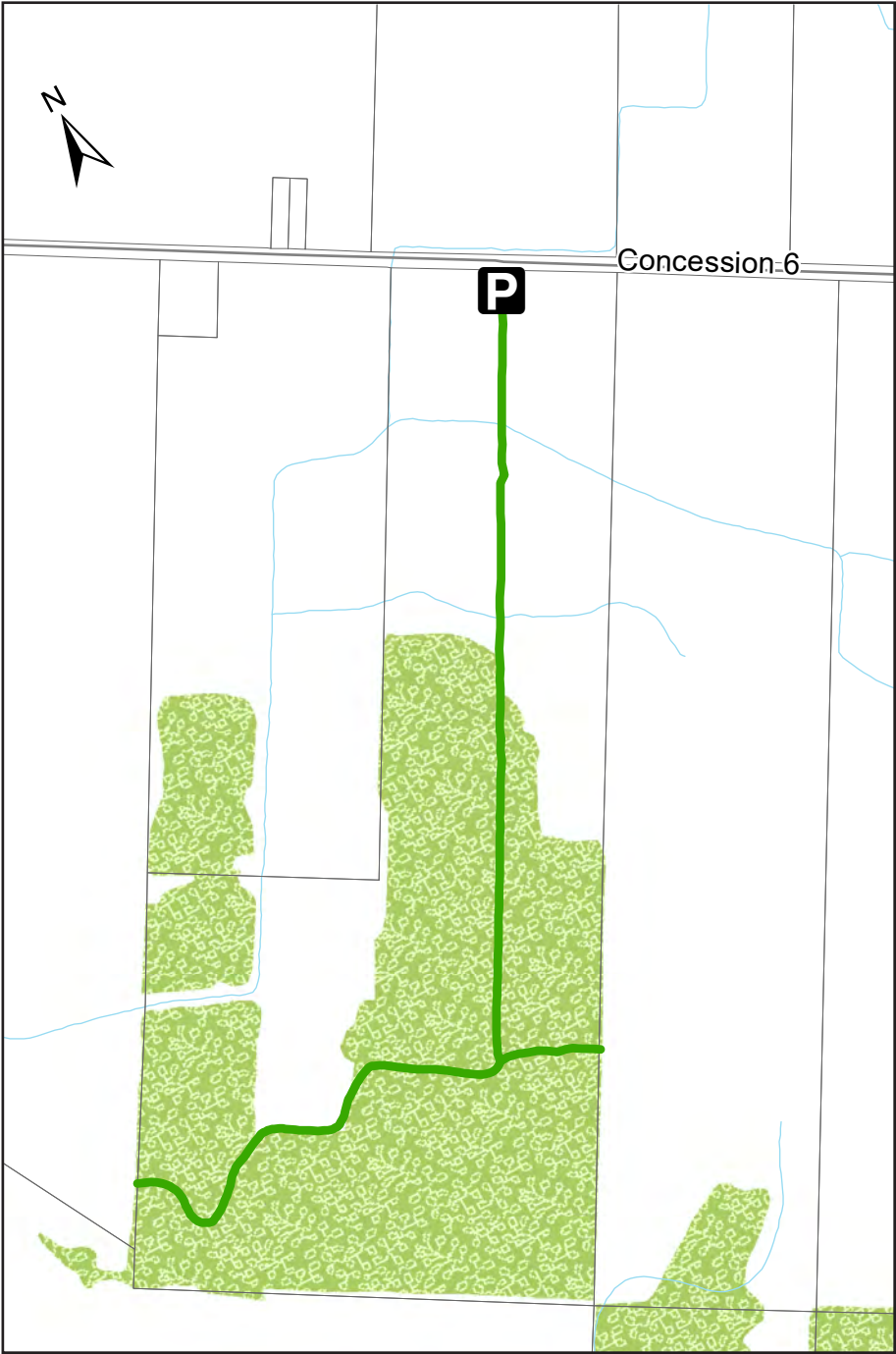
Township of Mapleton

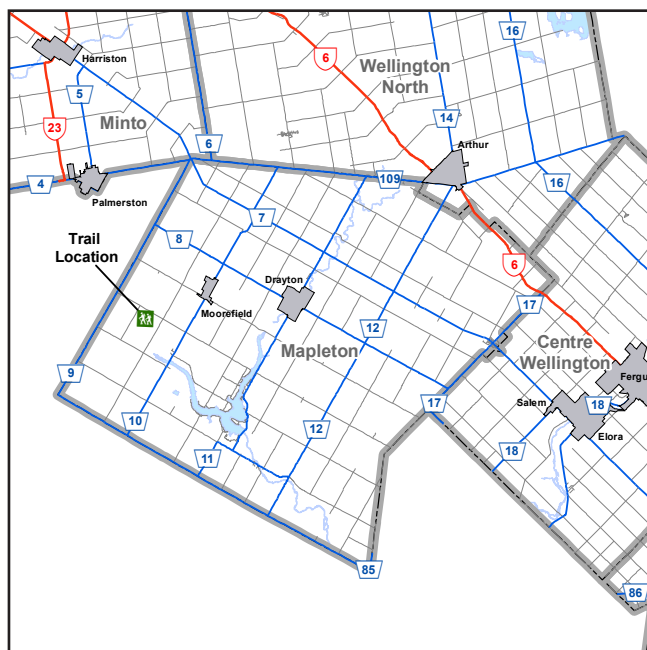
519.638.3313

www.mapleton.ca



Fleming Tract





Distance: 2 km

Difficulty: Easy

Trail Use: Walking, cycling

Surface: Natural surface

Cost: No cost

**County of
Wellington**



Planning and Development Department. May not be reproduced without permission.

Fleming Tract - 8530 Concession 6

The Fleming Tract was acquired by the County of Wellington from Vernon H. Fleming and his wife, M. Irene Fleming, in 1973. Further back, the trail gets interesting, first crossing over a municipal drain and then the old farmstead. You will see a fine example of cement drinking troughs amidst the ruins. From there, go west to the end of the trail where the plantations change to a hardwood bush, overlooking an active gravel pit.

For more information, contact:

County of Wellington

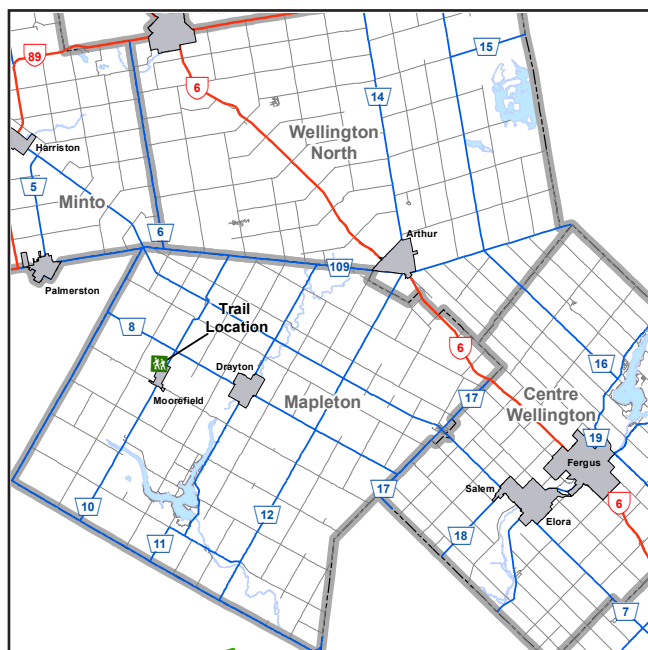
519.837.2600 x 2140

www.wellington.ca



Moorefield Community Trail





Distance: 0.5 km

Difficulty: Easy

Trail Use: Walking

Surface: Natural surface

Cost: No cost

County of Wellington



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Moorefield Community Centre Trail - 15 Ball Avenue

Located in Moorefield next to the ball diamonds, the Moorefield Community Centre trail is a lovely spot for a walk. While the trail may be short in distance, the terrain is varied as the trail winds through a forested area behind the ball diamonds.

For more information, contact:

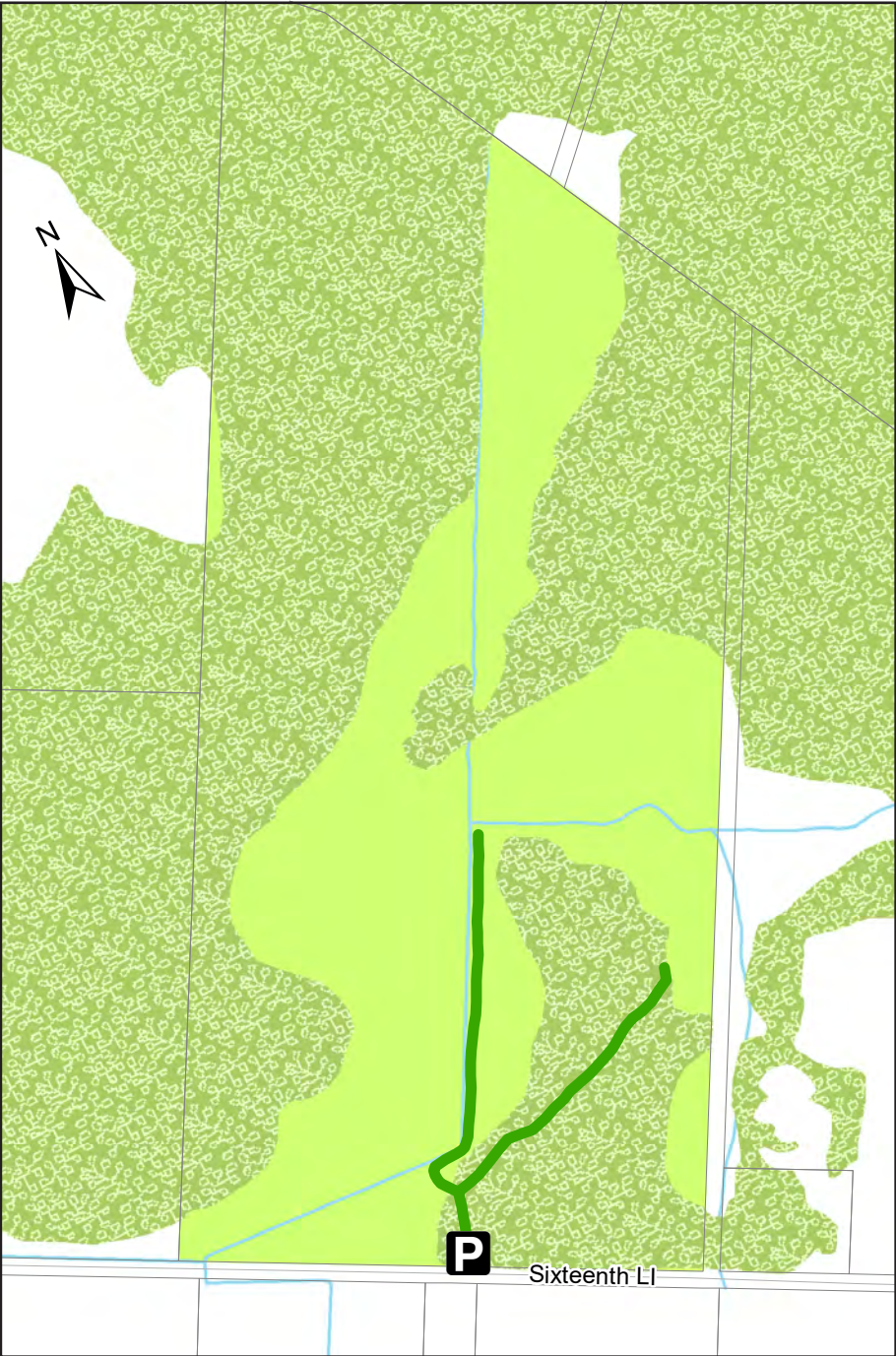
Township of Mapleton

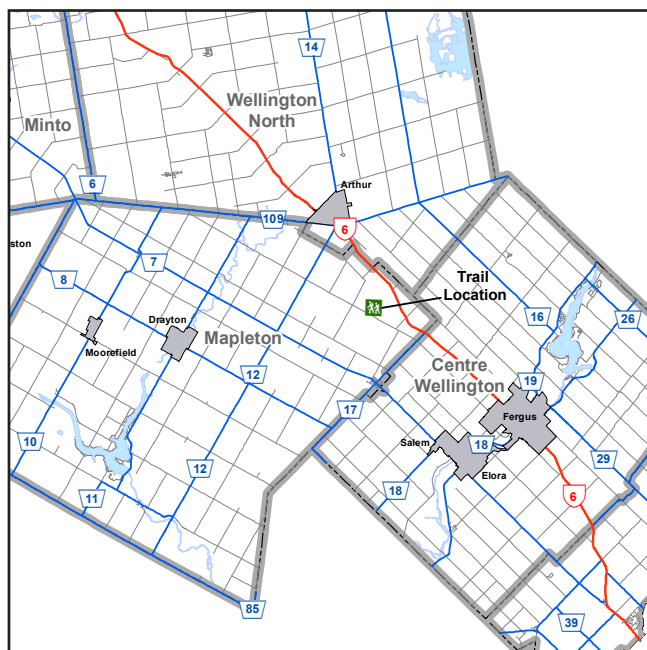
519.638.3313

www.mapleton.ca



Ritch Tract





Distance: 2 km

Difficulty: Easy

Trail Use: Walking

Surface: Natural surface

Cost: No cost

County of Wellington



Planning and Development Department. May not be reproduced without permission.

Ritch Tract - 7297 Sixteenth Line

The Ritch Tract was acquired by the County of Wellington from Robert Ritch, County Warden, in 1942.

The Ritch Tract area is an Environmentally Sensitive Area (ESA). A side trail to the left will take you out of the forest to a municipal drain. If you follow it to the right, it will take you to extensive wetlands and some beaver ponds.

For more information, contact:

County of Wellington

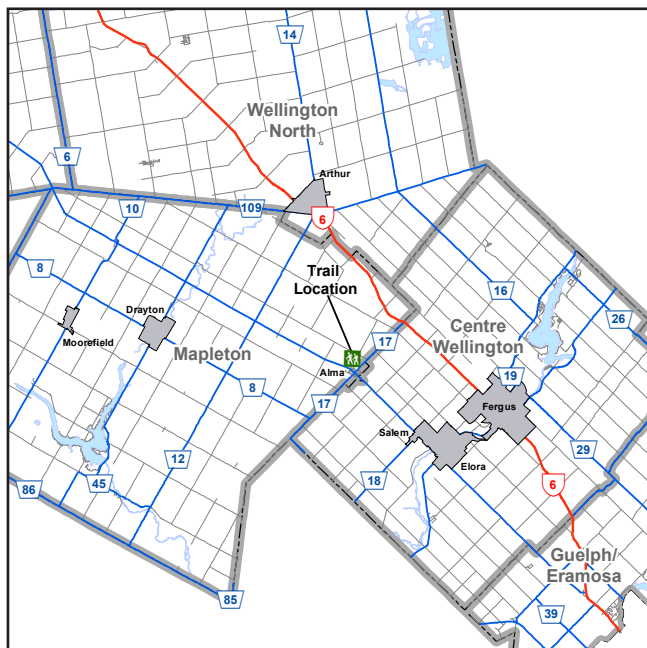
519.837.2600 x 2140

www.wellington.ca



Wallace Cumming Park Trail





Distance: 1.5 km

Difficulty: Easy

Trail Use: Walking, cycling

Surface: Stone dust

Cost: No cost

**County of
Wellington**



Planning and Development Department. May not be reproduced without permission.

Wallace Cumming Park Trail

The Wallace Cumming Park trail is located in Alma. The trail was constructed through the efforts of the Alma Optimists and is the ideal location for walking or biking.

For more information, contact:

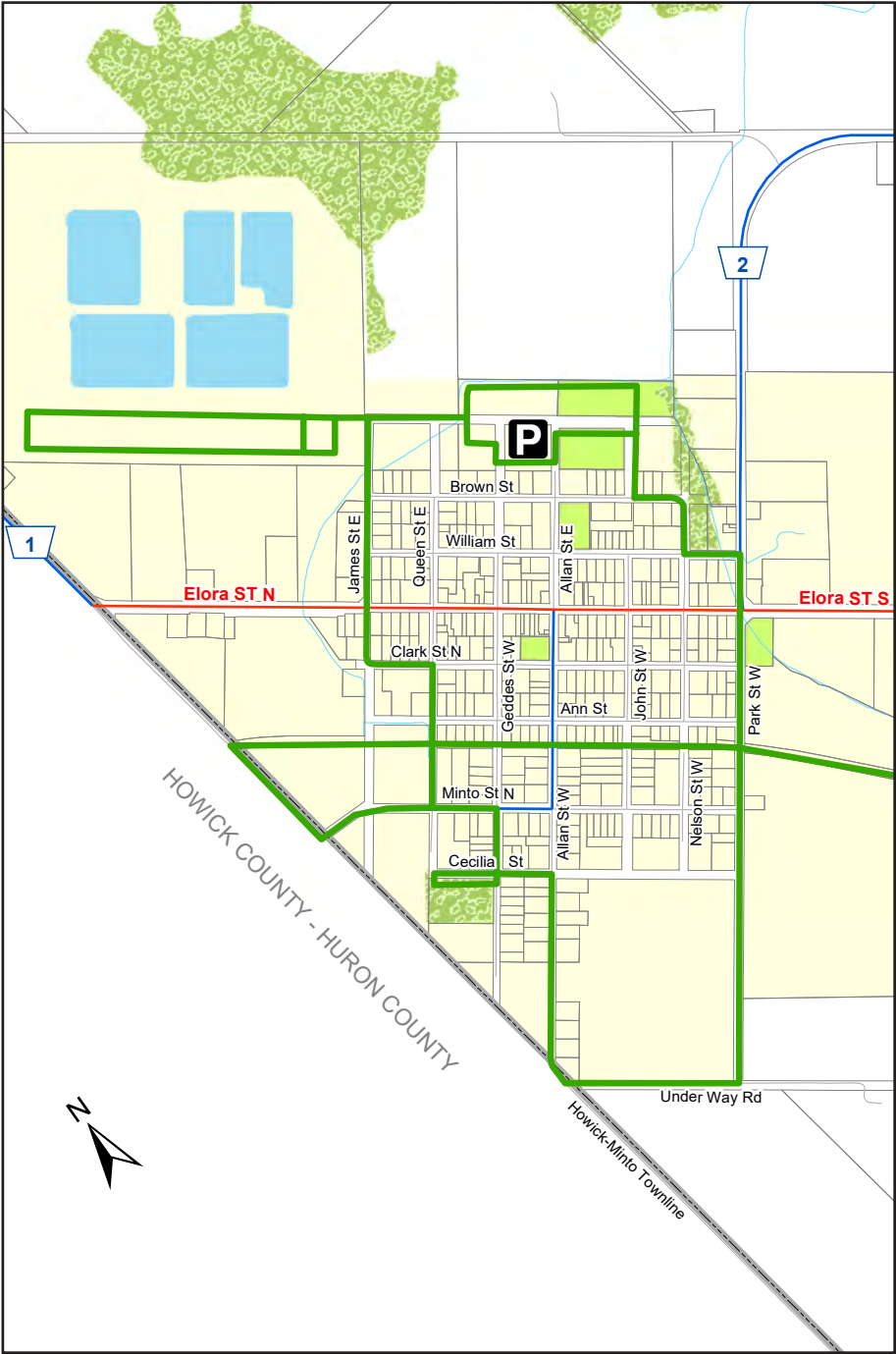
Township of Mapleton

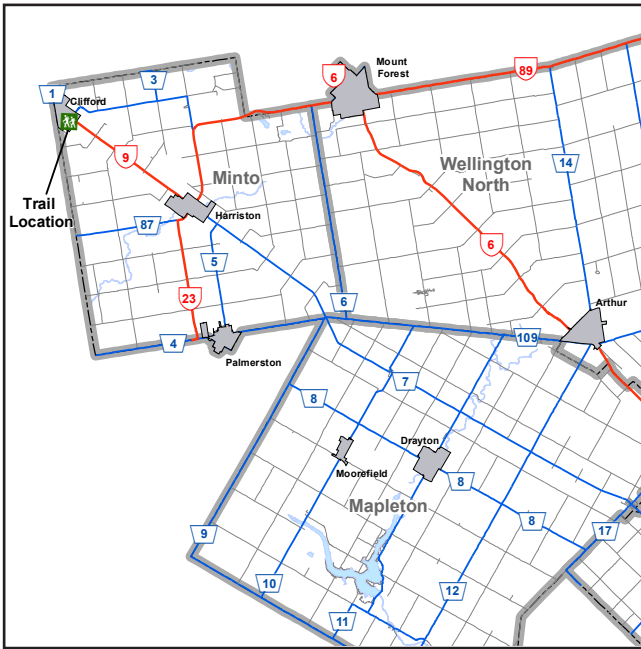
519.638.3313

www.mapleton.ca



Clifford Trail





Distance: 12 km

Difficulty: Easy

Trail Use: Walking, cycling

Surface: Natural surface, pavement

Cost: No cost

County of Wellington



Planning and Development Department. May not be reproduced without permission.

Clifford Trail

The Clifford Trail system starts at Rotary Park across from the arena and fire hall. Parking and trail use are free. Follow the blue markers. Hikers, bicycles, and mobility-assist vehicles are welcome, but the natural areas are only accessible to hikers, snowshoers and cross country skiers.

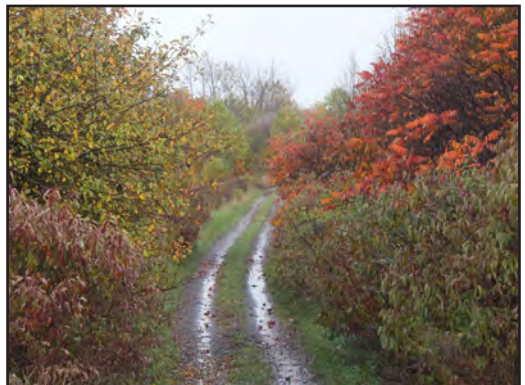
There are three loops in the trail. The Rotary Park Loop is an easy walk on mowed grass under trees, along a stream and past sport fields. The Regrowth Loop at the end of James Street East has one smooth area for easy walking, and the rest is rough and wet. The Rail Line Loop is mostly walking on road allowances with the old rail bed finishing off the loop. The Park Street Extension is a rough natural easement which continues on streets.

For more information, contact:

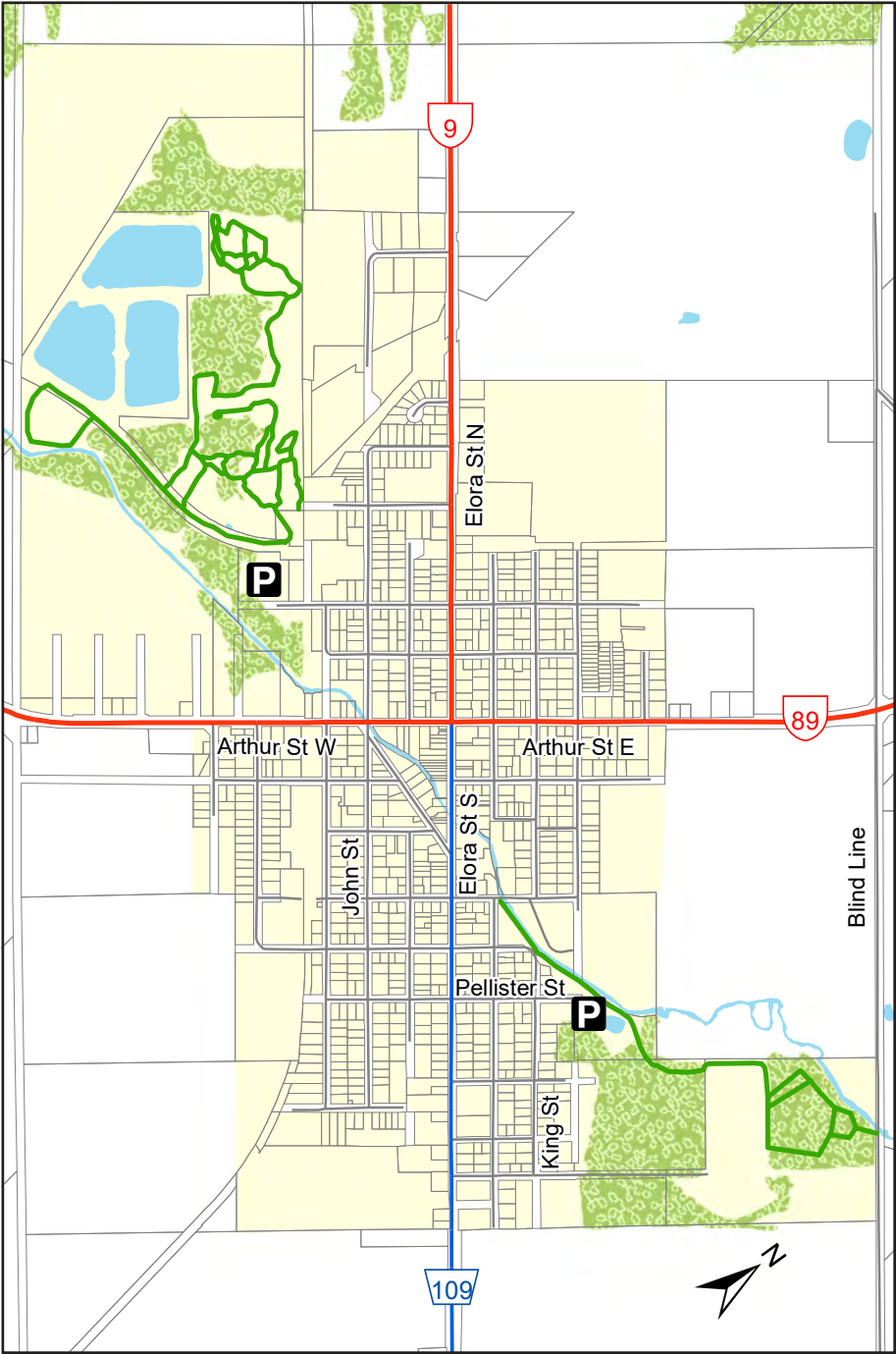
Town of Minto

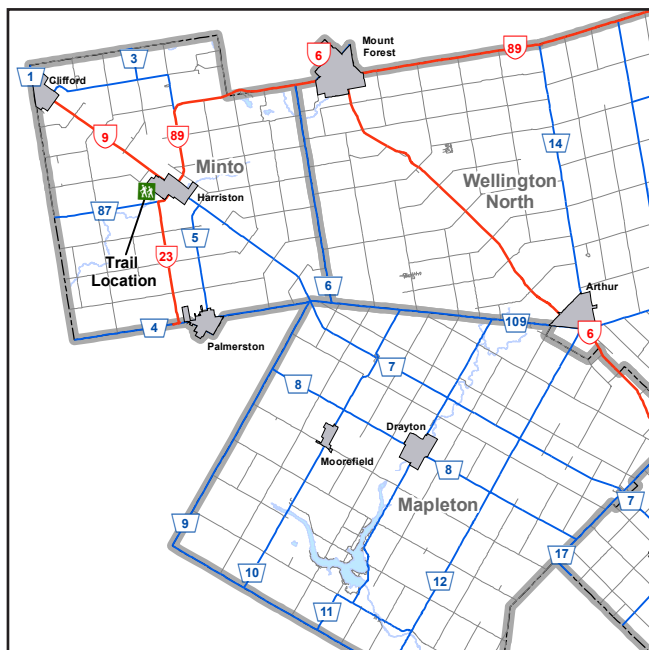
519.338.2511

www.town.minto.on.ca



Harriston Greenway





Distance: 4 km

Difficulty: Easy with some moderate sections

Trail Use: Walking, cross country skiing, cycling

Surface: Natural surface, stone dust

Cost: No cost

County of Wellington



Planning and Development Department. May not be reproduced without permission.

Harriston Greenway

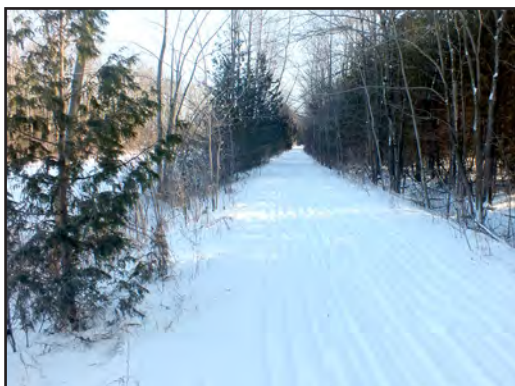
The Harriston Greenway trail, provides users with a nice way to travel through Harriston. Some sections of the trail are located on the outskirts of town and provide a secluded setting to walk through. While other sections through the town provide the perfect opportunity to stop at the many downtown shops.

For more information, contact:

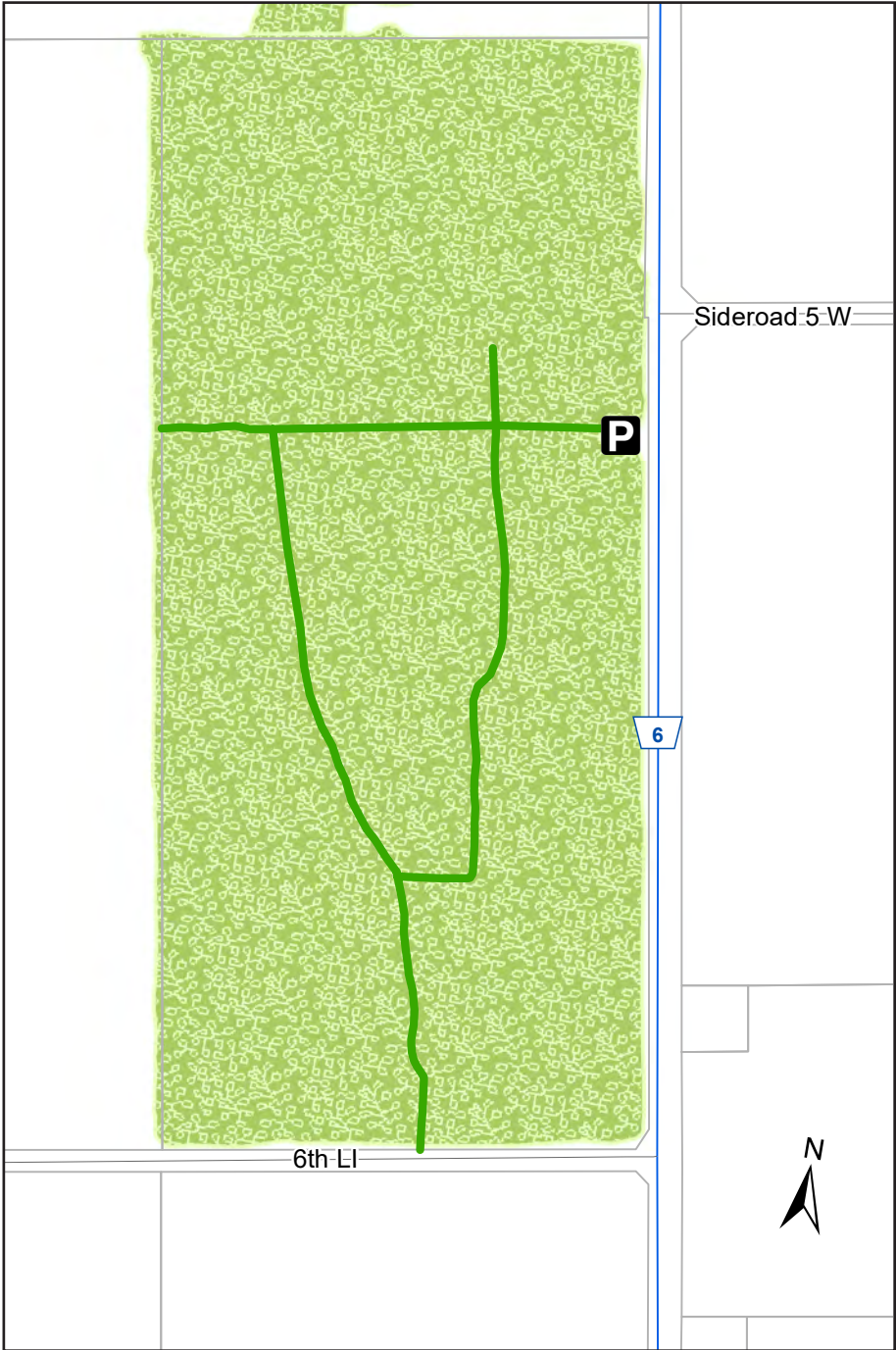
Town of Minto

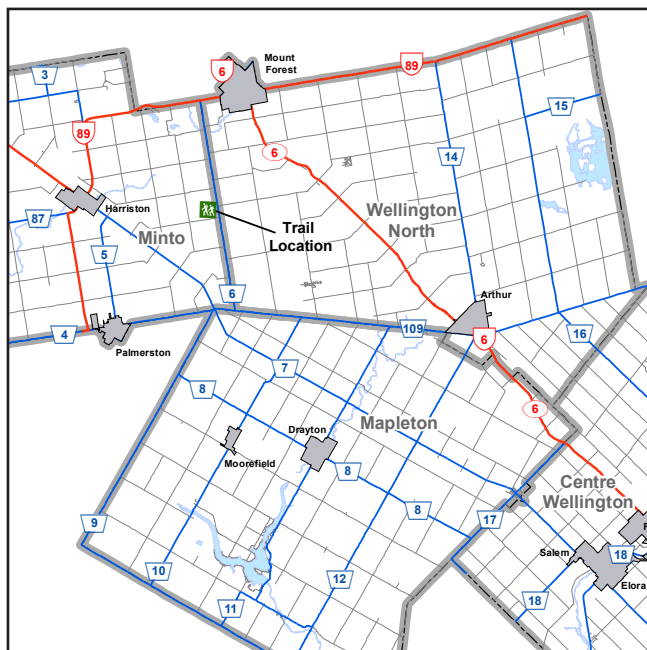
519.338.2511

www.town.minto.on.ca



Smale Tract





Distance: 1.5 km

Difficulty: Easy
with some moderate
sections

Trail Use: Walking

Surface: Natural
surface

Cost: No cost

County of Wellington



Planning and Development Department. May not be reproduced without permission.

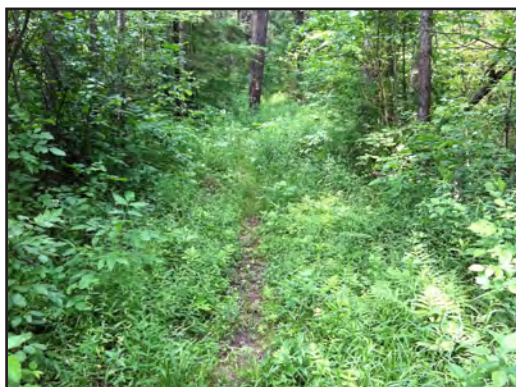
Smale Tract - 6774 6th Line, main entrance and parking lot is on Wellington Rd 6

The County of Wellington received this tract from Frederick E. Smale in 1959. Reforestation began on the property in 1941 and the results of the plantings are evident today.

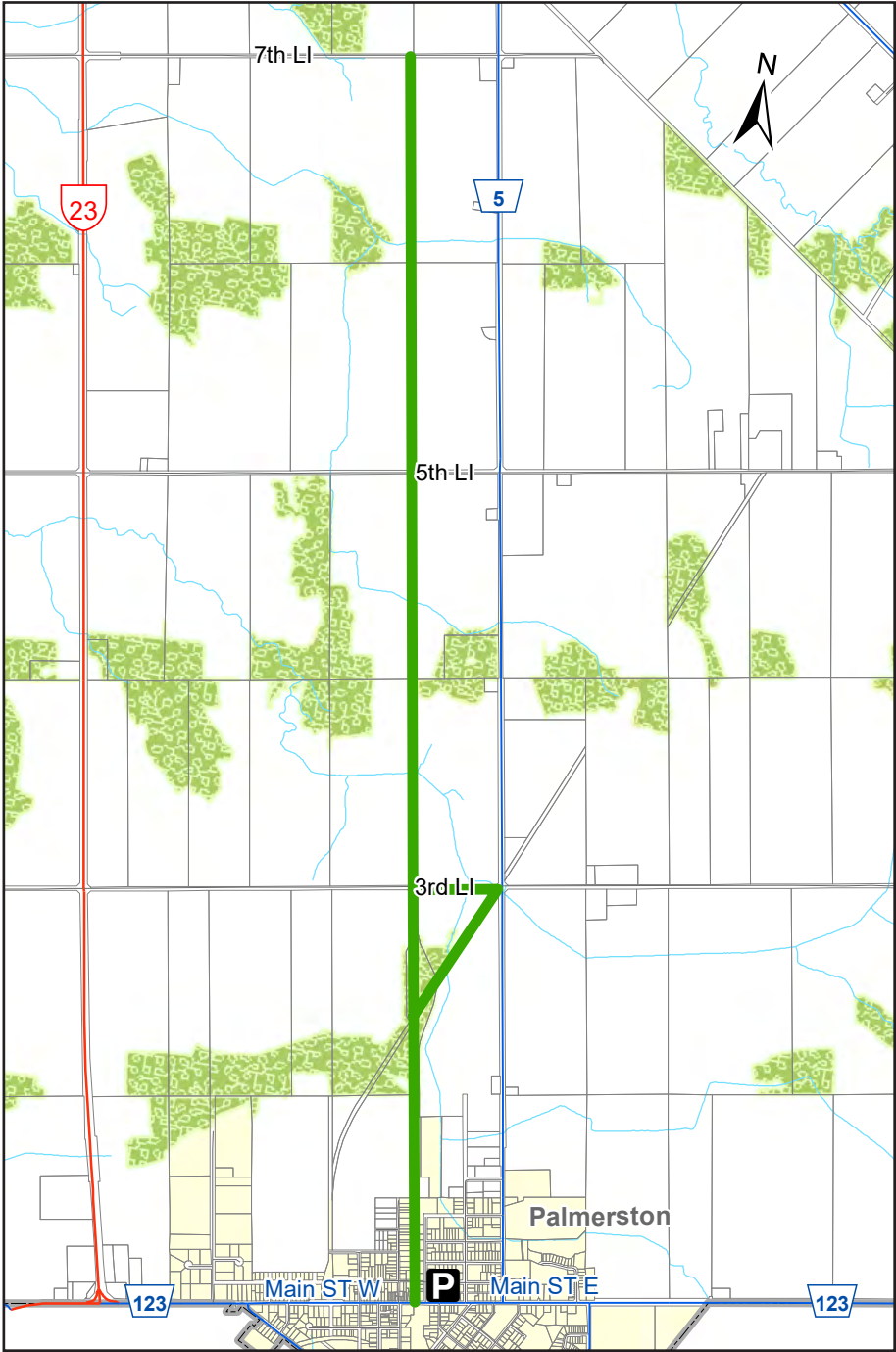
You can loop back to the parking lot via the 6th Line and Wellington Rd 6 and combine rural agricultural views with your forest walk.

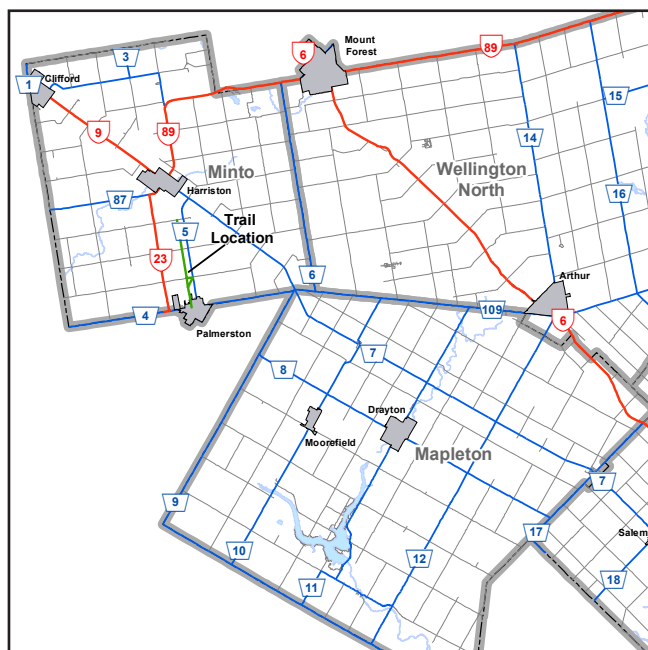
For more information, contact:

County of Wellington
519.837.2600 x 2140
www.wellington.ca



White's Junction Trail





Distance: 7 km

Difficulty: Easy

Trail Use: Walking, biking, cross country skiing

Surface: Natural surface

Cost: No cost

County of Wellington



Planning and Development Department. May not be reproduced without permission.

White's Junction Trail

White's Junction Trail follows a former CN railway line that runs from Palmerston to the south of Harriston in the Town of Minto. The development of this trail is due to the dedication of local residents who formed the Palmerston Trail Association (PTA), an incorporated non-profit organization.

The trail corridor, as it exists today, begins at Inkerman Street to the north of Main Street. Once a short section south to Main Street is completed, a direct and visible connection to the downtown area will be provided. In addition to nearby shopping opportunities, Lions Park and the Palmerston Railway Heritage Museum Station are within walking distance.



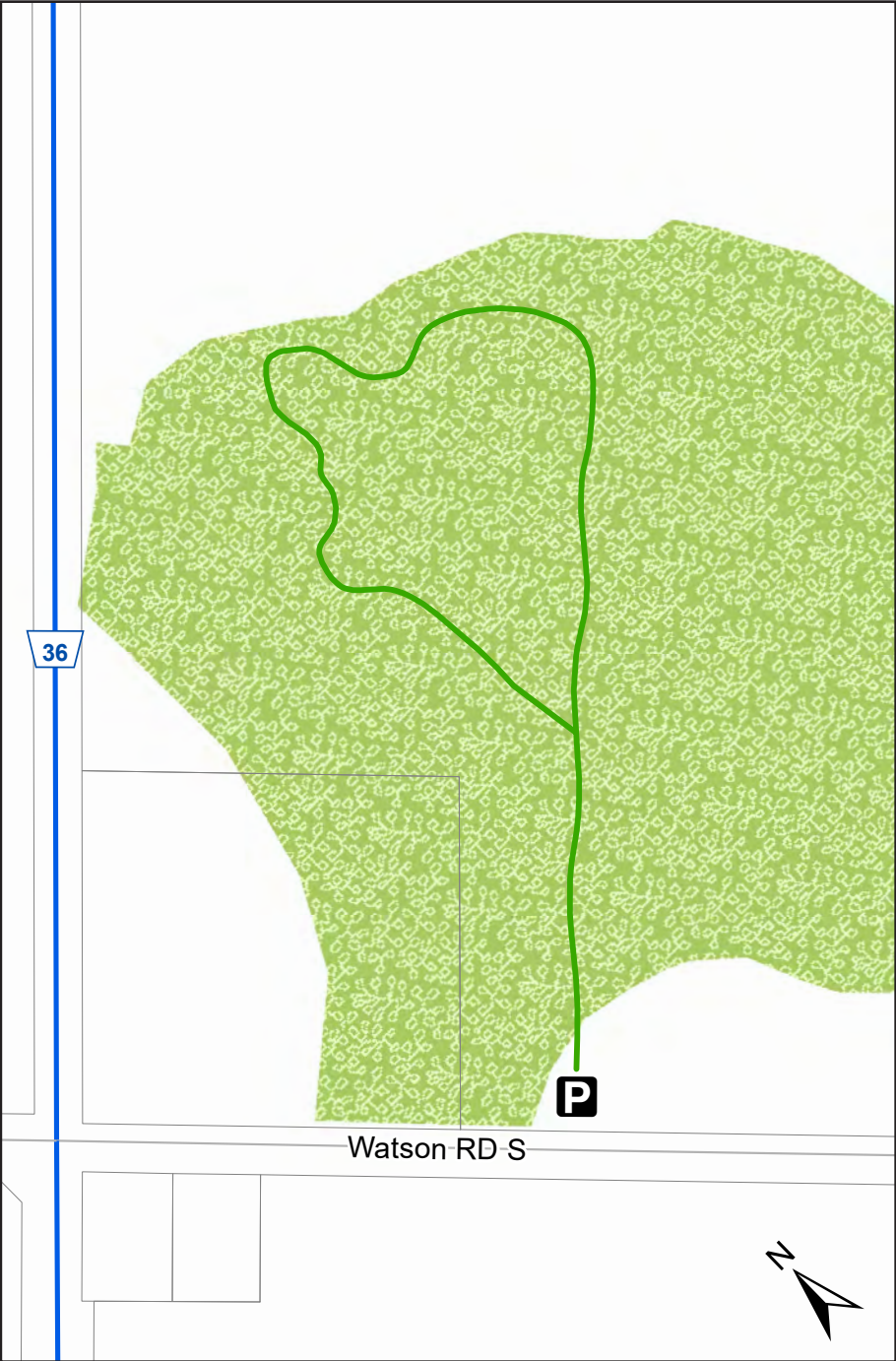
For more information, contact:

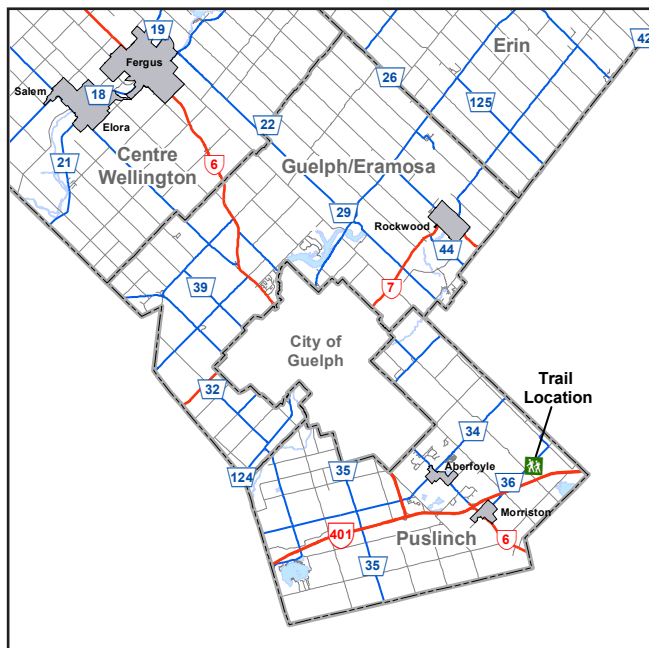
Town of Minto

519.338.2511

www.town.minto.on.ca

Badenoch Tract





Distance: 1 km

Difficulty: Easy

Trail Use: Walking, cycling

Surface: Natural surface

Cost: No cost

County of Wellington



Planning and Development Department. May not be reproduced without permission.

Badenoch Tract - 4217 Watson Road South

Located in the former settlement of Badenoch in the Township of Puslinch, this tract was purchased by the County of Wellington from William H. Black in 1945. The Badenoch Tract is a small trail that loops through the reforested area.

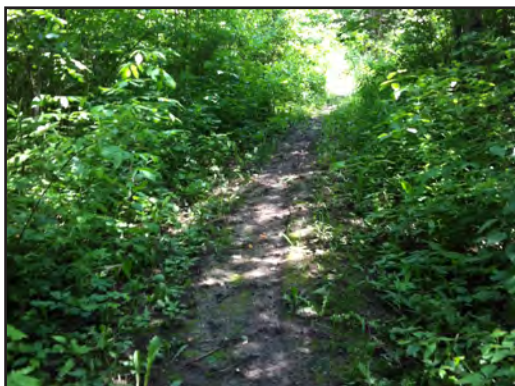
The Provincially Significant Moffat and Badenoch Swamp is located to the rear of the trail. It is also an Environmentally Sensitive Area and supports a nearby cold water stream.

For more information, contact:

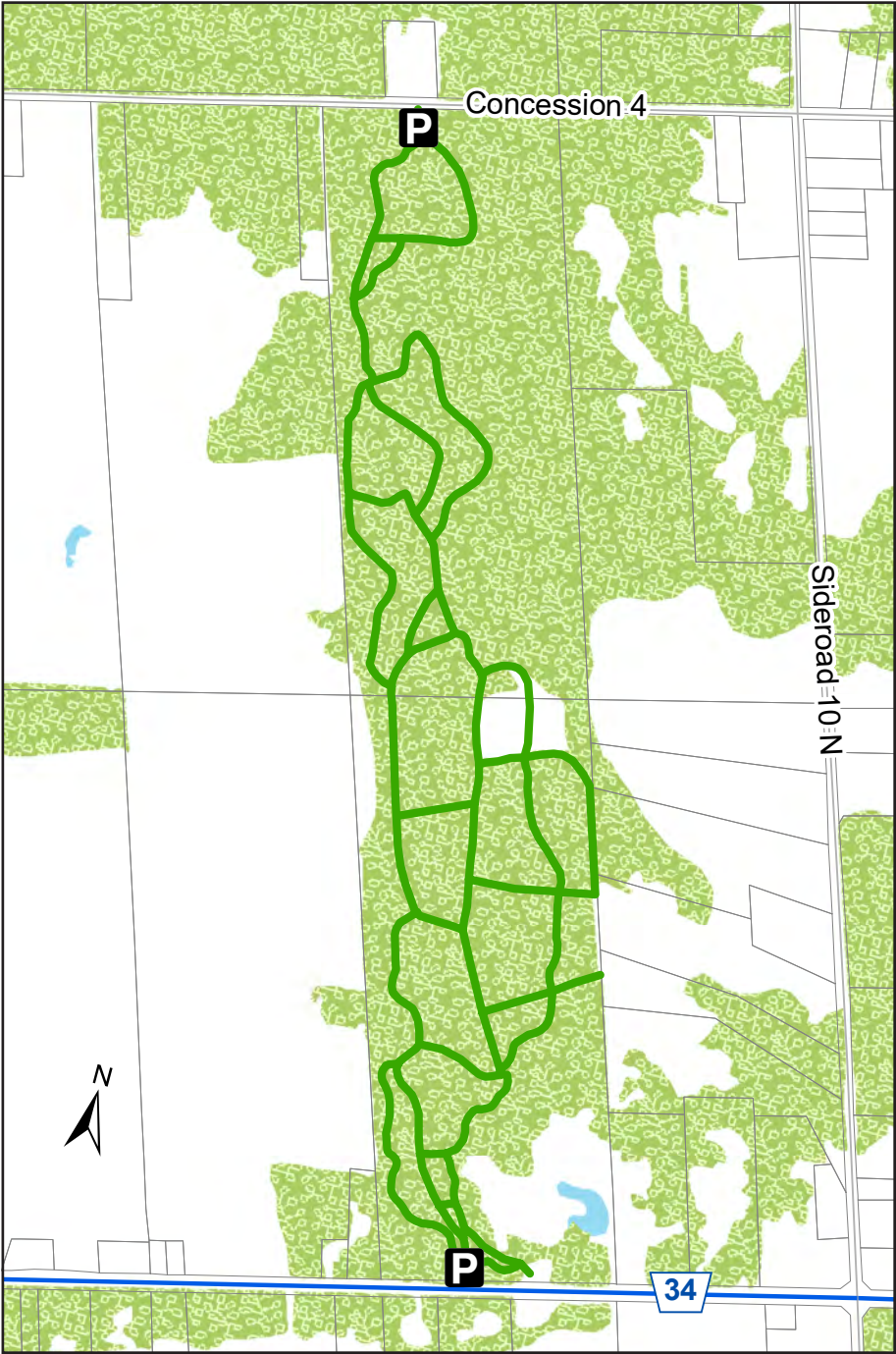
County of Wellington

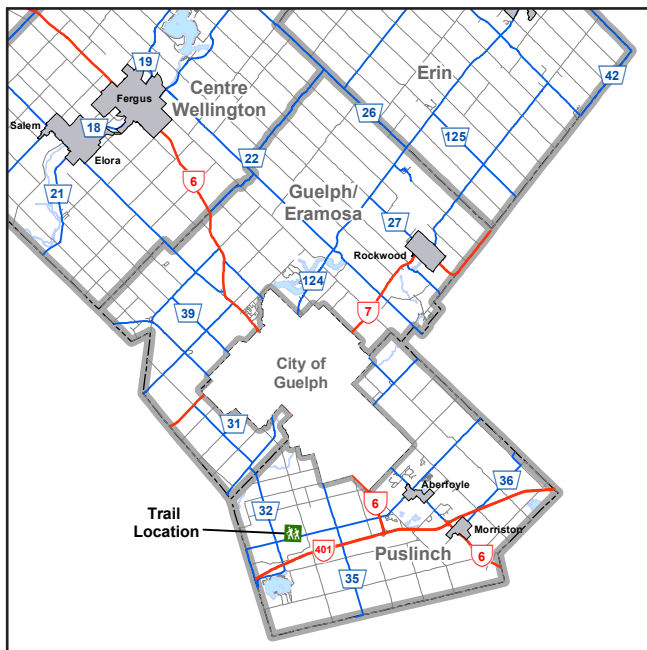
519.837.2600 x 2140

www.wellington.ca



Little Tract





Distance: 8 km

Difficulty: Easy with some moderate sections

Trail Use: Walking, cycling

Surface: Natural surface, stone dust

Cost: No cost

County of Wellington



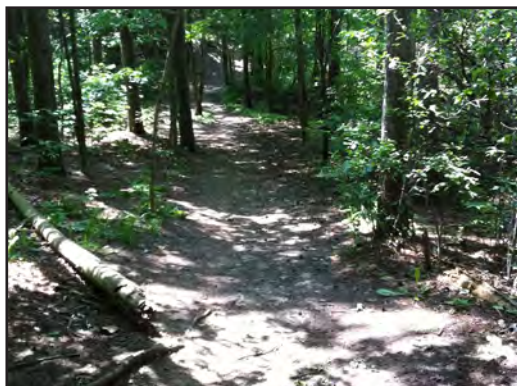
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Little Tract - 6710 Wellington Road 34

The Little Tract was donated to the County by John Robert Little, in 1946, to be reforested and dedicated to the memory of the first settlers and pioneers of the area.

It is one of the most significant and diverse natural areas in the County, with parts being Provincially Significant wetlands and the entire site within the Oil Well Bog/Little Tract Environmentally Sensitive Area (ESA). A number of the plants and animals found within the tract are considered to be rare.

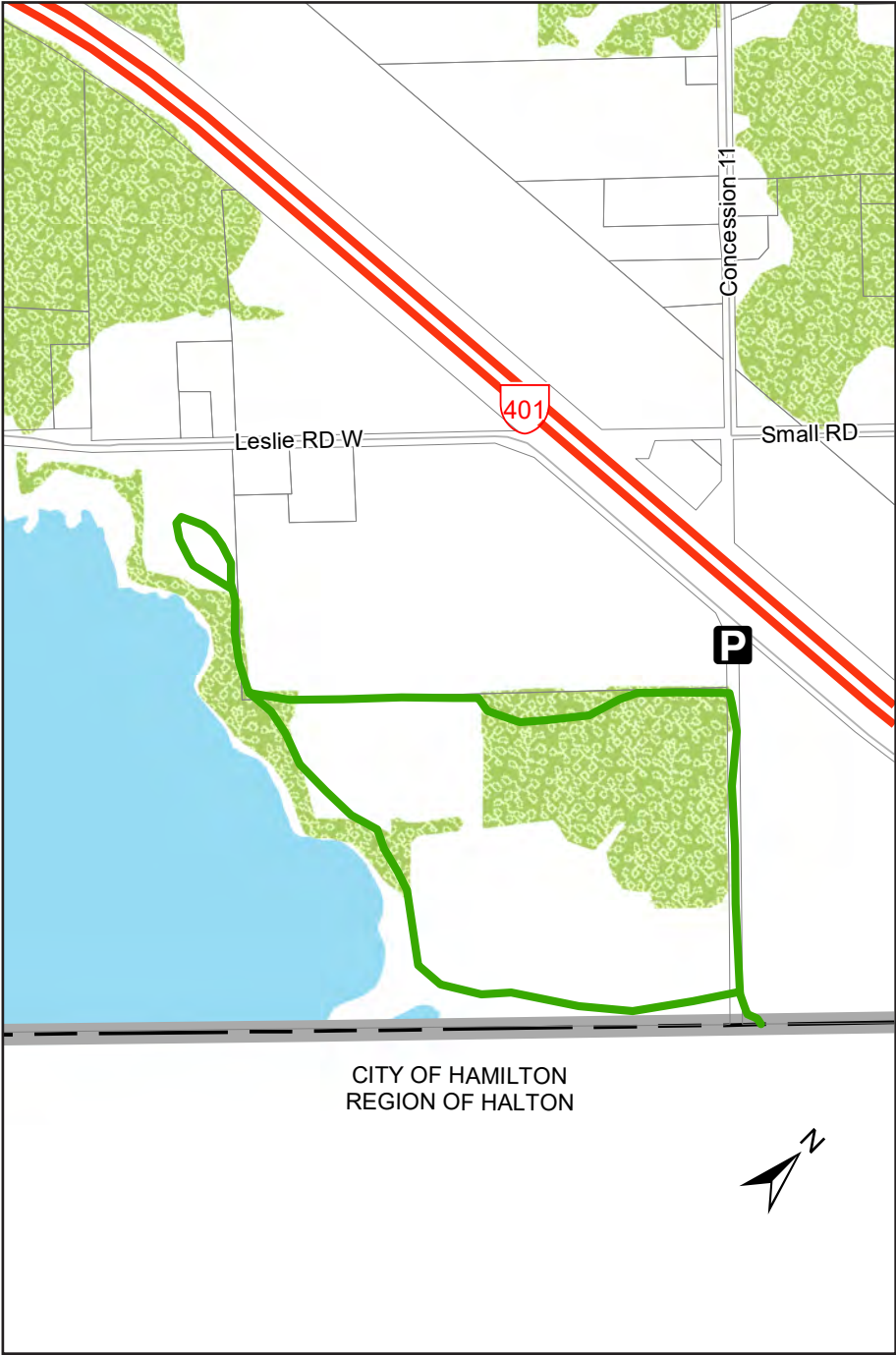
In addition to being an extensive trail system, the Little Tract is also home to the County of Wellington's Green Legacy tree nursery.

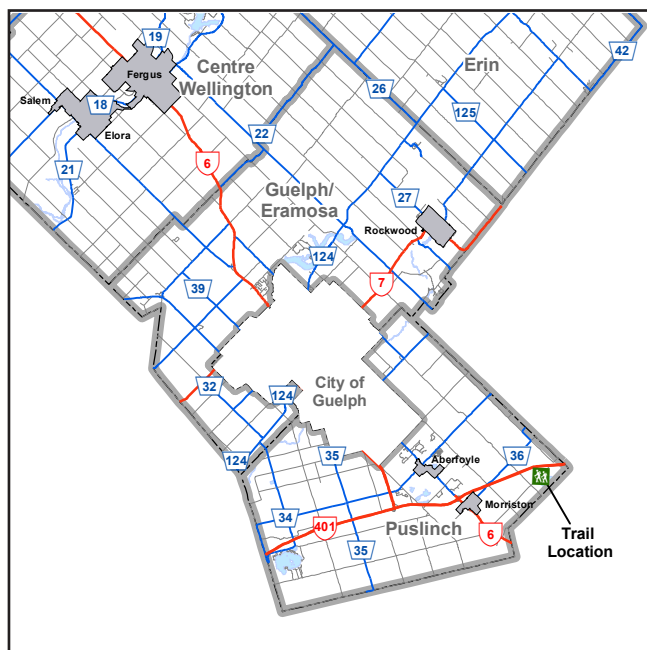


For more information, contact:

County of Wellington
519.837.2600 x 2140
www.wellington.ca

Mountsberg Lakeshore Lookout





Distance: 5 km

Difficulty: Moderate

Trail Use: Walking

Surface: Natural surface

Cost: No cost

County of Wellington



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Mountsberg Conservation Area: Lakeshore Lookout Trail

Mountsberg Conservation Area is a natural environment park that is protected and managed by Conservation Halton.

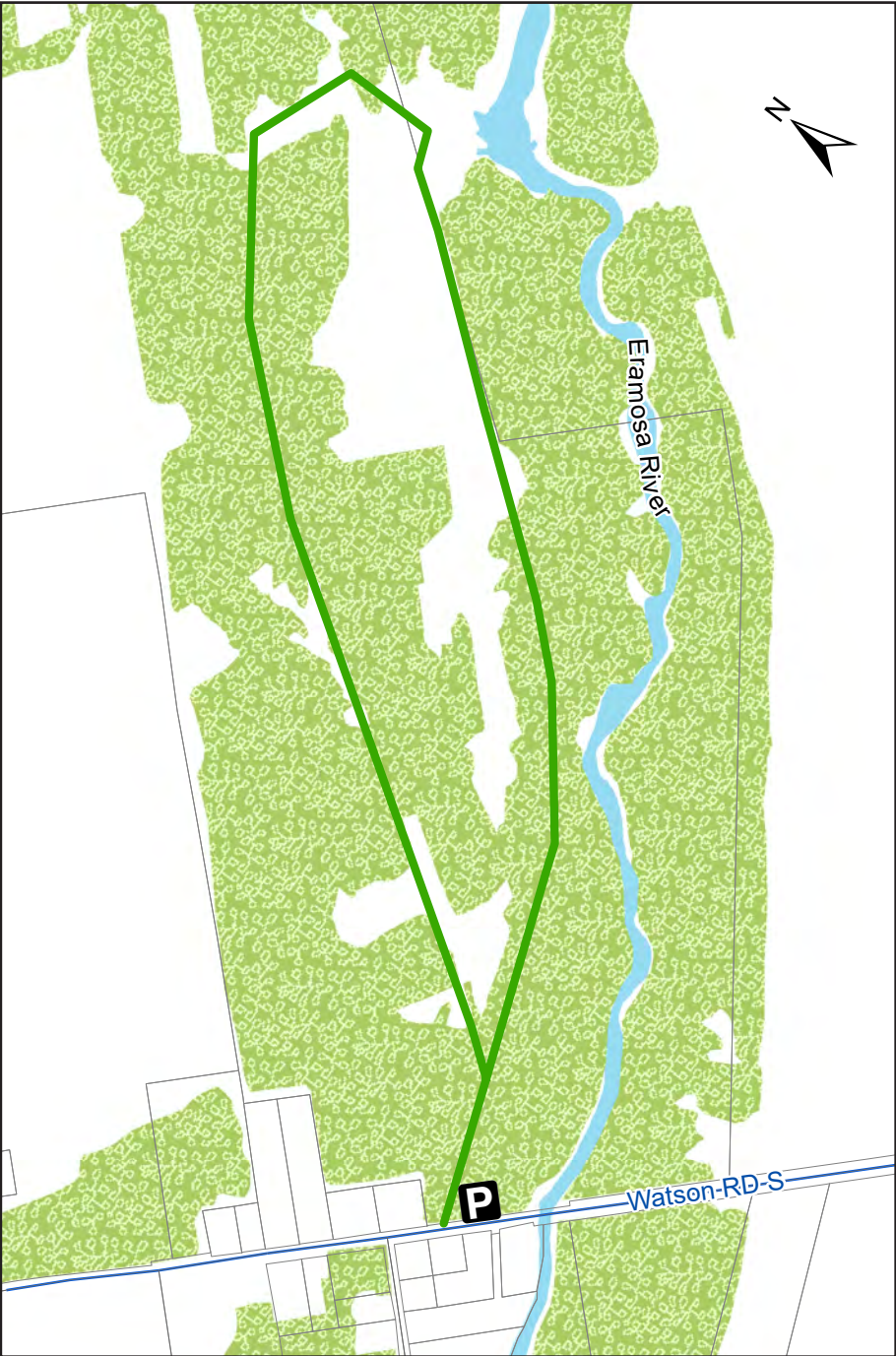
The park spans across Wellington County and Halton Region. Of the several kilometers of trails within the park, the Lakeshore Lookout trail is located in Wellington County. The Lakeshore Lookout trail follows the shoreline of the Mountsberg Reservoir.

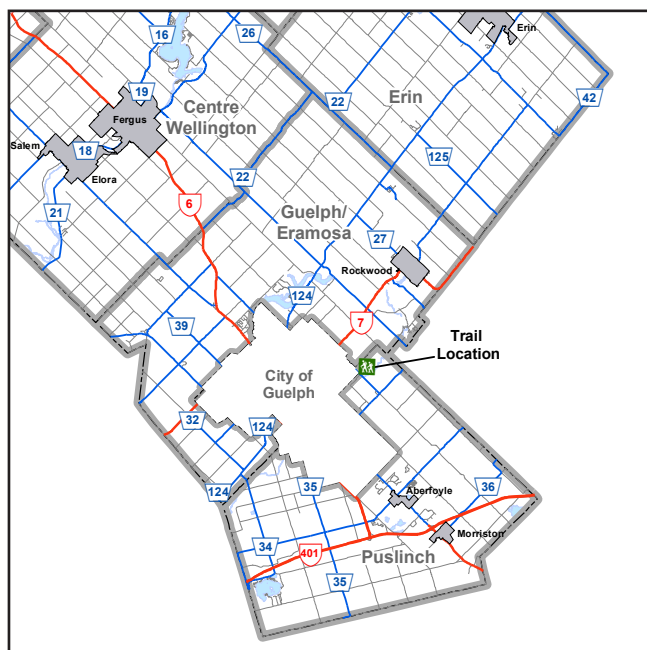
For more information, contact:

Mountsberg Wildlife Centre
2259 Milborough Line
Campbellville ON LOP 1B0
905.854.2276
mtsberg@hrca.on.ca



Radial Line





Distance: 3 km

Difficulty: Easy
with some moderate
sections

Trail Use: Walking

Surface: Natural
surface, stone dust

Cost: No cost

County of Wellington

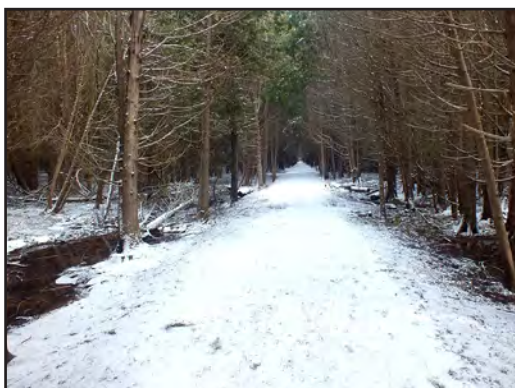


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Radial Line Trail: Smith Side Trail

The Radial Line Trail is one of three regional trails established and maintained by the Guelph Hiking Trail Club. This trail starts on the east side of the City of Guelph following an abandoned railway line to connect to the Bruce Trail near Limehouse. To learn more about this trail, including the history of the Guelph Radial Line Railway, pick up a copy of the Guelph Hiking Trail Club handbook.

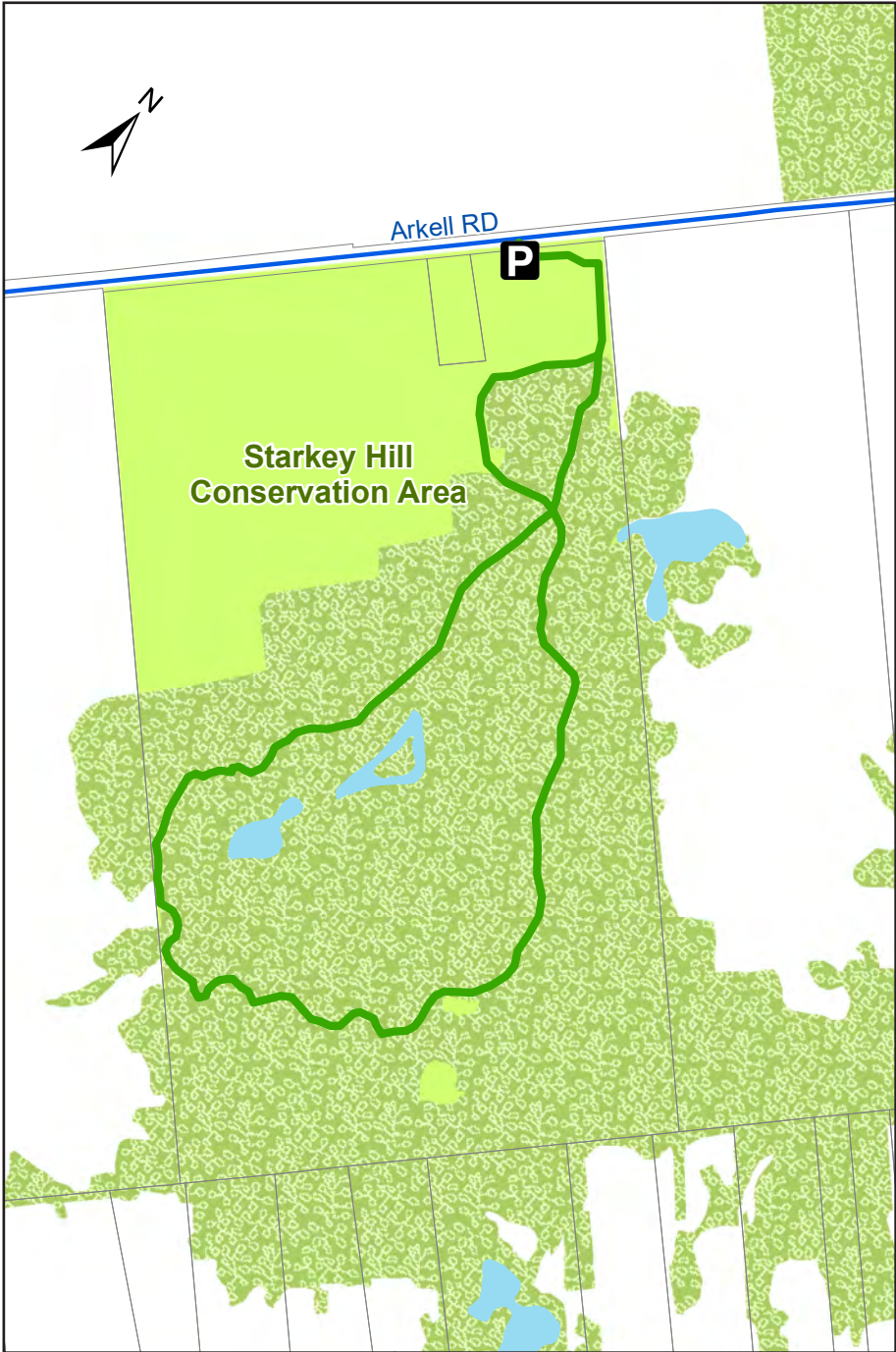
This map highlights one of the related side trails, named the Smith Side Trail. This 4 kilometre loop trail is marked with blue blazes. The trail starts in Puslinch at Watson Road at an opening to the right of a large gate. In addition to following the abandoned railway bed, you'll find a lookout over the Eramosa Valley, and the chance to hike through reforested areas and open meadows.

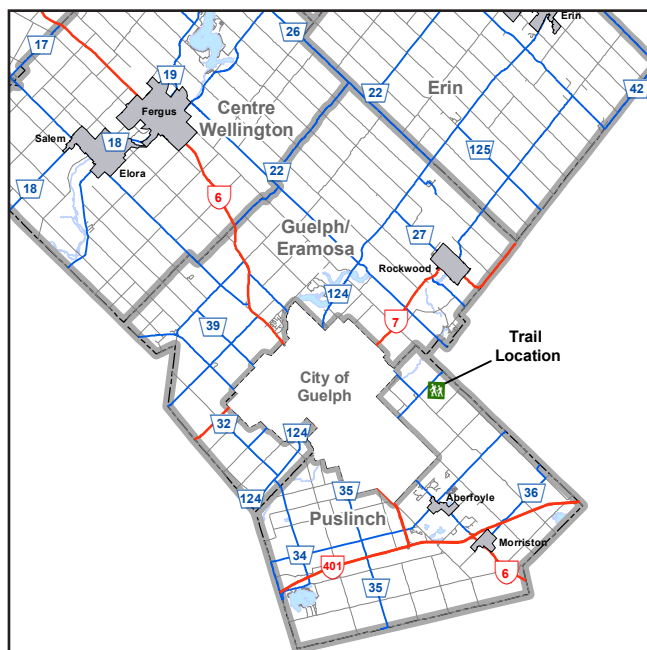


For more information, contact:

Guelph Hiking Trail Club
Box 1 Guelph ON N1H 6J6
www.guelphhiking.com

Starkey Hill





Distance: 4 km

Difficulty: Moderate

Trail Use: Walking

Surface: Natural surface

Cost: No cost

County of Wellington



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Starkey Hill Trail

Originally built by the Guelph Hiking Trail Club, the Starkey Hill Trail is off Arkell Road (Wellington Road 37) east of the hamlet of Arkell in Puslinch. This trail is named after the Starkey family, who were one of the early settlers and community leaders in the Township.

As this property includes the highest point in Puslinch, the trail also offers a more challenging hike with the reward of a spectacular view of the surrounding countryside. This trail has also been included in the 'Trails take Flight' brochure as one of 20 favourite birding trails in the Grand River watershed.

For more information, contact:

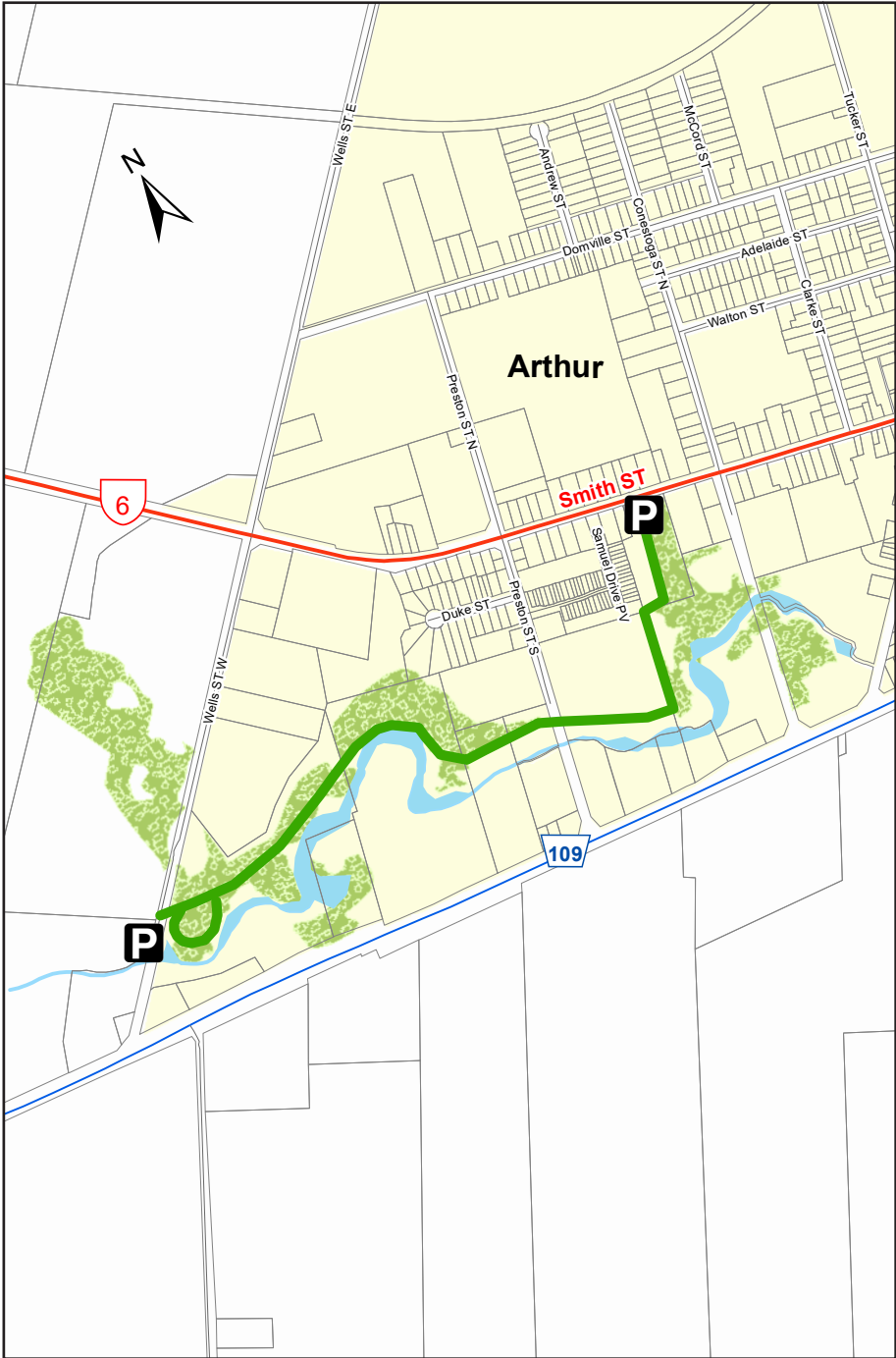
Grand River Conservation Authority

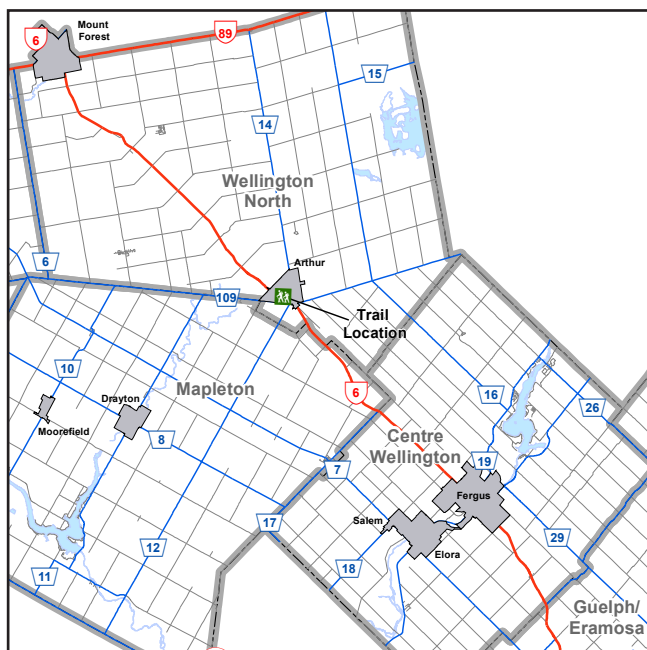
519.621.2761

www.grandriver.ca



Arthur River Trail





Distance: 4 km

Difficulty: Easy

Trail Use: Hiking

Surface: Natural surface

Cost: No cost

County of Wellington



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Arthur River Trail

This walking trail was officially opened on Saturday, Sept. 14th, 2013. The trail is located at the Arthur Lions Park on Highway 6, in Arthur. The trail is 4 km in length with several loops and side trails. It is open from dawn to dusk daily.

For more information, contact:

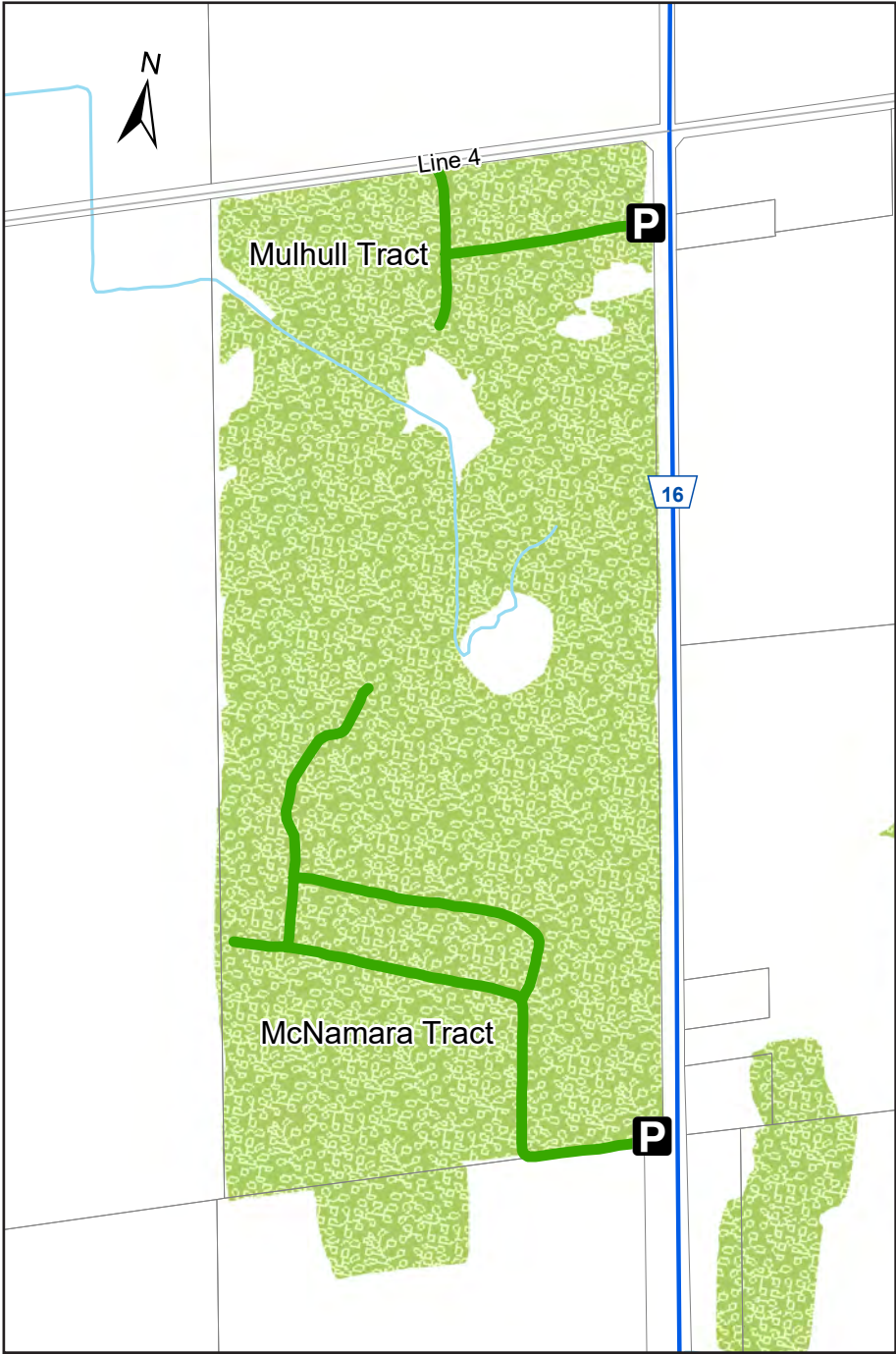
Township of Wellington North

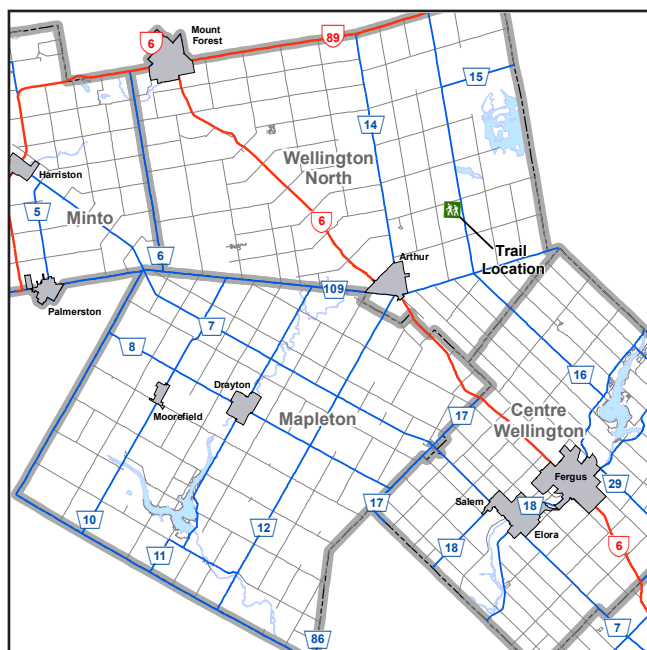
519.848.3620

www.wellington-north.com



Mulhall and McNamara Tract





Distance: 3 km

Difficulty: Moderate

Trail Use: Walking

Surface: Natural surface

Cost: No cost

County of Wellington



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McNamara Tract - 8646 Wellington Rd. 16

The McNamara Tract was acquired by the County of Wellington in 1947. This trail traverses over a rustic landscape. The start of the trail runs westward along the edge of a farm field before turning north into the treed area.

Mulhall Tract - 8386 Wellington Rd. 16 The Mulhall Tract was purchased by the County of Wellington in 1951 from Thomas and Mary Mulhall. The conifer plantations were established in the late 1950's and the trail is not groomed. The trail crosses over white pine plantations, hardwood bush and along the edge of a wetland.

For more information, contact:

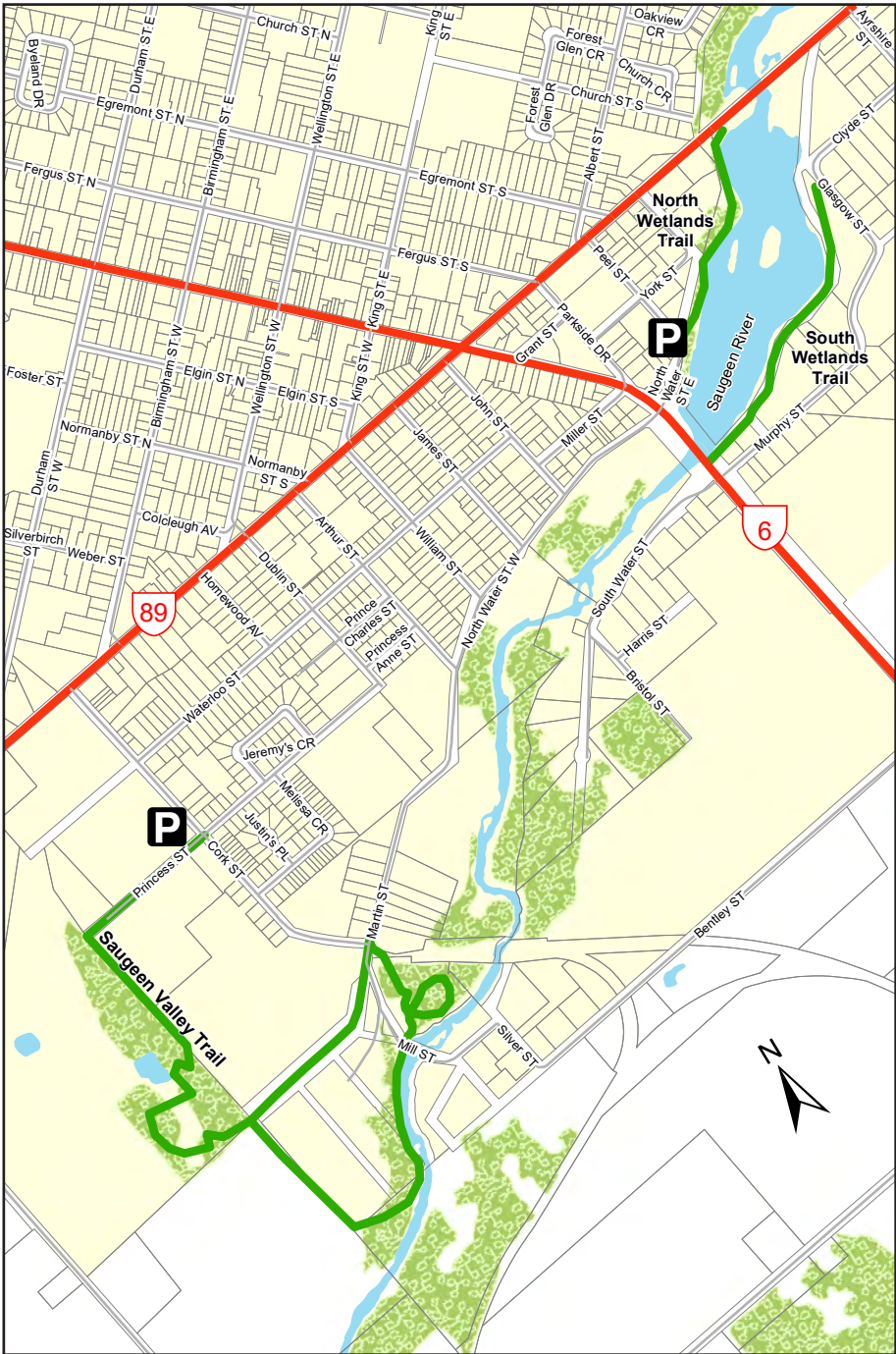
County of Wellington

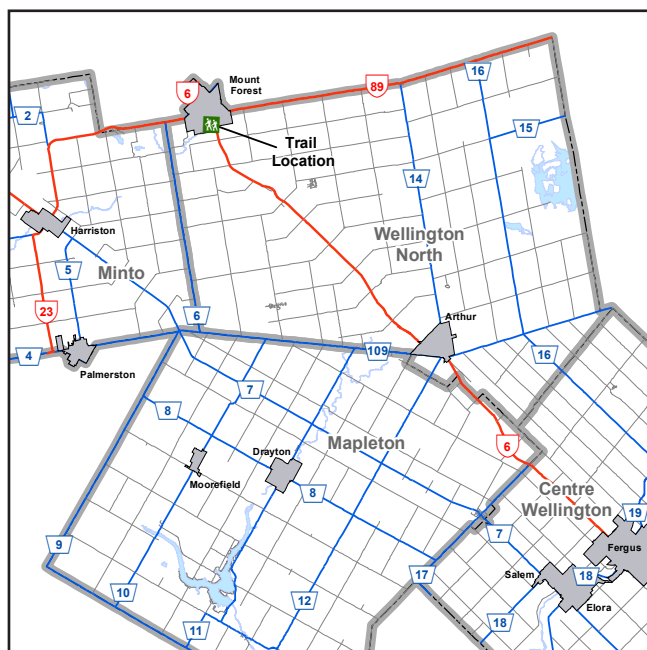
519.837.2600 x 2140

www.wellington.ca



Saugeen Valley





Distance: 2.5 km

Difficulty: Moderate

Trail Use: Walking, biking,
cross country skiing

Surface: Natural surface

Cost: No cost

**County of
Wellington**



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Saugeen Valley Trail

The Saugeen Valley Trail runs along the Saugeen River in Mount Forest. The trail system connects three parks in Mount Forest: Angus Smith, Campbell deVore and Murphy. There are a variety of landscapes to enjoy along the way, from reforested areas near Campbell deVore Park to the wetlands project at Murphy's Park. The trail has some rugged sections, but your efforts will be rewarded with amazing views of the river.

For more information, contact:

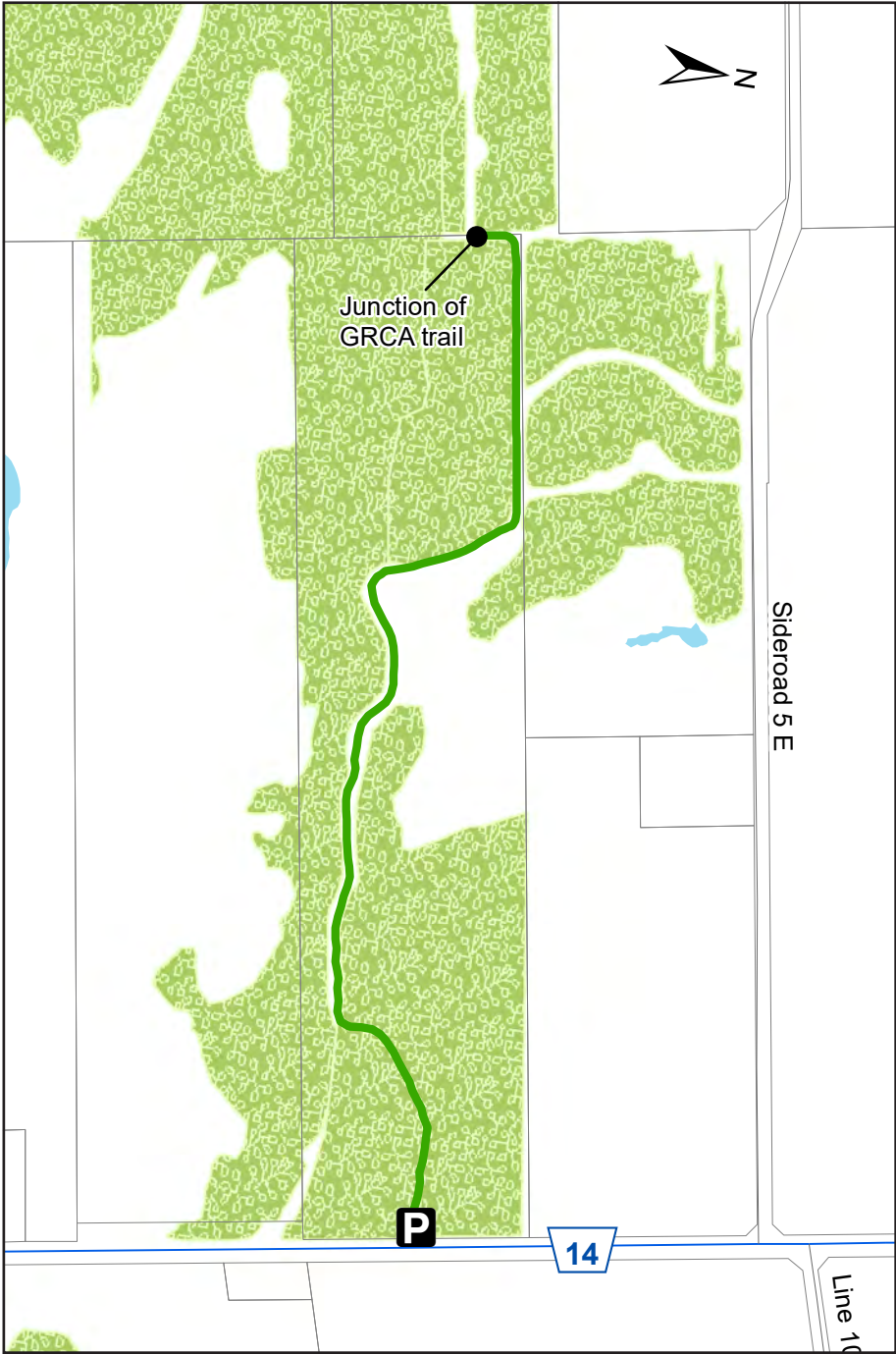
Township of Wellington North

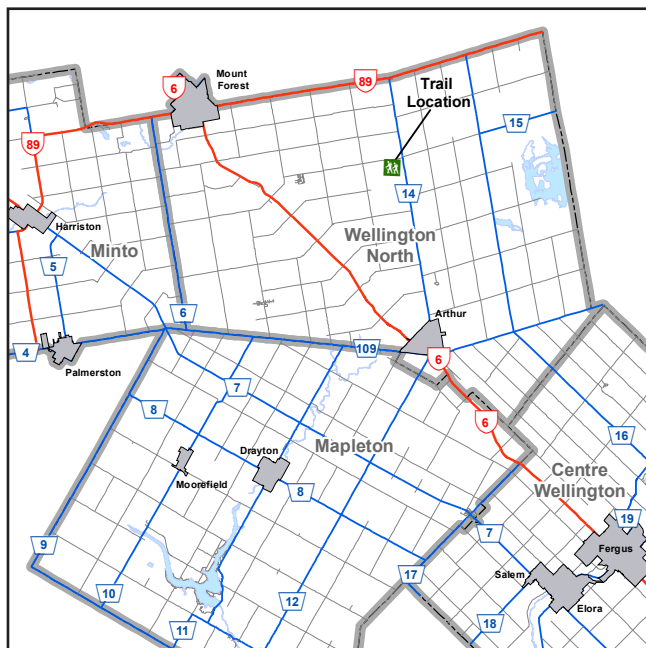
519.848.3620

www.wellington-north.com



Victory Tract





Distance: 1.5 km

Difficulty: Easy

Trail Use: Walking

Surface: Natural surface

Cost: No cost

**County of
Wellington**



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Victory Tract - 9238 Wellington Rd. 14

Located in Wellington North, the Victory Tract is adjacent to a tract owned by the GRCA. The well groomed trails between the two tracts join to create a 3 km long trail. This site is well used in the winter for cross country skiing as well as hiking in the summer.

Victory Tract was purchased by the County of Wellington in 1945 from Arthur Lennox who served in World War I and as reeve of West Luther in 1949. It is bisected by the Provincially Significant Clare Creek wetland. Several significant species have been found and the forest serves as a winter deer yard.



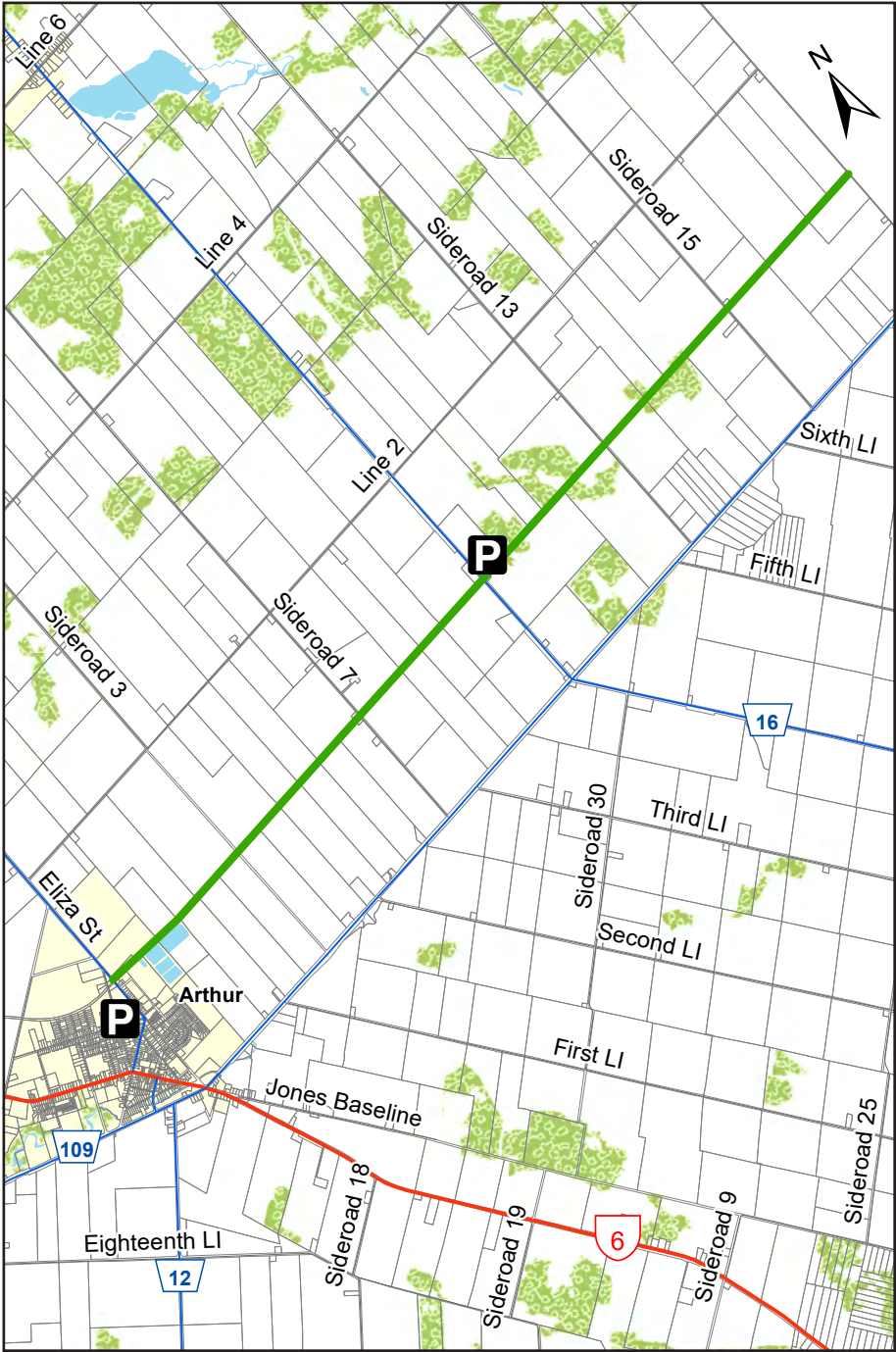
For more information, contact:

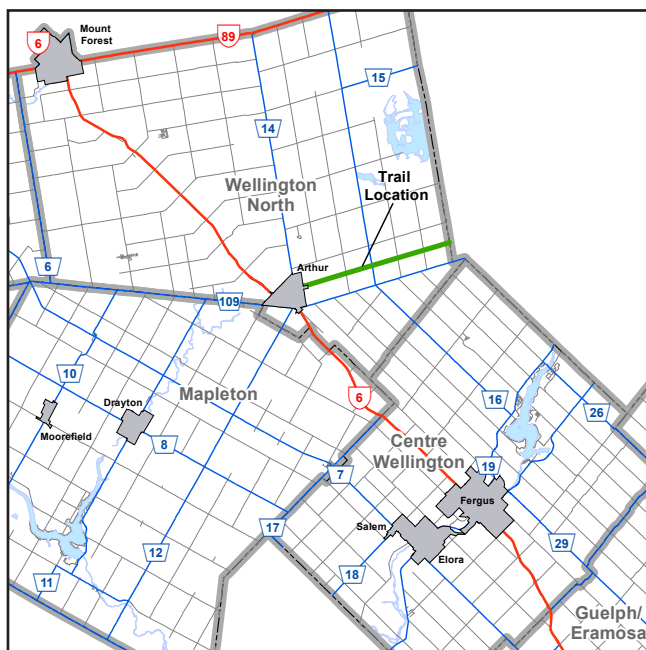
County of Wellington

519.837.2600 x 2140

www.wellington.ca

West Luther Trail





Distance: 11 km

Difficulty: Easy

Trail Use: Hiking

Surface: Natural

Cost: No cost

County of Wellington



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West Luther Trail

The trail officially opened in 2015 and is stretched approximately 11 km directly East from Arthur, ending at the East/West Luther Townline.

For more information, contact:

Township of Wellington North

519.848.3620

www.wellington-north.com



YOU ARE INVITED

• TO EXPLORE WELLINGTON COUNTY •



TREASURES

From backroads to small towns, uncover the treasures and adventures that await, right in your backyard.



DISCOVER

Discover your roots and explore the county's heritage at the Wellington County Museum and Archives

 www.wellington.ca 





LOCAL FOOD

Find local food, go on farm and food adventures, discover local eats and more with Taste Real www.tastereal.ca



FESTIVALS

Celebrate at festivals and events, experience the outdoors and browse unique downtown businesses at www.experiencewellington.ca





THE GREEN LEGACY^{OM}



- Need a **Windbreak** on your property?
- Want to plant a **Living Snow Fence**?
- Have **Open Space** to plant trees?
- **Volunteer Opportunities** also available.

Our trees are FREE!

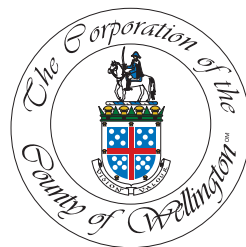
Wellington County residents can order trees October 1 - April 15, or visit a local Municipal Tree Day at one of our seven member municipalities.



For more information please visit:

www.greenlegacy.ca

Acknowledgements



Trail Guide Production

This trail guide has been produced by:

County of Wellington

Planning and Development Department

74 Woolwich Street, Guelph ON N1H 3T9

519.837.2600 or 1.800.663.0750

www.wellington.ca

Planning and Development Department

With contributions from Wellington County Communications and Economic Development Departments.

Other Contributors

Contributions from trail organization volunteers, the Ignatius Jesuit Centre, Conservation Authorities, and the staff of Centre Wellington, Erin, Guelph/Eramosa, Mapleton, Minto, Puslinch and Wellington North to the contents of the guide are gratefully acknowledged. We also thank staff at the Wellington Archives, Karen Wagner and Elysia DeLaurentis, for their research on the history of the County forests.

Ontario Trails Council

The Ontario Trails Council is a charity that promotes the development, preservation, management and use of recreational trails in Ontario. The section on trail etiquette and safety in this trail guide is courtesy of the Ontario Trail Council's website, which promotes the safe and responsible use of trails. (www.ontariotrails.on.ca)

Mapping

Mapping produced by the County of Wellington and may not be reproduced without permission. Watercourse mapping reproduced under license from Her Majesty the Queen in Right of Canada, with permission of Natural Resources Canada. Map information pertaining to the trail boundaries is hand drawn and therefore should not be interpreted as the legal boundary of the trail.

Comments

If you have any edits or suggestions for how we might improve the guide in our next update, please contact the County of Wellington Planning and Development Department at 519.837.2600 x 2140

Notes:

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OM Official Mark of The Corporation of the County of Wellington.