

TRAIL TALK

Oak Ridges Trail Association Quarterly

ISSN 1481-5982



Winter 2015

IN THIS ISSUE...

- EXPLORE THE COLOURS OF PALGRAVE FOREST
- ABOUT THE MOOD WALK INITIATIVE
- THE HUMBER GATEWAY PARKETTE OPENING
- MEET OUR NEW HIKE LEADER
- WINTER HIKE SCHEDULE
- SPOTLIGHT ON THE UXBRIDGE AND EASTERN REGION
- AND MUCH MORE...



PRESIDENT'S CHAT

BY WILMA MILLAGE

What a wonderful Fall we have had! Brian and I got out to meet so many hikers and friends of ORTA these past few months. We've been working closely with Nature Conservancy of Canada and will have news shortly on those activities. We presented the new ORTA Power Point session at Richmond Hill Community Centre and Uxbridge Library where we met lots of new folks and potential ORTA hikers. We also attended the Tall Grass Prairie Festival at the Alderville First Nations Reserve near Rice Lake. This is the largest tall grass prairie location in Ontario and it is well worth attending if you are out in the Rice Lake area next fall. We had the ORTA display with us at all these events and made many new contacts and spread the word about ORTA and its activities.

Our Board held a special meeting in August to take a look at where we are today as an organization and where we would like to be over the next 10 years. It is important that we periodically stop and take stock of what is going on and the last time we did it was in 2009 when we put together our Strategic Plan for the Oak Ridges Trail 2009-2014. One of the accomplishments from that plan was the extension of our trail from Castleton and Warkworth in the east to Mono in the west where we met at the Bruce Trail giving us a total of 270km of main trail. The Board will be meeting again in January to work further on plans for the future and we are open to any suggestions you may want to add to the agenda for consideration. Please speak to myself or another Board member if you would like to have something added to the agenda.

Look out for our new website which will be up and running soon - we'll keep you advised on the exact date. Our hike listing will change on the new website with Google maps available and GPS info to help you find the locations. We continue work on our database and we are also looking for more up-to-date methods of keeping in touch with our members, potential hikers and supporters. 2015 is going to be an exciting year for us all. I look forward to working and walking with you in the New Year.

MESSAGE FROM THE OFFICE

BY MICHELLE DONNELLY



Under the watchful eye of Audrey Fullerton, ORTA's volunteer guidebook retail coordinator, the latest printing of the Oak Ridges Moraine Trail Guidebook is ready for distribution to retailers, hike leaders, and new members.

In the middle of summer an assembly line of volunteers collated and inserted the guidebook text and maps along with a new revised single page map. The maps haven't changed much (still Edition 6) and did not warrant a full new redesign of the trail course yet. However, there is an updated single page map containing the three new routes. This single page map is available for purchase for \$2.00. You can pick yours up at the office, from Hike Leaders, or at the next Discovery Night.

If you know of an outlet that may wish to carry our guidebooks please contact Audrey through the ORTA office.

COMING TO THE OAK RIDGES MORaine TRAIL SPRING 2015

Looking for the coveted E2E badge – the symbol of hiking honour for hiking trail enthusiasts?



We are putting together an opportunity to hike the complete Oak Ridges Trail from Airport Road in the west to Castleton in the east. In a series of 13 hikes varying in length from 18 to 25 km at a moderate to fast pace we will cover the 270 km End to End.

The first hike will be Monday, April 6th, 2015 and continue every second Monday thereafter. Details for the start and end locations and time will be emailed to each registered participant prior to the hike. Shuttles will be managed by the leader. Due to logistic concerns, there will be a limit of 17 participants.

Upon completion you will receive a certificate, the coveted E2E badge (\$3.00 cost) and mention of your success in Trail Talk. But of course, the true satisfaction comes from the realization of your personal goal — and that is the best reward of all.

For more details and to pre-register contact
Malcolm Hann: malcolm.hann@sympatico.ca.

COLOURED TREASURES IN THE PALGRAVE FOREST

BY MARIANNE BROOME

On September 10th I was fortunate to attend a hike in the beautiful Palgrave Forest led by Brian and Wilma Millage. The sky was a clear blue, the sun was shimmering through the multicoloured trees and the forest was beckoning us to explore the trails. What more could you ask for?



Visiting this conservation area is a real delight. There is an excellent trail map, the winding trails are well maintained, and each intersection is numbered on posts oriented so that the sloping wedge at the top points north. However, were it not for Brian's expertise and

knowledge of these trails I felt it would still have been possible to get lost in the dense forest.

There were many colourful surprises along the way for those who appreciate the wonders of nature. Not far into the hike we passed some wild grapes vines entwining themselves on the fence. The green and purple fruit are very sour and are full of large, bitter seeds (I found out the hard way). However, they can be made into grape syrup and the Native Peoples made use of the whole plant for food, drink and for its many medicinal properties.

As we hiked along we had to be careful not to step on the furry Woolly Bear caterpillars marching across the trails in search of overwintering sites under bark or inside cavities of rocks or logs. This caterpillar is the larval form of the Isabella Tiger Moth. It has 13 segments of black and reddish brown and legend has it that the depth of colour in the middle brown section can forecast the weather for the coming winter. We gently moved each caterpillar away from the trail and hoped for a reasonable forecast.

Just off the trail we came across a cluster of beehives, painted in bright yellow, pink and pale blue. Of course we didn't get too close to these.



The next insect find was pointed out to me by one of our group. How had I missed this? On some of the milkweed plants were clusters of brightly coloured, hairy caterpillars chewing away large sections of the leaves. These small creatures were black with bright orange and white bands and long white tufts. They are sometimes called the Harlequin Caterpillar and are the larval stage of the dull grey Milkweed Tiger Moth.

Just nearby an orange and black shiny beetle, looking like giant ladybug, was lazing in the sunshine. I later found out that this Swamp Milkweed Leaf Beetle overwinters deep between the fuzzy leaves of mullein plants.

We didn't have to go far to find three different kinds of stink bugs sharing the leaves of a young sapling. Brown, green and vividly striped green and black; some were even heaped up in a pile of different species. The stink bug gets its name from the chemical it produces to ward off predators. Some species cause serious crop damage. However, a few are actually beneficial because they eat other destructive crop pests.

No more insects caught our attention, but the early fall colours were gorgeous. At one point we rounded a curve in the trail and came upon a beautiful pond bordered by reeds and goldenrod in full flower. The yellow goldenrod and purple asters grew side by side in complimentary colours.. Later, deep in the forest, we spotted an unusual pine, the trunk of which had grown in a curly, twisted knot.

Towards the end of the hike some riders came along the trail on their horses. Bay, palamino, chestnut and grey, all seeming to enjoy their outing in the woods. The riders stopped to say hello and we reiterated how lovely the trails and the day had been.



Thanks to our trusty hike leaders and insect spotters we had a memorable outing. I can't wait to go back to the Palgrave Forest.



MORaine ADVENTURE RELAY

DATE CHANGE!

Hello past and future ORTA volunteers and competitors. Please note a major change for the 2015 Relay and future years. We will hold the Relay on the 2nd Saturday in June each year starting with June 13, 2015. Previously the event has been linked with Father's Day. We look forward seeing you all again next year. Will we surpass the record 35 teams from the 2014 event? We would also like to express our sincere thanks to Bill and Maria MacDonald who hosted the Relay start for the past 7 years. Bill and Maria have now sold their beautiful property on Rice Lake and we hope to establish a similar relationship with the new owners. We'll keep you posted!

DISCOVER YOUR WORLD

Join us for the Oak Ridges Trail Association's Discovery Night! Enjoy an evening out sharing in interesting worldwide journeys and listening to speakers on a wide variety of subjects.

Catch up on 'off trail' socializing. ORTA members and the public are invited to come along and bring a friend!

Thursday January 15, 2015

Join Brad and Wayne Jennings, as they detail their canoeing, portage clearing, filming and mapping efforts in Ontario's new Queen Elizabeth II Wildlands Provincial Park. Located south of Algonquin Park, the Wildlands remains a relatively unknown gem for hikers and canoeists. Follow this father and son team as they face the challenges, trials and tribulations associated with rediscovering "lost" and seldom traveled routes

Thursday February 19, 2015

Chile and Bolivia

By Daniela Bezede

Join Daniela on her journey of discovery in South America. Chile, famous for ski resorts and amazing wines. Bolivia, where you can never be prepared for surprises: amazing mountains, safety concerns and sunsets over Lake Titicaca. Learn how "easy" it is to run 10 km in 25 minutes at 3,650 metres

Thursday March 19, 2015

TBA. Please check ORTA website for updated information.

Thursday April 16, 2015

Advance notice of ORTA's Annual General Meeting (AGM). Details of agenda and special guest presenter will be published in the Spring edition of Trail Talk and on the website.

JOIN THE DISCOVERY NIGHT TEAM:

Help us continue to bring fun and informative evenings to ORTA and the community at large. Many hands make light work, as they say. Please lend a hand to secure lively speakers, organize the night's smooth running and keep the Discovery Night tradition active.

Do you or someone you know have a great story to share? You could be an upcoming Discovery Night speaker. Let us know!

When: 7-9 p.m.

Where: Ballantrae Community Centre, 5592 Aurora Road, Stouffville (just east of Hwy. 48/Markham Rd, on the north side)

A \$5 contribution is requested at the door to offset expenses. Coffee, tea, juice and cookies served. Please lug-a-mug!

**Questions? Contact Garry Niece: 905-655-8040,
gcniece@gmail.com**

Comfortable Hiking Holidays (416) 445-2628

info@letshike.com www.letshike.com

ISRAEL

March 9 to 22, 2015

Fascinating and complex, Israel offers immense diversity. Hike the lush vineyards of the Golan Heights & the deep canyons of the Judean Desert, plus the famed Jesus Trail from Nazareth to the Sea of Galilee. We shall visit Jerusalem, the Dead Sea, Masada, Bethlehem and Tel Aviv, and although this holiday is not religious by design, we cannot help but be immersed in the dominant role it has played for centuries.

CAMINO DE SANTIAGO, SPAIN

April 15 to 27, 2015

The Camino de Santiago is an iconic trek covering some 800km across the north of Spain. Our journey encompasses the last 152km from O'Cebreiro to Santiago de Compostela, and we've included many "extras" as part of the tour in order to make it a complete Galician experience. Thousands of pilgrims have walked before us, and it is time to add your footsteps to this renown trail.

KENYA

July 5 to 17, 2015

Don't just *drive* through Kenya – hike it too! Imagine encountering herds of zebras, giraffes and gazelles right on your path! Travel to 3 different parts of the country, take in incredible sunsets over the savannah, visit Masai herdsmen in their homes and, of course, see lions, elephants & leopards on our game drives. Accommodations include luxury tented camps and one night at The Ark! And did you know that July is the coolest month of the year in Kenya?

PERU & MACHU PICCHU

September 12 to 25, 2015

Spend a week exploring the Sacred Valley of the Incas by hiking through the famed salt pans of Maras, the ancient ruins of Pisac, and trekking high up into the Urubamba mountain range. Then that all important day arrives when we hike into Machu Picchu – rounding the corner of the Sun Gate and seeing Machu Picchu with your own eyes will give you goose bumps. From the Sacred Valley, journey south to Lake Titicaca for hikes on Uros, Amantani and Taquile islands.

TURKEY

October 17 to 28, 2015

Hike in Cappadocia with its secret frescoed churches, underground cities and volcanic tuff sculpted into fairy chimneys. Visit ancient ruins, shop the bazaars of Istanbul and take a history lesson through time. Steeped in tradition and a masterpiece of nature, Turkey will impress you.

HUMBER GATEWAY PARKETTE OFFICIALLY OPENED

BY SHARON BRADLEY



The Humber Gateway Parkette is a small patch of land on the north east corner of Yonge St. and King Rd. The East Humber River begins to channelize there as the water flows out of a large marsh between Yonge St. and Lake Wilcox. There is now a short path to an outlook and a kiosk with information on the River and its headwaters along with a map of local trails. There is also a bronze plaque celebrating the Canadian Heritage River Designation for the Humber.

This project was initiated by the Oak Ridges Friends of the Environment over four years ago with the intention of "dressing up" this patch of East Humber River shoreline and educating residents and visitors about the role of the marsh as headwaters of that river.

The concept was strongly supported by the Manager of the Oak Ridges Royal Bank Branch who encouraged an application to the RBC Blue Water Project for funding. The application was submitted in partnership with the York Region Environmental Alliance and was approved. The Oak Ridges Trail Association also liked the idea and contributed some funds. The project would have gone nowhere however without the strong support, resources and expertise of the Town of Richmond Hill and the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority.

There were a number of stutter steps along the way not the least of which was the endless sewer construction on Yonge St. that cut off access to the site. Thus we are delighted that the dream has become reality when it was officially opened on September 24, 2014.

THE MOOD WALK INITIATIVE

BY JERRY WASJGENSBERG AND PETER SCHAEFER

ORTA joined in partnership with Canadian Mental Health Association (CMHA) York and South Simcoe, Hike Ontario and Conservation Ontario to lead Mood Walk hikes. The purpose is to promote getting older Ontarians and others who may benefit leading more active and living healthier lives, both physically & mentally by reducing stress and creating new opportunities to enjoy nature's calming & tension reducing effect.

The CMHA office posted a notice to create participation in the Mood Walks with their clients. From June 11 to October 29, 2014, we led 10 hikes with a total of 117 participants of varying abilities with the majority of first time hikes close to the Aurora office due to time and transportation constraints. Our hikes were in Sheppard's Bush, Arboretum, Yonge & St. John's Sideroad Trail and progressed to Jefferson Forest. Our ORTA team consisted of Klaus Wehrenberg, Peter Schaefer and myself, Jerry Wasjgensberg. Klaus made an outstanding contribution with his knowledge of nature and the trails along with playing his Concertina to boost moral and entertainment.

It was a wonderful and rewarding experience for us to see the increasing enjoyment and appreciation of the participants. The CMHA staff was very supportive and greatly enhanced our walks.

Nine of the staff and clients have been working very hard at the Safe Hiker Program to increase their skills and knowledge to continue hiking in the future. This core group was inspirational to all of us. They will be the first group to receive Safe Hiker Certification from Hike Ontario having successfully completed two hours of classroom instructions and more on the trails during our hikes. They are very much interested in doing further hikes this winter using icers and snow shoes.

Going forward, Mood Walks create a great opportunity for ORTA to provide support and help for this group to continue hiking. We need certified hike leaders for these walks, trail maps and

information to engage Mood Walks participants to comfortably join future ORTA hikes and membership. Our members could also help them to get boots and other surplus hiking equipment for their use. I believe this is a very worthwhile project and we can help it to succeed and continue in the future.


The opportunities for hiking associations, such as ORTA, lie in the focus placed by the media; many political and social groups and potential partners on the physical and mental health benefits and healing powers hiking can provide.

experience
The East Coast Trail
 with
Brown Rabbit Walkabout

Hike 250 kms of beautiful coastal trails on the Avalon Peninsula in Newfoundland with our help.

We provide transportation from & to St. John's Airport, to and from trail heads, and three meals a day with accommodations.

For prices and information contact Isa.



Phone: 1-709- 334-2208
email: brownrabbitcabins@nf.aibn.com

Fax: 1-709- 334-3601
www.brownrabbit.nl.ca



CHAMPIONS

July 1, 2014 - September 30, 2014

Thank you to all donors who have made gifts of \$10 or over to support the ORTA:



Lora-Kate Aspden
MonaLisa Azzopardi
Liz Beacock
Julia Bourne
David Reid Brown
Noel Carey
Linda Carr
Marilyn & Carl Cheski
Michael Closson
Peter & Cynthia Coates
E. Jean Comfort
Vic & Sandra Davis
Jacquie Dekeyser
Cheryl Duncan
Bev Evans

Trudi Evans-Reizele
Carol Floyd
Lawrence Gelberg
Carl Gerber
Bob Gibson
Karun Goyal
Robert & Linda Hansen
Ron Hoseman
Jessica Huang
Rebecca Isowa
Marcus Jaworsky
Linda Johnstone
Clarence Jones
Tammy Kapchis
Jeff Knapman

Stephen Lansberg
Eleanor Lowe
Jen MacKay
Bruce Mason
Jim McEllistrum
Karen McMillan
Wilma & Brian Millage
Garry & Grace Niece
Sherry Nozdryn
Elisabeth Oberparleiter
O.P.P.A. Branch 5
Ruth & Andy Patterson
Bill & Teresa Pressmar
Gary Pritchard
David P. Rawcliffe

Mel Rosenfeld
Peter Schaefer
Lindsey Schippers
Sante Scornienchi
Susan Sellers
Luella Sim
Cheryl Stinson
Lynda Tingle
Millie Wan
Mark Warren
Joan Watson
Amy Wright
Richard Wright

If you would like to make a donation to one of the ORTA Funds, call 905 833-6600 or visit ORTA's website www.oakridgestrail.org for more information

INTRODUCING ORTA'S NEWEST HIKE LEADER: MARIANNE BROOME

BY BRIAN MILLAGE



Marianne's first words after completing her Hike Ontario certification were "I can't wait to start leading ORTA hikes and sharing our special trails". She didn't waste any time as she organized 3 hikes and started planning more for the new year. Marianne has been leading hikes in the King and Caledon regions for some time now through her "Meet Up" groups, a web based invitation to participate in specialized outings. She calls Schomberg home and is well known as an artist and photographer and a member of Arts King. Her enthusiasm for exploring new trails and sharing insights on nature is contagious. I know you will enjoy her moderate speed walks in Cold Creek, Happy Valley and beyond. Welcome to the ORTA hike leader team!

SUSQUEHANNOCK LODGE and TRAIL CENTRE Hiking in the Highlands of North Central Pennsylvania



New Years – Dec. 28, 2014 to Jan. 1, 2015

Time to ourselves after the hectic season. Outside every day and a little longer by the fireplace.

Easter Apr. 3 to 6, 2015

The snow should be gone & we will get some "Spring Training" on the trails. Ed will have a traditional Polish Easter dinner for us. On Monday I plan a morning hike before leaving for home.

The Lodge is located in Potter County, Pennsylvania, 2.5 hours south of Buffalo. There is no agriculture or industry in the area, just great trails. Daily hikes of 10 to 15 km are led through hardwood forest, many beside mountain streams. Our lodge provides comfortable accommodation & excellent meals for \$70.00 semi-private or \$75.00 private U.S. per day per person. These outings have proven to be popular with the lodge filling up quickly.

For more information, including driving directions, please see www.execulink.com/~gvincent or contact Greg Vincent at 519-579-8210 or vincent.greg@gmail.com

For reservations call Carol Szymanik at 1-814-435-2163

SPOTLIGHT ON...

UXBRIDGE & EASTEN REGION

BY BRIAN MILLAGE



Over the past quarter no less than 47 hikes have been led in our Uxbridge and Eastern Region. We have a wonderful variety of trails and more to come this winter. Check the new listings for those great full moon winter hikes led by Chris Johnston-welcome back Chris. Saturday morning early bird plus breakfast hikes led by Russ and Joan continue to have a loyal following and Scrambles Restaurant always has the coffee ready when we arrive. Also by the time you read this, Wilma and I will have told the ORTA story with a powerpoint presentation, Nov. 6, at the Uxbridge Library.

The relocation and blazing of the main ORMT through Durham Forest, TRCA's Skyloft and Lakeridge Ski Resort properties is now complete. Also, a blue access trail has now been blazed to the east side of Durham Forest at Houston Rd. Uxbridge and Scugog volunteers helped establish a new side trail south of Rice Lake in the Hazel Bird Nature Reserve off Beaver Meadow Rd this fall.

We will schedule more hikes in the eastern area next spring and hope to combine our efforts there with other local hiking clubs. Stay tuned. Currently, Grace, Russ and Garry are the most active ORTA leaders in the eastern area and we hope to recruit more leaders who live in the area next year. We hope to see you on our trails in 2015!

TRAIL BITES

BY MICHELLE DONNELLY



Hot apple cider, the aroma of fresh baked butter tarts, warmth emanating from the cast iron stove, cozy tables, unique giftware, and smiling staff? Then you have found yourself at the country cafe at Pine Farms Orchard. Located at 2700 16th Sideroad in King City, many hikes begin, end or loop through here.

Family owned and operated since 1942, the orchard is known for apple picking in the fall with its many school tours and family outings. But in addition to the orchard there is a cozy cafe that serves up gourmet paninis, quiches, salads, and soups. Ever have a sweet pear or roasted squash & apple soup? Well Pine Farms makes a variety of seasonal soups, including my favourite - Wicked Thai.

In an atmosphere reminiscent of simpler times, this is a lovely spot to share stories, relax after a hike and enjoy time with your friends. They are open daily throughout the winter from 10:00am to 5:00pm.

To contact Pine Farms Orchard, call them at 905-833-5459



NEW MEMBERS

ORTA welcomed the following new members during our last quarter.

JULY 1 - SEPTEMBER 30, 2014

Ann Bedard
Feng Lan Cao
John Catherwood
Darlene De Jardine
Fraser Fell
William Fines
Nancy Geburt
Carl Gerber
Jessica Huang

Madge Huang
Marc Jeanneret
Douglas Kim
Deb Lennon
Pamela McCormack
Maha Nasralla
Richard Nelson
Desrine Peters
Sandy Qian Qu

Jeannie Shanks
Feng Yi Tan
Josephine Turner
Lorna Van Bergen
Patricia Waters
Kathleen Watt
Stanley Whyte
Sue Wideman
Doris Youssef

ORTA WINTER 2015 HIKE SCHEDULE

PLEASE TAKE NOTE OF HIKES LISTED ON THE ORTA WEBSITE, (www.oakridgestrail.org) OCCASIONALLY THERE ARE ADDITIONAL HIKES OR CORRECTIONS ADDED AFTER PRESS TIME.

- Remember that it is your responsibility to dress appropriately! Hat, gloves, gaiters, umbrella, may be needed. Wear sturdy hiking boots appropriate to changing precipitation and temperature; no cotton socks, use a liner sock plus a hiking sock. Dress in layers as conditions can vary widely within a short time or distance. Waterproof boots, jacket and pants recommended. Hiking poles optional.
- Keep these in the car: plastic bags for muddy boots, spare footwear, spare dry/warm clothes.
- During the winter months, you may also want to keep icers and/or snowshoes in the car so you can decide at the hike location whether these items are needed.
- Drinks and snacks recommended for all hikes and lunch may be needed for longer ones.
- It is the hike leader's decision whether to allow dogs on hikes. Hikers should call first if the listing is not specific.
- In case of inclement weather, call the hike leader to confirm the hike.
- Be aware that parking areas are public places; refrain from keeping ANY valuables in your car.

HIKERS SHOULD ARRIVE AT LEAST 15 MINUTES BEFORE THE ADVERTISED HIKE TIME.

DECEMBER

*Please see the below revisions to the December hike schedule.
For the full December hike schedule, please visit us online at
www.oakridgestrail.org*

NEW Wed, December 10, 2014 9:30 AM, King - Happy Valley (Weston & 16th Sdrd)

ORTA Map 2; 6 to 8 km loop; Moderate; 2 1/2 hours; We will hike from Weston Rd to take in Love Mountain trails. Forest and meadows with some hilly sections. Well behaved dogs welcome. Meet at roadside parking northeast corner of Weston Rd & 16th Sdrd. GPS 43.954224, -79.586575

Marianne Broome. 905-939-7007 Cell 416- 409-1980 (hike day only)

REVISED Wed, December 31, 2014 9:30 AM, Uxbridge - Al Shaw/Norton/Clubine/Walker Woods (Albright Rd.)

ORTA Map 5; 10+km; Fast; 2+hrs; Hilly. Hike or snowshoe Loop through Walker Woods. Meet at parking lot on the east side of Conc 6, 2 km south of Durham Rd. 21 at Albright Rd. GPS 44.033851, -79.1141206

Joan Taylor, 905-477-2161

JANUARY

Fri, January 2, 2015 9:30 AM, Whit-Stouffville - YRF Hall & Eldred King (McCowan Rd)

ORTA Map 4; 10+km; Fast; 2+hr; Loop hike or snowshoe some hills Meet at parking lot 1 km north of Aurora Rd on the east side of McCowan Rd. GPS 44.0410721, -79.3228268

Russ Burton, 905-830-2862

Fri, January 2, 2015 9:30 AM, Uxbridge - Walker Woods/Durham Forest Skyloft (Conc. 7)

ORTA Map 5; Moderate; 2.5 hrs; Challenging loop hike on very hilly trails through Durham Forest and Skyloft Tract. Icers or snowshoes likely necessary. Join us for lunch after the hike. Meet at parking lot on west side of Uxbridge Conc 7, 2 km south of Durham Road 21. GPS 44.0394862, -79.0892224

Brian & Wilma Millage, 905-853-2407, cell phone on day of hike 416-722-6512

Sat, January 3, 2015 7:00 AM, Uxbridge - Al Shaw (Conc.6)

ORTA Map 5; 4+km; Moderate; 1hr.; Join us for breakfast after the hike Meet at road side parking on west side of Uxbridge Conc 6, 1.5 km south of Durham Road 21. GPS 44.039694, -79.116764

Russ Burton, 905-830-2862

Sat, January 3, 2015 1:30 PM, King - Happy Valley North (Conc. 7)

ORTA Map 2; 8km; Moderate; 2 1/2 hours; Some rough and hilly sections. Trails may be icy in places so wear icers or good hiking boots. Well behaved dogs welcome Meet at the end of the 7th Conc. 4km south of Pottageville off the Aurora Rd. GPS 43.972776, -79.618150

Marianne Broome. 905-939-7007 Cell 416- 409-1980 (hike day only)

Sun, January 4, 2015 2:00 PM, Whit-Stouffville - YRF Eldred King Woodlands (Hwy 48)

ORTA Map 4; 6 km; Slow to moderate; 2+ hours; Loop hike through York Region Forest. Families and well-mannered dogs welcome. Bring snacks and water. Dress for the weather. Meet in parking lot west side of Hwy 48, 2.5 km north of Ballantrae. GPS 44.059809, -79.302761

Brian & Kathy Clark, 905-841-9757, cell phone on day of hike 416-618-1726

Sun, January 4, 2015 1:00 PM, Newmarket - Jokers Hill (Bathurst St)

ORTA Map 3; 5 km; Moderate; 2; Loop hike exploring the trails of Joker Hill Meet at road side parking on dead-end street west of Bathurst, 1.3 km north of Mulock Dr. north of town houses. GPS 44.041408, -79.504148

David Francis, 905-936-4446, cell phone on day of hike 416-579-5432

Mon, January 5, 2015 9:30 AM, Uxbridge - Secord/Goodwood/Glasgow (Conc.3)

ORTA Map 5; Slow to moderate; 2.5 hrs; Sheltered forest and meadow trails with some hills. Well mannered dogs are encouraged

to bring their owners. Bring along a warm drink and a snack. Join us for lunch afterwards. Meet at Secord parking lot, 2 km south of Goodwood Rd, on Conc 3, east on Secord Rd. GPS 44.017830, -79.182766

Brian & Wilma Millage, 905-853-2407, cell phone on day of hike 416-722-6512

Mon, January 5, 2015 7:00 PM, Uxbridge - Durham Forest (Conc. 7)

ORTA Map 5; 8km; Moderate; 2.5 hrs; Full Moon Hike. Dress for conditions, bring warm drink and snacks. Meet in the Durham Forest parking area on the east side of the 7th Conc. 1 km south of Durham Rd 21. GPS 44.050009, -79.093841

Chris Johnston, 905-852-2937 (on hike day only)

Wed, January 7, 2015 9:30 AM, Uxbridge - Glen Major (Conc. 7)

ORTA Map 5; 9+ km; Moderate; 2 1/2 hours; Icers or snowshoes are required Meet at parking lot off Uxbridge Conc 7, 6 km south of Durham Route 21 or 1 km north of Uxbridge/Pickering town line or Conc 5 Pickering on Sideline 4. GPS 44.0060802, -79.0692565

Kevin Lowe, 416-655-2256

Thu, January 8, 2015 10:30 AM, King - Seneca King Campus (Dufferin St)

ORTA Map 2; Slow to moderate; Meet at Seneca College MAIN entrance. As you enter Seneca you will see a small parking gate. Park in the lot on the right hand side of this gate. Entrance to Seneca is off Dufferin St, approx. 2.5 km north of King Rd. GPS 43.9573791, -79.5103428

Soheila Dehmassi, 416-768-7446

Fri, January 9, 2015 9:30 AM, Uxbridge - Al Shaw/Norton/Clubine/Walker Woods (Albright Rd.)

ORTA Map 5; 8+ km.; Fast; 2+ hrs.; Hike or Snowshoe. Loop Hike in Walker Woods. Meet at parking lot on the east side of Conc 6, 2 km south of Durham Rd. 21 at Albright Rd. GPS 44.033851, -79.1141206

Joan Taylor, 905-477-2161

Sat, January 10, 2015 7:00 AM, Uxbridge - Al Shaw (Conc.6)

ORTA Map 5; 4+ km.; Moderate; 1 hr.; Icers or snowshoes. Join us for breakfast after the hike. Meet at road side parking on west side of Uxbridge Conc 6, 1.5 km south of Durham Road 21. GPS 44.039694, -79.116764

Joan Taylor, 905-477-2161

Sat, January 10, 2015 9:30 AM, Richmond Hill - Oak Ridges Corridor/Jefferson Forest (Oak Ridges Community Ctr.)

ORTA Map 3; 12 Km; Slow to moderate; 3 hrs; We will walk along the Oak Ridges side trail to Bathurst Street and return to community parking Lot. Icers/snowshoes are required. There is a choice of swimming in community pool. Leisure Swim program 1-3 pm. Admission for single person: Adult \$3.75 and Seniors \$2.60. Bring swim suit and towel. South parking lot of Oak Ridges Community Centre, west side of Bayview Ave, 1.5 km north of Stouffville Rd. GPS 43.947384, -79.427794

Mina or Mahnoosh, 905-770-9954 or 416 250 7033

Sun, January 11, 2015 9:30 AM, East Gwillimbury - YRF Bendor & Graves (Kennedy Rd)

8 kms; Moderate; 2 hrs; Loop, Icers may be required. Well mannered dogs welcomed. Meet in the parking area at the end of Kennedy Rd, north of Davis Dr. GPS 4.087113, -79.360133

Robert Alsop, cell phone on day of hike 905-717-3718

Mon, January 12, 2015 9:30 AM, Newmarket - Jokers Hill (Whipper Billy Watson Park)

ORTA Map 3; 6 km; Slow; 2.5 hr; Some strenuous hills in the Scientific Reserve and the 99 Steps in the Koffler Bales Conservation Area. Dress warmly for weather conditions. Hiking boots and icers required. Bring water and a snack and perhaps a hot drink. Dogs on leash welcome. Lunch option afterwards. Meet at Whipper Billy Watson Park parking lot on Clearmeadow Blvd, east off Bathurst St, 0.4 km north of Mulock Dr. GPS 44.0364833, -79.4960489

Stan Butcher, 905-737-3966, cell phone on day of hike only 416-434-3471

Wed, January 14, 2015 9:30 AM, King - Cold Creek Conservation Area (Conc. 11)

7km loop; Moderate; 2 1/2 hours; This is a very picturesque hike with forests, fields and ponds. Some hilly sections. The trails may be icy in places so please wear icers on sturdy hiking boots. Well behaved dogs welcome. Meet at park entrance east side of Concession 11, 3.5 Km north from King Road. GPS 43.919444, -79.706778

Marianne Broome. 905-939-7007 Cell 416- 409-1980 (hike day only)

Wed, January 14, 2015 9:30 AM, Ajax - Greenwood Conservation Area North (Conc. 5)

10+ Km; 3+ hrs; T&B hike north along the Duffins Creek to the Pickering Village Museum @ Hwy #7. The trail follows the creek offering beautiful views of forest and stream. The hike length and duration will depend on the weather. Bring a snack and a drink. Come prepared for weather with icers / snowshoes. Meet in the parking area on the north side of Pickering Conc. #5, 2.4Km east from Brock Road. GPS 43.908763, -79.068708

Malcolm Hann, 905-477-7260 (before 10:00PM)

Thu, January 15, 2015 7:00 PM, Whit-Stouffville - ORTA Discovery Night (Ballantrae Community Centre)

ORTA Map 4; For details of topic, presenter, venue details and contact information, check separate Discovery Night box in Trail Talk and the ORTA website (for any late changes). Meet in Community Centre, on north side of Aurora Road, 1Km east from Hwy #48. GPS 44.040733, -79.286552

Fri, January 16, 2015 9:30 AM, Whit-Stouffville - YRF Eldred King Woodlands (Hwy 48)

ORTA Map 4; 7-9 kms depending on conditions; Moderate; 2 1/2 hours; Loop hike on mainly footpaths with some hilly sections. Dress suitably for the weather with icers / snowshoes. Meet in parking lot west side of Hwy 48, 2.5 km north of Ballantrae. GPS 44.059809, -79.302761

John Fuchs, 905-868-6795 (hike day only)

LEGEND

HIKE TERRAIN: Easy = mostly flat, good footing. Challenging = some hills and/or poor footing Strenuous = hills with steep climbs

CA = conservation area

T&B = there and back hike

YRF - York Regional Forest

TRCA - Toronto & Region Conservation Authority

BT - Bruce Trail Conservancy

PP - Provincial Park

Select hikes most suitable for your ability:

Slow 3km/h Fast 5km/h

Moderate 4km/h Very Fast 6km/h

Fri, January 16, 2015 9:30 AM, Uxbridge - Brock/Glen Major/Walker Woods (Conc. 6)

ORTA Map 5; 10+km; Fast; 2+hr; Loop hike with some hills in the Brock Tract Meet at parking lot on east side of Uxbridge Conc 6, 0.6 km north of Uxbridge Town Line or 5.5 km south of Durham Road 21. GPS 44.006009 , -79.101922
Russ Burton, 905-830-2862

Sat, January 17, 2015 7:00 AM, Uxbridge - Al Shaw (Conc.6)

ORTA Map 5; 4+km; Moderate; 1hr.; Join us for breakfast after the hike Meet at road side parking on west side of Uxbridge Conc 6, 1.5 km south of Durham Road 21. GPS 44.039694, -79.116764
Russ Burton, 905-830-2862

Sun, January 18, 2015 1:00 PM, Bowmanville - Long Sault (Woodley Rd)

ORTA Map 7; 8+ km.; Moderate; 2+ hrs.; Hike on ORTA and other Long Sault trails; bring food and water; May need snowshoes and/or icers. Meet at C.A. Parking Lot. Exit 401 at Waverly Rd. Travel North on Regional Rd. #57. Turn right at Regional Rd. #20. Turn left at Woodley Rd. Pay and Display Parking is in effect at a cost of: Max. - \$5/ vehicle/day or \$2/ hour. GPS 44.049939, -78.741937
Grace Moores, 905-263-4340

Mon, January 19, 2015 9:30 AM, W-Stouffville - YRF Dainty & Clarke Tract (McCowan Rd)

ORTA Map 4; Slow to moderate; 2 hrs; Join us for a special hike and wear your plaid in celebration of Robbie Burns Day. You may need Icers or snowshoes for this hike. Easy walking on wide, sheltered forest trails. Join us for lunch afterwards. Meet at Dainty Tract parking lot on west side of McCowan Rd, 0.4 km south of Aurora Rd. GPS 44.027923 , -79.319657
Brian & Wilma Millage, 905-853-2407, cell phone on day of hike 416-722-6512

Wed, January 21, 2015 9:30 AM, Pickering - Seaton Hiking Trail (Whitevale Rd)

14+km; Moderate to fast; 4+hr; There and back very hilly icers or snowshoes with crampons are mandatory or you will not be allowed to hike Meet in the park on the west side of West Duffins Creek, south side of Whitevale Rd in the village of Whitevale. GPS 43.8865, -79.1628
Russ Burton, 905-830-2862

Wed, January 21, 2015 9:30 AM, East Gwillimbury - YRF Bendor & Graves (Kennedy Rd)

8+; Moderate; 2 1/2 hours; Icers or snow shoes are required Meet in the parking area at the end of Kennedy Rd, north of Davis Dr. GPS 44.087113 , -79.360133
Kevin Lowe, 416-655-2256

Thu, January 22, 2015 10:30 AM, East Gwillimbury - Holland River Trail (west trailhead)

Slow to moderate; Meet at the parking lot on SE corner of Yonge St. and Mount Albert Road. GPS 44.095454 , -79.490029
Soheila Dehmassi, 416-768-7446

Fri, January 23, 2015 9:30 AM, East Gwillimbury - YRF Bendor & Graves (Kennedy Rd)

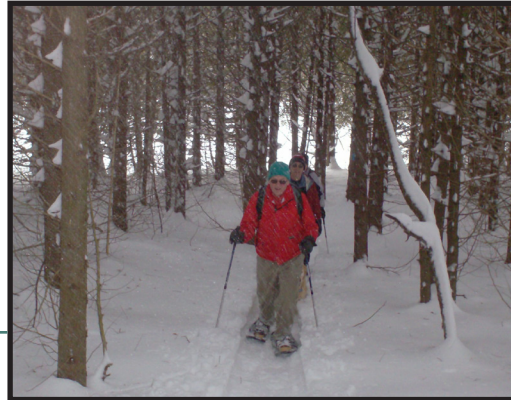
8+ km.; Fast; 2+ hrs.; Hike or Snowshoes, some hills Meet in the parking area at the end of Kennedy Rd, north of Davis Dr. GPS 44.087113 , -79.360133
Joan Taylor, 905-477-2161

Sat, January 24, 2015 7:00 AM, Uxbridge - Al Shaw (Conc.6)

ORTA Map 5; 4+ km.; Moderate; 1 hr.; Icers or snowshoes. Join us for breakfast after the hike. Meet at road side parking on west side of Uxbridge Conc 6, 1.5 km south of Durham Road 21. 44.039694, -79.116764
Joan Taylor, 905-477-2161

Sat, January 24, 2015 9:30 AM, Richmond Hill - Oak Ridges Corridor/Jefferson Forest (Oak Ridges Community Ctr.)

ORTA Map 3; 12K; Slow to moderate; 3hrs; We will walk along the Oak Ridges side trail until Bathurst Street and return to community parking Lot. Icer or snowshoe are required. There is a choice of swimming in community pool. Leisure Swim program 1-3 pm. Admission for single person: Adult \$3.75 and Seniors \$2.60. Bring swim suit and towel. Bring lunch and a hot drink. South parking lot of Oak Ridges Community Centre, west side of Bayview Ave, 1.5 km north of Stouffville Rd. GPS 43.947384 , -79.427794
Mina or Mahnoosh, 905-770-9954 or 416 250 7033



Mon, January 26, 2015 9:30 AM, Aurora - NW Aurora Trails - St. Andrew's Loop.

ORTA Map 4; 7 km; Slow; 2.5 hr; Depending on conditions a shorter hike may be taken requiring a car shuttle; not suitable for dogs. Loop hike on trails and sidewalks linking Parks and Recreational Facilities. Dress appropriately for weather; Icers probably required. Bring water and a snack; possibly also a hot drink. Lunch option afterwards. Meet at south end of the parking lot of Aurora Community Centre, south off Aurora Heights Dr., west off Yonge St, 0.6 km north of Wellington St. GPS 44.003408 , -79.471130
Stan Butcher, 905-737-3966, cell phone on day of hike only 416-434-3471

Wed, January 28, 2015 9:30 AM, Uxbridge - Secord/Goodwood/Glasgow (Conc. 3)

ORTA Map 5; 12-16 km. depending on conditions.; Moderate to fast; 4+ hours; Hike or snowshoe T&B with side trails. Hilly. Meet at Secord parking lot, 2 km south of Goodwood Rd, on Conc 3, east on Secord Rd. GPS 44.017830, -79.182766
Bob Comfort, 905-473-2669, cell phone on day of hike 905-960-0543

Fri, January 30, 2015 9:30 AM, Uxbridge - Walker Woods/Durham Forest Skyloft (Conc. 7)

ORTA Map 5; 10+km; Fast; 2+hr; Loop hike or snowshoe some hills Meet at parking lot on west side of Uxbridge Conc 7, 2 km south of Durham Road 21. GPS 44.0394862, -79.0892224
Russ Burton, 905-830-2862

Sat, January 31, 2015 7:00 AM, Uxbridge - Al Shaw (Conc.6)

ORTA Map 5; 4+km; Moderate; 1+hr; Loop hike no dogs please Meet

at road side parking on west side of Uxbridge Conc 6, 1.5 km south of Durham Road 21. GPS 44.039694, -79.116764
Russ Burton, 905-830-2862

FEBRUARY

Sun, February 1, 2015 10:00 AM, King - Seneca King Campus/ Mary Lake (Keele St.)

ORTA Map 2; 10 km; Moderate to fast; Meet at roadside parking on Keele, 3 km north of King Road on both sides at ORTA trail sign. GPS 43.955220, -79.535400
Josie Klostranec, 416-296-1408 (before 10:00PM)

Sun, February 1, 2015 1:00 PM, Newmarket - North West Quadrant Woodlot (William Booth Ave)

ORTA Map 3; 6; Moderate; 2; Meet at Environmental Park parking lot, west side of Woodspring Ave, 1.4 km south of Green Lane W, at William Booth Ave intersection. GPS 44.058377, -79.493681
David Francis, 905-936-4446, cell phone on day of hike 416-579-5432

Mon, February 2, 2015 9:30 AM, East Gwillimbury - YRF Bendor & Graves (Kennedy Rd)

Slow to moderate; 2.5 hrs; Mature forested trails and open meadows with some hills. Well mannered dogs are encouraged to bring their owners. Bring along a warm drink and snack. Join us for lunch afterwards. Meet in the parking area at the end of Kennedy Rd, north of Davis Dr. GPS 44.087113, -79.360133
Brian & Wilma Millage, 905-853-2407, cell phone on day of hike 416-722-6512

Tue, February 3, 2015 7:00 PM, Uxbridge - Durham Forest (Conc. 7)

ORTA Map 5; 8km; Moderate; 2.5 hrs; Full Moon Hike, Dress for conditions. Bring warm drink and snack. Meet in the Durham Forest parking area on the east side of the 7th Conc. 1 km south of Durham Rd 21. GPS 44.050009, -79.093841
Chris Johnston, 905-852-2937 (on hike day only)

Wed, February 4, 2015 9:30 AM, Uxbridge - Durham Forest (Conc. 7)

ORTA Map 5; 8+; Moderate; 2 1/2 hours; Icers or snowshoes required Meet in the Durham Forest parking area on the east side of the 7th Conc. 1 km south of Durham Rd 21. GPS 44.050009, -79.093841
Kevin Lowe, 416-655-2256

Fri, February 6, 2015 9:30 AM, Newmarket - YRF North Tract

ORTA Map 4; 10 km.; Fast; 2 hrs.; Icers or snowshoes. Meet at parking area on the west side of Hwy 48, 0.5km north of Vivian Rd or 1.3 km south of Davis Dr. GPS 44.082138, -79.307819
Joan Taylor, 905-477-2161

Sat, February 7, 2015 7:00 AM, Uxbridge - Al Shaw (Conc.6)

ORTA Map 5; 4+ km.; Moderate; 1 hr.; Icers or snowshoes. Join us for breakfast after the hike. Meet at road side parking on west side of Uxbridge Conc 6, 1.5 km south of Durham Road 21. GPS 44.039694, -79.116764
Joan Taylor, 905-477-2161

Sat, February 7, 2015 9:30 AM, Richmond Hill - Oak Ridges Corridor/Jefferson Forest (Oak Ridges Community Ctr.)

ORTA Map 3; 12K; Slow to moderate; 3hrs; We will walk along the Oak Ridges side trail until Bathurst Street and return to community parking Lot. Icer or snowshoe are required. There is a choice of swimming in community pool. Leisure Swim program 1-3 pm. Admission for single person: Adult \$3.75 and Seniors \$2.60. Bring swim suit and towel. Bring lunch and a hot drink. South parking lot of Oak Ridges Community Centre, west side of Bayview Ave, 1.5 km north of Stouffville Rd. GPS 43.947384, -79.427794
Mina or Mahnoosh, 905-770-9954 or 416 250 7033

Sun, February 8, 2015 2:00 PM, Uxbridge - Secord/Goodwood/ Glasgow (Conc. 3)

ORTA Map 5; 6 km; Slow to moderate; 2+ hours; T&B hike. Families and well-mannered dogs welcome. Bring snacks and water. Dress for the weather; bring icers or snowshoes. Meet at Secord parking lot, 2 km south of Goodwood Rd, on Conc 3, east on Secord Rd. GPS 44.017830, -79.182766
Brian & Kathy Clark, 905-841-9757, cell phone on day of hike 416-618-1726

Mon, February 9, 2015 9:30 AM, Richmond Hill - Oak Ridges Corridor/Jefferson Forest (Oak Ridges Community Ctr.)

ORTA Map 3; 5.5 km; Slow; 1.75 hr; Depending on conditions a significant portion of this hike will be across Lake Wilcox. We will also walk along the amazing newly constructed Sunset Beach walkway. You may bring a lunch to enjoy afterwards in the lounge of the Community Centre or take a swim in the Pool. Not suitable for dogs. South parking lot of Oak Ridges Community Centre, west side of Bayview Ave, 1.5 km north of Stouffville Rd. GPS 43.947384, -79.427794
Stan Butcher, 905-737-3966, cell phone on day of hike only 416-434-3471

Wed, February 11, 2015 9:30 AM, Uxbridge - Brock/Wilder Forest (Brock Rd.)

ORTA Map 5; 10+ Km; 2+ hrs; Loop hike through scenic forest and meadows with some moderate hills. Bring a snack and drink. Come prepared for weather with icers / snowshoes. Meet at parking lot on East side of Brock Rd, 1 km north of Uxbridge/Pickering Town Line. GPS 44.000020, -79.127899
Malcolm Hann, 905-477-7260 (before 10:00PM)

Thu, February 12, 2015 10:30 AM, King - Seneca King Campus (Dufferin St)

ORTA Map 2; Slow to moderate; Meet at Seneca College MAIN entrance. As you enter Seneca you will see a small parking gate. Park in the lot on the right hand side of this gate. Entrance to Seneca is off Dufferin St, approx. 2.5 km north of King Rd. GPS 43.9573791, -79.5103428
Soheila Dehmassi, 416-768-7446

Fri, February 13, 2015 9:30 AM, Uxbridge - Secord/Goodwood/ Glasgow (Conc.3)

ORTA Map 5; Moderate; 2.5 hr; A very short shuttle will allow us to hike from Glasgow parking lot through the Goodwood Tract back to Secord. Very scenic area with some hills so wear your icers or snowshoes. Join us for lunch afterwards. Meet at Secord parking lot, 2 km south of Goodwood Rd, on Conc 3, east on Secord Rd. GPS 44.017830, -79.182766
Brian & Wilma Millage, 905-853-2407, cell phone on day of hike 416-722-6512

Fri, February 13, 2015 9:30 AM, Uxbridge - Walker Woods/ Durham Forest Skyloft (Conc. 7)

ORTA Map 5; 8+ km.; Fast; 2+ hrs.; T&B Durham forest and Skyloft, Icers or Snowshoes. Meet at parking lot on west side of Uxbridge Conc 7, 2 km south of Durham Road 21. GPS 44.0394862, -79.0892224

Joan Taylor, 905-477-2161

Sat, February 14, 2015 7:00 AM, Uxbridge - Al Shaw (Conc.6)

ORTA Map 5; 4+ km.; Moderate; 1 hr.; Icers or snowshoes. Join us for breakfast after the hike. Meet at road side parking on west side of Uxbridge Conc 6, 1.5 km south of Durham Road 21. GPS 44.039694, -79.116764

Joan Taylor, 905-477-2161

Sun, February 15, 2015 10:00 AM, King - Seneca King Campus/ Mary Lake (Keele St.)

ORTA Map 2; 10 km; Moderate to fast; Meet at roadside parking on Keele, 3 km north of King Road on both sides at ORTA trail sign. GPS 43.955220, -79.535400

Josie Klostranec, 416-296-1408 (before 10:00PM)

Mon, February 16, 2015 9:30 AM, Uxbridge - Walker Woods/ Durham Forest Skyloft (Conc. 7)

ORTA Map 5; Slow to moderate; 2 hrs; Sheltered forest trails with hills. Well mannered dogs are encouraged to bring their owner. Bring along a warm drink and snack. Join us for lunch afterwards. Meet at parking lot on west side of Uxbridge Conc 7, 2 km south of Durham Road 21. GPS 44.0394862, -79.0892224

Brian & Wilma Millage, 905-853-2407, cell phone on day of hike 416-722-6512

Wed, February 18, 2015 9:30 AM, Scarborough - Rouge Park (Meadowvale Rd.)

8+; Moderate; 2 1/2 hours; Icers or snowshoes required Meet at Pearse House, 1749 Meadowvale Rd, east side of Meadowvale Rd at Zoo Rd-follow signs for the Rouge Valley Conservation Centre. GPS 43.8190238, -79.1709644

Kevin Lowe, 416-655-2256

Wed, February 18, 2015 9:30 AM, Lindsay - Pontypool Fleetwood Creek (Wild Turkey Rd)

10-12km depends on conditions; Moderate to fast; 4+hr; Loop hike or snowshoe Take highway 35 and turn east on Ballyduff Road. Meet at the parking area just south of Ballyduff Road, east of Wild Turkey Road. GPS 44.142627, -78.621845

Russ Burton, 905-830-2862

Wed, February 18, 2015 9:30 AM, Kleinburg - Humber River Trail (Bindertwine Park)

7km.; Moderate; 2 1/2 hours; Shuttle hike. William Granger Greenway and side trails from Bindertwine Park to Rutherford Road. Very picturesque as the trail goes through forests and along the Humber River. We will take a few cars to Rutherford Road to shuttle us back to Bindertwine Park at the end of the hike. Some parts of the trails may be icy so wear icers on sturdy hiking boots. Well behaved dogs welcome. Meet at Bindertwine Park in the town, 2 km north of Major Mackenzie Dr on Islington Ave, right on Stegman's Mill Road and down the hill to parking lot. GPS 43.847757, -79.6239057

Marianne Broome. 905-939-7007 Cell 416- 409-1980 (hike day only)

Thu, February 19, 2015 7:00 PM, Whit-Stouffville - ORTA Discovery Night (Ballantrae Community Centre)

ORTA Map 4; For details of topic, presenter, venue details and contact information, check separate Discovery Night box in Trail Talk and the ORTA website (for any late changes). Meet in Community Centre, on north side of Aurora Road, 1Km east from Hwy #48. GPS 44.040733, -79.286552

Fri, February 20, 2015 9:30 AM, Whit-Stouffville - YRF Hall & Eldred King (McCowan Rd)

ORTA Map 4; 7-9 kms depending on conditions; Moderate; 2 1/2 hrs.; Loop hike on mainly footpaths with some hilly sections. Dress suitably for the weather with icers / snowshoes. Meet at parking lot 1 km north of Aurora Rd on the east side of McCowan Rd. GPS 44.0410721, -79.3228268

John Fuchs, 905-868-6795 (hike day only)

Fri, February 20, 2015 9:30 AM, Uxbridge - Brock/Glen Major/ Walker Woods (Conc. 6)

ORTA Map 5; 10+km; Fast; 2+hr; Snowshoe or hike in Glen Major very hilly section. Meet at parking lot on east side of Uxbridge Conc 6, 0.6 km north of Uxbridge Town Line or 5.5 km south of Durham Road 21. GPS 44.006009, -79.101922

Russ Burton, 905-830-2862

Sat, February 21, 2015 7:00 AM, Uxbridge - Al Shaw (Conc.6)

ORTA Map 5; 4+km; Moderate; 1hr.; Join us for breakfast after the hike Meet at road side parking on west side of Uxbridge Conc 6, 1.5 km south of Durham Road 21. GPS 44.039694, -79.116764

Russ Burton, 905-830-2862

Sat, February 21, 2015 9:30 AM, Richmond Hill - Oak Ridges Corridor/Jefferson Forest (Oak Ridges Community Ctr.)

ORTA Map 3; 12K; Slow to moderate; 3hrs; We will walk along the Oak Ridges side trail until Bathurst Street and return to community parking Lot. Icer or snowshoe are required. There is a choice of swimming in community pool. Leisure Swim program 1-3 pm. Admission for single person: Adult \$3.75 and Seniors \$2.60. Bring swim suit and towel. Bring lunch and a hot drink.

South parking lot of Oak Ridges Community Centre, west side of Bayview Ave, 1.5 km north of Stouffville Rd.

GPS 43.947384, -79.427794

Mina or Mahnoosh, 905-770-9954 or 416 250 7033

Sun, February 22, 2015 1:00 PM, Scugog - Oak Ridges Trail - Burketon (Boundary Rd.)

ORTA Map 7; 8 km.; Moderate; 2 hours; 1:00 pm start; ORTA Map 7; there & back hike; country road and road allowance; bring food and drink; may need icers and/or snowshoes; possible eats at Kari-Jo's in Burketon after the hike-if open that late. West on Boundary Road, 650m. from the intersection with Old Scugog Rd. in Burketon. Park at the dead end and meet at the Oak Ridge Trail entry. GPS 44.056631, -78.804805

Grace Moores, 905-263-4340



Mon, February 23, 2015 9:30 AM, King - Happy Valley North (Conc. 7)

ORTA Map 2; 6 km; Slow; 2.5 hr; Strenuous hike with a long steep hill. Ensure you are equipped for seasonal weather. Bring drinks and snack as desired. Dogs on leash welcome. Lunch option afterwards. Meet at the end of the 7th Conc. 4km south of Pottageville off the Aurora Rd. GPS 43.972776, -79.618150

Stan Butcher, 905-737-3966, cell phone on day of hike only 416-434-3471

Wed, February 25, 2015 9:30 AM, Uxbridge - Al Shaw/Norton/Clubine/Walker Woods (Albright Rd.)

ORTA Map 5; 12-16 km. depending on conditions; Moderate to fast; 4+ hours; Loop hike through Walker Woods and Glen Major. Icers or snowshoes, as required. Hilly. Meet at parking lot on the east side of Conc 6, 2 km south of Durham Rd. 21 at Albright Rd. GPS 44.033851, -79.1141206

Bob Comfort, 905-473-2669, cell phone on day of hike 905-960-0543

Thu, February 26, 2015 10:30 AM, East Gwillimbury - Holland River Trail (west trailhead)

Slow to moderate; Meet at the parking lot on SE corner of Yonge St. and Mount Albert Road. GPS 44.095454, -79.490029

Soheila Dehmassi, 416-768-7446

Fri, February 27, 2015 9:30 AM, East Gwillimbury - YRF Bendor & Graves (Kennedy Rd)

8+ km.; Fast; 2+ hrs.; Hike or Snowshoes, some hills Meet in the parking area at the end of Kennedy Rd, north of Davis Dr. GPS 44.087113, -79.360133

Joan Taylor, 905-477-2161

Sat, February 28, 2015 7:00 AM, Uxbridge - Al Shaw (Conc.6)

ORTA Map 5; 4+ km.; Moderate; 1 hr.; Icers or snowshoes. Join us for breakfast after the hike. Meet at road side parking on west side of Uxbridge Conc 6, 1.5 km south of Durham Road 21. GPS 44.039694, -79.116764

Joan Taylor, 905-477-2161

Sat, February 28, 2015 1:30 PM, King - Cold Creek Conservation Area (Conc. 11)

7km loop; Moderate; 2 1/2 hours; This is a very picturesque hike with forests, fields and ponds. Some hilly sections. The trails may be icy in places so please wear icers on sturdy hiking boots. Well behaved dogs welcome. Meet at park entrance east side of Concession 11, 3.5 Km north from King Road. GPS 43.919444, -79.706778

Marianne Broome. 905-939-7007 Cell 416- 409-1980 (hike day only)

MARCH

Sun, March 1, 2015 10:00 AM, Pickering - Seaton Hiking Trail (Whitevale Rd)

10 km; Moderate to fast; Meet in the park on the west side of West Duffins Creek, south side of Whitevale Rd in the village of Whitevale. GPS 43.8865, -79.1628

Josie Klostranec, 416-296-1408 (before 10:00PM)

Sun, March 1, 2015 1:00 PM, New Tecumseth -Tottenham CA (Mill St. W.)

4+ Km; Moderate; Exploring the loop trails including beaver dam, Beeton Creek, swamps and forest. Bring snacks and water. Meet in Tottenham CA south parking lot off Mill Street West 44.014140, -79.810593

David Francis, 905-936-4446, cell phone on day of hike 416-579-5432

Mon, March 2, 2015 9:30 AM, Caledon - Palgrave Forest (Hwy 50)

ORTA Map 1; Slow to moderate; 2.5 hrs; Hike with us on exceptional forest trails with some hills. Well mannered dogs are encouraged to bring their owners. Bring along a drink and snack. Join us for lunch at Sheena's in Schomberg. Meet at Palgrave Forest Parking Lot, W side of Hwy 50, 2.2 km S of Hwy 9 or 0.5 km N of Palgrave Village. GPS 43.948027, -79.833422

Brian & Wilma Millage, 905-853-2407, cell phone on day of hike 416-722-6512

Wed, March 4, 2015 9:30 AM, Caledon - Palgrave Forest (Hwy 50)

ORTA Map 1; 12 - 15 km; Moderate to fast; 4 hr; Exact distance & time dependent on weather & trail conditions. Be prepared with both icers & snowshoes. Bring drinks & snacks. If weather looks doubtful, contact leader the evening before. Meet at Palgrave Forest Parking Lot, W side of Hwy 50, 2.2 km S of Hwy 9 or 0.5 km N of Palgrave Village. 43.948027, -79.833422

Garry Niece, 905-655-8040, cell phone on day of hike 905-809-5138

Fri, March 6, 2015 9:30 AM, King - Happy Valley (Weston & 16th Sdrd)

ORTA Map 2; 10+km; Fast; 2+hr; There and back hike or snowshoe Meet at roadside parking northeast corner of Weston Rd & 16th Sdrd. GPS 43.954224, -79.586575

Russ Burton, 905-830-2862

Sat, March 7, 2015 7:00 AM, Uxbridge - Al Shaw (Conc.6)

ORTA Map 5; 4+km; Moderate; 1hr.; Join us for breakfast after the hike Meet at road side parking on west side of Uxbridge Conc 6, 1.5 km south of Durham Road 21. GPS 44.039694, -79.116764

Russ Burton, 905-830-2862

Sat, March 7, 2015 9:30 AM, Richmond Hill - Oak Ridges Corridor/ Jefferson Forest (Oak Ridges Community Ctr.)

ORTA Map 3; 12K; Slow to moderate; 3hrs; We will walk along the Oak Ridges side trail until Bathurst Street and return to community parking Lot. Icer or snowshoe are required. There is a choice of swimming in community pool. Leisure Swim program 1-3 pm. Admission for single person: Adult \$3.75 and Seniors \$2.60. Bring swim suit and towel. Bring lunch and a hot drink. South parking lot of Oak Ridges Community Centre, west side of Bayview Ave, 1.5 km north of Stouffville Rd. GPS 43.947384, -79.427794

Mina or Mahnoosh, 905-770-9954 or 416 250 7033

Sat, March 7, 2015 10:00 AM, Vaughan - Woodbridge Boyd Park (Rutherford Rd)

8km; Slow to moderate; 3 hours; Nice winter walk in Boyd Park. No dogs please. Coffee after at a nearby bakery. e-mail inquiries tjshelvey@yahoo.com Meet in the Pierre Berton Library parking lot, 350 m. east from the intersection of Islington Avenue and Rutherford Road. 4 GPS 3.817958, -79.596205

Tessa Shelvey, 905-850-1507 (before 9:00PM)

Mon, March 9, 2015 9:30 AM, Richmond Hill - Oak Ridges (Regatta Ave)

ORTA Map 3; 6.5; Slow; 2 hr; Easy loop hikes around Humber Flats community trails. Bring water and a snack. Dogs on leash welcome. Lunch option afterwards. Meet at parking lot on the north side of Regatta Ave, west off Yonge St, 3 stop lights north of King Rd. GPS 43.950968 , -79.459267

Stan Butcher, 905-737-3966, cell phone on day of hike only 416-434-3471

Wed, March 11, 2015 9:30 AM, East Gwillimbury - Holland River Trail (west trailhead)

5+km; Moderate; 2 hours; If conditions are still icy please wear icers on sturdy hiking boots. This is a very scenic hike along both sides of the Holland river. Well behaved dogs welcome. Meet at the parking lot on SE corner of Yonge St. and Mount Albert Road. GPS 44.095454 , -79.490029

Marianne Broome, 905-939-7007 Cell 416- 409-1980 (hike day only)

Wed, March 11, 2015 9:30 AM, Uxbridge - Glasgow/Goodwood (Conc.2)

ORTA Map 5; 13+ Km; 3+ hrs; Hike this beautiful section of the Oak Ridges Trail through forests, crossing streams and providing magnificent views of the Secord lake. Bring a snack/drink/lunch. Come prepared for weather with icers / snowshoes.

Meet in the parking lot east side of Conc 2, 200M south of Webb Rd. GPS 43.991959, -79.203572

Malcolm Hann, 905-477-7260 (before 10:00PM)

Wed, March 11, 2015 9:30 AM, Oshawa - Harmony Creek (Donevan Rec Ctr.)

7+ Km; Moderate; 2 Hr; We will hike north alongside Harmony Creek (paved path) to Beaver Pond T&B. Please ensure you are prepared for icy conditions.

Meet at Donevan Rec Ctr. parking lot, 171 Harmony Road South (north of 401). GPS 43.9001628, -78.8321078

Lynne Bussey, 905-839-8116

Thu, March 12, 2015 10:30 AM, King - Seneca King Campus (Dufferin St)

ORTA Map 2; Slow to moderate; Meet at Seneca College MAIN entrance. As you enter Seneca you will see a small parking gate. Park in the lot on the right hand side of this gate. Entrance to Seneca is off Dufferin St, approx. 2.5 km north of King Rd. GPS 43.9573791, -79.5103428

Soheila Dehmassi, 416-768-7446

Fri, March 13, 2015 9:30 AM, East Gwillimbury - YRF Bendor & Graves (Kennedy Rd)

7-9 kms depending on conditions; Moderate; 2 1/2 hrs.; Loop hike on mainly footpaths with some hilly sections. Dress suitably for the weather with icers / snowshoes. Meet in the parking area at the end of Kennedy Rd, north of Davis Dr. GPS 44.087113 , -79.360133

John Fuchs, 905-868-6795 (hike day only)

Fri, March 13, 2015 9:30 AM, Uxbridge - Brock/Glen Major/Walker Woods (Conc. 6)

ORTA Map 5; 10+km; Fast; 2+hr; Loop hike with some hills in the Brock Tract Meet at parking lot on east side of Uxbridge Conc 6, 0.6 km north of Uxbridge Town Line or 5.5 km south of Durham Road 21. GPS 44.006009 , -79.101922

Russ Burton, 905-830-2862

Sat, March 14, 2015 7:00 AM, Uxbridge - Al Shaw (Conc.6)

ORTA Map 5; 4+km; Moderate; 1hr.; Join us for breakfast after the hike Meet at road side parking on west side of Uxbridge Conc 6, 1.5 km south of Durham Road 21. GPS 44.039694, -79.116764

Russ Burton, 905-830-2862

Sat, March 14, 2015 9:30 AM, Richmond Hill - Oak Ridges Corridor/Jefferson Forest (Oak Ridges Community Ctr.)

ORTA Map 3; 12K; Slow to moderate; 3hrs; We will walk along the Oak Ridges side trail until Bathurst Street and return to community parking Lot. Icer or snowshoe are required. There is a choice of swimming in community pool. Leisure Swim program 1-3 pm. Admission for single person: Adult \$3.75 and seniors \$2.60. Bring swim suit and towel. Bring lunch and a hot drink. South parking lot of Oak Ridges Community Centre, west side of Bayview Ave, 1.5 km north of Stouffville Rd. 43.947384 , -79.427794

Mina or Mahnoosh, 905-770-9954 or 416 250 7033

Sun, March 15, 2015 10:00 AM, King - Seneca King Campus/ Mary Lake (Keele St.)

ORTA Map 2; 10km; Moderate to fast; Meet at roadside parking on Keele, 3 km north of King Road on both sides at ORTA trail sign. GPS 43.955220 , -79.535400

Josie Klostranec, 416-296-1408 (before 10:00PM)

Sun, March 15, 2015 2:00 PM, Whit-Stouffville - YRF Hall & Eldred King (McCowan Rd)

ORTA Map 4; 5 km; Slow to moderate; 2+ hours; Loop hike through York Region Forest. Families and well-mannered dogs welcome. Bring snacks and water. Dress for the weather. Meet at parking lot 1 km north of Aurora Rd on the east side of McCowan Rd. GPS 44.0410721, -79.3228268

Brian & Kathy Clark, 905-841-9757, cell phone on day of hike 416-618-1726

Mon, March 16, 2015 9:30 AM, Uxbridge - Countryside Preserve (Hwy 47)

Slow to moderate; 2 hrs; Bring the kids along for this March Break outing. Well mannered dogs are encouraged to bring their owners. Bring along a drink and snack. Meet at conservation parking lot behind the Wal Mart store at the south end of Uxbridge, off Hwy 47. GPS 44.088752, -79.132089

Brian & Wilma Millage, 905-853-2407, cell phone on day of hike 416-722-6512

Tue, March 17, 2015 9:30 AM, East Gwillimbury - Holland Landing Prairie Provincial Park Reserve (Queensville)

8 km; Slow to moderate; 2.5 hrs; Flat terrain. One steep hill to lookout. T&B Icers may be required depending on weather. Meet at Queens Court trail head, south side of the Queensville Side Rd 500 m. east from Yonge Street. GPS 44.129277 , -79.490855

Robert Alsop, cell phone on day of hike 905-717-3718

Wed, March 18, 2015 9:30 AM, Pickering - Seaton Hiking Trail (Whitevale Rd)

14+km; Moderate to fast; 4+hr; There and back very hilly icers or snowshoes with crampons are mandatory or you will not be allowed to hike Meet in the park on the west side of West Duffins Creek, south side of Whitevale Rd in the village of Whitevale. GPS 43.8865, -79.1628

Russ Burton, 905-830-2862

Thu, March 19, 2015 7:00 PM, Whit-Stoffville - ORTA Discovery Night (Ballantrae Community Centre)

ORTA Map 4; For details of topic, presenter, venue details and contact information, check separate Discovery Night box in Trail Talk and the ORTA website (for any late changes). Meet in Community Centre, on north side of Aurora Road, 1Km east from Hwy #48. GPS 44.040733, -79.286552

Fri, March 20, 2015 9:30 AM, W-Stouffville - YRF Hall & Eldred King (McCowan Rd)

ORTA Map 4; Moderate; 2.5 hrs; Join us on a variety of forest and meadow trails with moderate hills on this March Break hike. Icers or snowshoes likely required. Join us for lunch afterwards. Meet at parking lot 1 km north of Aurora Rd on the east side of McCowan Rd. GPS 44.0410721, -79.3228268

Brian & Wilma Millage, 905-853-2407, cell phone on day of hike 416-722-6512

Fri, March 20, 2015 9:30 AM, Uxbridge - Al Shaw/Norton/Clubine/Walker Woods (Albright Rd.)

ORTA Map 5; 10+ km.; Fast; 2+ hrs.; Could still need icers. Loop Hike in Walker Woods. Meet at parking lot on the east side of Conc 6, 2 km south of Durham Rd. 21 at Albright Rd. GPS 44.033851, -79.1141206

Joan Taylor, 905-477-2161

Sat, March 21, 2015 7:00 AM, Uxbridge - Al Shaw (Conc.6)

ORTA Map 5; 4+ km.; Moderate; 1 hr.; Could still need icers. Join us for breakfast after the hike. Meet at road side parking on west side of Uxbridge Conc 6, 1.5 km south of Durham Road 21. GPS 44.039694, -79.116764

Joan Taylor, 905-477-2161

Sun, March 22, 2015 1:00 PM, Oshawa - Purple Woods C.A. (Coates Rd.)

ORTA Map 6; 9km.; Moderate; 2+ hrs.; there & back hike in woods and on country roads; bring food and water; dress for wind; may need icers. Meet at Purple Woods C.A. parking area, 70m. east of Simcoe St. north on the south side of Coates Rd. GPS 44.037431, -78.919935

Grace Moores, 905-263-4340

Mon, March 23, 2015 9:30 AM, Caledon - Trailway Path (Mt. Pleasant Rd.)

ORTA Map 1; 7 km; Slow to moderate; 2.25 hr; Route will depend on weather conditions. Bring water and a snack. Dogs on leash welcome. Lunch at Sheena's in Schomberg afterwards. Meet at roadside parking beside the rail tracks on Mount Pleasant Rd, 1.6 km south of Hwy 9. GPS 43.968091, -79.812411

Stan Butcher, 905-737-3966, cell phone on day of hike only 416-434-3471

Wed, March 25, 2015 9:30 AM, Bowmanville - Long Sault (Woodley Rd)

ORTA Map 7; 12-16 km. depending on conditions; Moderate to fast; 4+ hours; Loop hike. Hilly. Snowshoes or icers as required. Meet at C.A. Parking Lot. Exit 401 at Waverly Rd. Travel North on Regional Rd. #57. Turn right at Regional Rd. #20. Turn left at Woodley Rd. Pay and Display Parking is in effect at a cost of: Max. - \$5/ vehicle/day or \$2/ hour. GPS 44.049939, -78.741937

Bob Comfort, 905-473-2669, cell phone on day of hike 905-960-0543

Thu, March 26, 2015 10:30 AM, East Gwillimbury - Holland River Trail (west trailhead)

Slow to moderate; Meet at the parking lot on SE corner of Yonge St. and Mount Albert Road. GPS 44.095454, -79.490029

Soheila Dehmassi, 416-768-7446

Fri, March 27, 2015 9:30 AM, Uxbridge - Durham Forest (Conc. 7)

ORTA Map 5; 10+ km.; Fast; 2+ hrs.; T&B Durham Forest and Skyloft with some hills Meet in the Durham Forest parking area on the east side of the 7th Conc. 1 km south of Durham Rd 21. GPS 44.050009, -79.093841

Joan Taylor, 905-477-2161

Sat, March 28, 2015 7:00 AM, Uxbridge - Al Shaw (Conc.6)

ORTA Map 5; 4+ km.; Moderate; 1 hr.; Join us for breakfast after the hike. Meet at road side parking on west side of Uxbridge Conc 6, 1.5 km south of Durham Road 21. 44.039694, -79.116764

Joan Taylor, 905-477-2161

Sat, March 28, 2015 1:30 PM, King - Humber Trails C. A. (Mill Rd.)

6+km; Moderate; 2 1/2 hours; This unmanaged conservation area in King Township is very picturesque, with forest, fields and an open plain at the East Humber River. Some trails are overgrown, with rough and hilly sections. If conditions are still icy please wear icers on sturdy hiking boots. Well behaved dogs are welcome. Meet at entrance to Humber Trail on west side of Mill Rd. GPS 43.903000, -79.612222

Marianne Broome. 905-939-7007 Cell 416- 409-1980 (hike day only)

Sun, March 29, 2015 10:00 AM, Pickering - Seaton Hiking Trail (Whitevale Rd)

10 Km; Moderate; Challenging terrain. T&B, some hills, forested, new members welcome. Bring snacks and water. Bring proper hike gear. Meet in the park on the west side of West Duffins Creek, south side of Whitevale Rd in the village of Whitevale. GPS 43.8865, -79.1628

Josie Klostranec, 416-296-1408 (before 10:00PM)

Mon, March 30, 2015 9:30 AM, W-Stouffville - YRF Hall & Eldred King (McCowan Rd)

ORTA Map 4; Slow to moderate; 2.5 hrs; Winding forest and meadow trails with moderate hills. Well mannered dogs are encouraged to bring their owners. Bring a drink and snack. Join us for lunch afterwards. Meet at parking lot 1 km north of Aurora Rd on the east side of McCowan Rd. GPS 44.0410721, -79.3228268

Brian & Wilma Millage, 905-853-2407, cell phone on day of hike 416-722-6512




Rock Island Lodge
 Wawa

> B&B: no tv, just wind & waves
 > Storm Watching & Fall Colours
 > Painting Lake Superior
 ^ Taimi Poldmaa ~ Mid October
 > Gales Photography Workshop
 ^ Rob Stimpson ~ Oct/Nov
On Lake Superior
 1.800.203.9092
 rockislandlodge.ca

ORTA AROUND THE WORLD



Photo shows Wilma Millage, Brian Millage, and Frank Alexander in front of the West Quaco lighthouse near St. Martin's, N.B. The Nova Scotia coast is on the horizon. In early August, 2014, these three ORTA members hiked the New Brunswick coastal trails on the Bay of Fundy, toured the local fishing ports, and travelled the beautiful St. John River system including canoeing and kayaking on the Nerepis River. For online access to the photo album of the trip, contact Frank Alexander at ws@oakridgestrail.org.

**DO YOU HAVE A STORY OR EXPERIENCE THAT YOU
WOULD LIKE TO SHARE?**

WE WANT TO HEAR IT!

Please send all articles and photos to:
editor@oakridgestrail.com

**SPRING 2015 ISSUE DEADLINE:
JANUARY 15, 2015**

Advertising space is also available. For
rates and details please email Katrina
Bin, Trail Talk Editor at
editor@oakridgestrail.com

Online: <http://www.oakridgestrail.org/newsletter.htm> (in
colour)

Return undeliverable Canadian addresses to:

Oak Ridges Trail Association, PO Box 28544, Aurora, ON
L4G 6S6

Publication Mail Agreement #40069570

Return Postage Guaranteed

The Oak Ridges Trail Association (ORTA) does not war-
rant or make representations or endorsements as to the
quality, content, or accuracy of ads placed in Trail Talk.
Ads are paid for entirely by the sponsor.

Oak Ridges Trail
Association

facebook



ORTA OFFICE:

Michele Donnelly, Office Manager
905-833-6600, Toll-Free 1-877-319-0285
12935 Keele Street, King City, ON L7B 1G2

Address Changes or Enquiries: info@oakridgestrail.org
Mail: P.O. Box 28544, Aurora, ON L4G 6S6
Membership: New and Renewals Pay on-line:
<http://www.oakridgestrail.org/membership.htm>