# Summer 2019



# TRAIL MARKINGS

## **Earth Day Initiatives**

By Emily Bennett

## In This Issue...

- 2 Trail News
- 4 Walking in Wuhan
- 5 Volunteers
  Needed
- 7 About Trail Markings
- 8 Green Spain
- 10 Glacial Erratics
- 11 Snapping Turtles
- 12 Summer Wildflowers
- 13 Summer Hikes and Events

Spring awakens the senses to the obvious changes in our environment – a little bit of green on the trees, some early buds on the bushes, or some lovely flowers that beckon Spring with their colourful blooms. It's during this time that many GVTA members and volunteers take time out to organize and deliver clean-ups along the trails. This year, I have two stories to share with the membership:

# Local Members of the Mentor, Discover, Inspire (MDI) Group

On April 27<sup>th</sup> this group of 12, led by GVTA member **Andre Bastel**, picked up the garbage along the Otterbein Road section of the trail. Here are some pictures they captured on that windy, cold day!



Story continued on Page 2.

## **Earth Day Initiatives, Continued**

### McCarter Grespan Beynon Weir Professional Corporation

To celebrate Earth Day, Alayne Kleser organized a cleanup crew to handle the portion of the trail that backs onto her office. On April 30th, twelve of the staff, armed with bags and gloves provided by the City of Kitchener, spent an hour collecting garbage along the trail. They gathered seven bags of garbage and look forward to taking part again next year! Here are some pictures from their cleanup:







Thanks to the both groups for the cleanup, for taking pictures commemorating the event and letting us know about your hard work!

## **Trail News—Black Walnut Section**

By Nick Kuret

Hikers, Please Take Note!

Just a reminder that on the south side of Beke Road, across from Sudden Tract, Map 9, km 3.7, there are signs on our trail that read: "No Trespassing". We have been assured by the landowner that this does not refer to hikers. The owner wants to keep ATVs, dirt bikes and horses off his property.

## Board of Directors, 2018 - 2019

### **ACTING PRESIDENT**

Annie Côté-Kennedy

president@gvta.on.ca

### **TREASURER**

Laura Anders

treasurer@gvta.on.ca

# DIRECTOR OF MEMBERSHIP & VOLUNTEERING

**Emily Bennett** 

volunteering@gvta.on.ca

# HIKE CO-ORDINATOR/ HIKE ONTARIO REPRESENTATIVE

Charles Whitlock

hikes@gvta.on.ca

## TRAIL DIRECTOR, CAROLINIAN CREST

Steve MacIntyre

carolinian@gvta.on.ca

### **MEMBER AT LARGE**

Shawn Weisar



## **GVTA Board Meetings**

### **Upcoming meetings:**

- Tuesday, June 11
- Tuesday, July 9
- Tuesday, August 13

**Location: Allan Reuter** 

Centre

507 King St E. (in Preston) Cambridge, ON N3H 3N4

Time: 7:00 PM

# Our Board Has Positions Open!

- Secretary
- Marketing Director
- Landowner Relationships
   Director
- Towpath Trail Director (Haldimand County)
- Pinnacle Trail Director

To volunteer, or to learn more, please visit:

www.gvta.on.ca/ BoardVolunteering.htm

## Walking in Wuhan, China

By Madeline Rosamond

I recently had the opportunity to teach a university class in Wuhan, China (Hubei province) and of course I had to check out the local hiking!

Wuhan, much like Cambridge, sits at a river confluence and is an amalgamation of three older cities: Wuchang, Hankou, and Hankyang. The difference is that the rivers are much larger (Yangtze River and Han River), as is the population (11 million)!



A peaceful path on Yujiashan, Wuhan.

The climate is subtropical, and it was a real treat to see roses in bloom in April, as well as palm trees everywhere. The city area encompasses some flood plains of the Yangtze River and also some low, steep, and forested hills. These hills are difficult to develop so they form green oases in an otherwise busy and loud city.

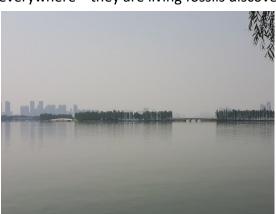
The closest hill to the China University of Geosciences campus was called Yujiashan. It took me a while to find a trailhead but when I did, I realized there was quite a trail network. Families and hiking groups seemed to use it on weekends but it was often quite empty after work—perfect for a trail run. I loved seeing native ferns and palm trees. I even found a Chinese cork oak (*Quercus variabilis*). There was plenty of birdsong, though I didn't get very far identifying the birds, except for turtle doves and azure

magpies, both very common on campus and in the woods.

Many of the hills have ancient buildings on them. One hill has the Baotong Buddhist temple, which is an interesting tourist destination. I was charmed to see that Zen Buddhist temples in China are very ornate (brightly painted, with gilded Buddhas) while in Japan they are famously austere!

Another hill has the locally famous Yellow Crane Tower. The original tower has burned down many times, so the current version is only from 1989, though built in a traditional style. Climbing to the fifth storey gives a great view of the Yangtze River and the skyline.

The city also has several lakes, which are ringed with parks. The parks are generally landscaped, not wild, but I did love seeing the Metasequoia trees everywhere—they are living fossils discovered in Hubei Province.



Unfortunately, I didn't make it out of the city or to the Three Gorges Dam—I may have to go back!

Left: East Lake looking toward downtown Wuhan. Right: Yellow Crane Tower.



### **Volunteers Needed**

by Nick Kuret and Jane Wilson

### Off-the-Trail Positions

Webmaster: Keep our excellent and informative website running! For more information, please see www.gvta.on.ca/OffTheTrail.htm

### **On-the-Trail Positions**

- Trail Captains in the Black Walnut Section: Areas available are Kitchener Doon, Bloomingdale, and the Bridge Street area. If interested, please contact Nick Kuret, 519-740-1449, nickkuret@yahoo.ca
- **Trail Maintenance**
- Hike Leaders

vorldwide.on.c

For more information, please see www.gvta.on.ca/OnTheTrail.htm

## Unique experiences here and abroad through 2022

PURE LIFE: Costa Rica: We return to Costa Rica March 24—April 5, 2020 on a very special tour escorted from Toronto by Janice Bock. Our 13 day / 12 night tour explores some of the very best of Costa Rica with a heavy emphasis on natural areas. Our itinerary includes Bosque de Paz, Palo Verde, Monteverde, Arenal, Sarapiqui, Guapiles (EARTH) and Tortuguero with arrival and departure from San Jose. This tour is geared to individuals looking for small group experience with a tour manager who has been leading select groups to Costa Rica for many years. At a MAXIMUM we will take 16 travellers though this tour is targeting no more than 11 travellers. Projected cost is CAD \$4, 795 p.p. double including flights, accommodation, most meals and all sites. Registrations now being accepted for this tour.

Some of our special tours through 2020 / 2022. Space on all these unique tour programs is VERY limited and based on first come, first served basis. Looking forward tours are not, as yet, open for pre-registration.

> SLOVAKIA AND POLAND: September 10 to 21, 2019—very limited CROATIA DISCOVERY: April 25 to May 9, 2020—very limited SICILY & MALTA: October 2 to 17, 2020 — opened for advance registrations

**LOOKING FORWARD:** We are looking at the following unique tours for 2021 & 2022: Moldova & Romania Morocco & Andalusia Rhodes & Crete

#### Frederick Travel Waterloo

Worldwide Central Trips

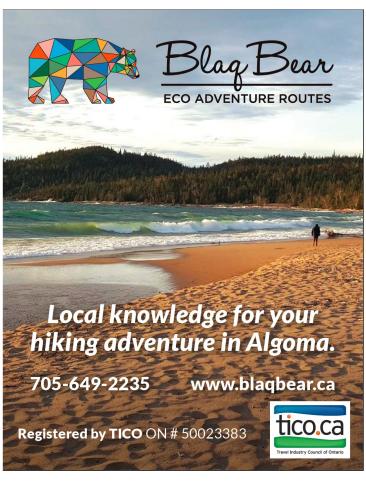
572 Weber Street North, Unit 1, Waterloo, On N2L 5C6

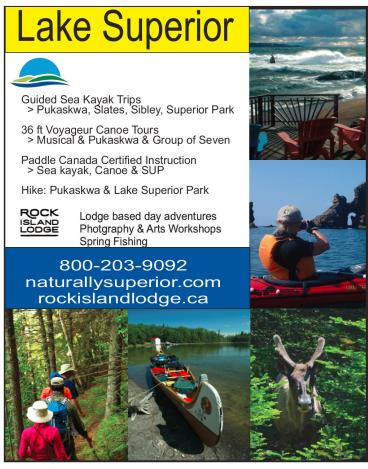
TICO: 50015067

(519) 745 1860 ext 303

(800) 578 8958

e-mail to: scotta@ftwaterloo.com Scott cell (519) 897 9673





### **Trail Users' Code**

- Hike along marked trails only
- Use stiles; do not climb fences
- Leave the trail cleaner than you found it; carry out all litter
- · No camping or fires permitted
- Leave flowers/plants for others to enjoy
- Do not damage live trees or strip bark
- Protect and do not disturb wildlife
- Leave nothing but thanks and take nothing but photographs
- Use trails at your own risk
- Walk around the edge of fields
- Keep dogs leashed
- No motorized vehicles, bicycles or horses except where permitted by sign posting
- Close all farm gates
- Obey all signage

### **Great Gifts:** GVTA Apparel, Etc.

T-shirts, short sleeved and navy blue — women's S/M/L/XL and men's M/L/XL. For styling and sizing information, please visit www.gvta.on.ca/Store.htm.

**GVTA Hats** - one size - \$10.50

**GVTA Guidebooks** - \$15 + \$6 shipping (or contact Jan Hember, 519-745-1375, to pick up your copy). Guidebooks require a 6" X 9" binder, which can be purchased at your local office supply store.

## Comfortable Hiking Holidays Toll free 1 (866) 449-1908

info@letshike.com www.letshike.com

### August 17 to 27, 2019

The land of the midnight sun!

Trek on volcanic terrain, marvel at the view atop Iceland's "Grand Canvon", stand at the edge of the most powerful waterfall in all Europe & relax in the soothing thermal waters of the Blue Lagoon. From Reykjavik to the northern fishing village of Husavik, explore the most dramatic landscape anywhere.

## 5 Reasons Why **ICELAND** is a MUST in 2019

Viking explorers got it right - Iceland is truly a spectacular place to visit! Although we didn't discover this amazing destination as early as the Vikings did, we can tell you that since 2006 it has been one of our most popular trips. The rest of the world has caught up, and Iceland is now one of the "hottest" destinations anywhere. If Iceland is not on your bucket list - it should

- # 1. IT'S BEAUTIFUL This is the most obvious reason, but we cannot stress enough how gorgeous the hiking is here. Our program offers such a variety of sights and experiences, from majestic waterfalls and geysers, to snow-capped mountains and soothing thermal pools.
- # 2. IT'S UNSPOILED Yes, the country's tourism is booming, but for the most part, we still have the trails all to ourselves! That's because we get off the beaten path and get into areas that bus tours do not venture to. Imagine having an entire national park trail all to ourselves? Or how about taking photos of the massive Asbyrgi Canyon with not a single tourist around?
- #3. IT'S SAFE Iceland is considered one of the safest countries in the entire world. You can walk around Reykjaivk in the middle of the night – which is actually pretty cool because we visit during the midnight sun and feel completely safe. To emphasize the point - it's not uncommon to see mothers leaving babies in strollers outside a store, while they go in to shop. Imagine trying that in North Americal?
- #4. IT'S DIFFERENT Yes, the geography and sites are unique, but the people and culture is very special and different as well. The majority of locals still believe in elves! They love strange and unusual foods - fermented shark, anyone? They don't take themselves too seriously - Google Reykjavik Mayor Jon Gnarr.
  - #5. DEALS! There's no denying that this is not the most affordable hiking destination, but the deals on airfare these days are truly spectacular!

TICO # 50018498

### About Trail Markings

**Submissions** (Please submit electronically before

issue deadlines)

Content Articles: Managing Editor,

newsletter@gvta.on.ca

Advertising: Advertising Coordinator, advertis-

ina@avta.on.ca

Scheduled Hikes. Work Parties. Other Outdoor Activities: Hike Coordinator, hikes@gvta.on.ca (If you have not submitted before, please contact hikes@gvta.on.ca for formatting instructions)

**Deadline Dates for Publication** February 5, May 5, August 5, November 5

**Advertisement Rates and Inquiries** Contact the Advertising Coordinator, advertising@gvta.on.ca

**Reporting Errors and Omissions** Please report to the Managing Editor, newsletter@gvta.on.ca

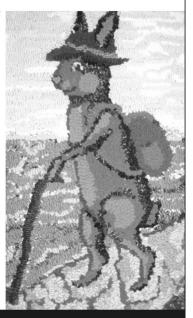
Advertising notices appear for the convenience of members and advertisers. The Grand Valley Trails Association accepts no responsibility in connection with these notices.

# experience The East Coast Trail 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 www.brownrabbit.nl.ca

Fax: 1-709-334-3601

## **Walking in Green Spain**

By Geoff Bell

In April of this year, I had the good fortune to be part of a group hiking in Green Spain. I say good fortune for two reasons. First, this part of Spain offers an abundance of hiking opportunities with exceptional scenery. In addition, the history and culture in the area is unique, and adds a lot of interest to the hiking experience.

Green Spain is found along the north coast of the country, bordering the Bay of Biscay, which is part of the Atlantic Ocean. The area is known as Green Spain because the proximity of the Atlantic and its weather systems, along with mountainous topography combine to provide more rainfall here than in the remainder of the country, most of which enjoys a dry Mediterranean climate. As a result, vegetation is lush and there are many forested areas. Fortunately, the weather cooperated on most of the group's hikes, despite an unusual spell of cold, wet weather that affected all of Spain during the tour. However, three of the planned hikes had to be modified since the unusually deep snow at higher elevations affected either the trails we were to hike or the roads that the group's bus would need to use.





Far left: A gentle ascent up the Valle del Lago in Somiedo Natural Park.

Left: Lago de la Ercina in the Picos.

The tour progressed from west to east with day hikes in the Spanish provinces of Asturias, Cantabria and Pais Vasco, which borders France. Running parallel to the coastline, the mountain chain called Cordillera Cantábrico hosts a large National Park called Los Picos de Europa, with an archipelago of Natural Parks on either side of the park. Within these reserves, there is a range of trails available including those with moderate elevation changes, to paths with steep climbs and ascents to 1600 metres above sea level.

There are regional trails, as well as a major trail, "GR 202 Ruta de la Reconquista," which is part of the "Grandes Randonées" European trail network. To round out the hiking options in this area, two companion trails to the well-known Camino de Santiago cross Green Spain: the Camino Primitivo, which is located in the mountains; and the Camino de la Costa, which follows the coast. In our various walks, we passed many of the scallop shell markers used to identify all of the Camino routes. In addition to mountain hikes, the group took advantage of other coastal paths that provided stunning views of both the shore cliffs and the mountains which are only a short distance inland. The most unique hike for the group was a two-kilometre adventure walk (and crawl and slide) through a large cave complex at Soplao, kitted out in overalls, helmets and miners' lamps. The stalagmites and stalactites in the caves were extensive, and impressive.



A typical view of the trail in the canyon along the Ruta del Cares.

One trail called the Ruta del Cares in the Picos National Park took the group along a narrow, unfenced trail on the side of the narrow and very deep canyon of the Rio Cares. Many mountain goats perched on narrow ledges along the route, while others showed some interest in the bagged lunches we carried in our packs. The trail dates to 1916 when it was built to support the operation of a hydroelectric plant, and in places the channel carrying water to the plant surfaces before disappearing into tunnels in the limestone rock of the canyon.

Much of the area is within the traditional territory of the Basques, one of the oldest European ethnic groups. Basques speak a unique language called, "euskera," and place names and signage are in both this language and Spanish. The Basques as well as the other people in the area are known for their strong-willed character and sense of independence. The

Spain that was not occupied by the Moors when they governed Spain between the years 711 and

1492. The resistance to Moorish rule was centred in an Asturian town called Covadonga, and it now stands as a monument to the Spanish reconquest. Another notable cultural feature of the area is the affinity for apple cider (apple trees flourish in the temperate weather). There is a long-held traditional way to drink cider. It is served by holding the bottle above the head and pouring a small portion of cider into a glass held at the hip. You then drink only part of the glass, and toss the remainder onto the ground, or in some cafes



After a steep climb to 1500m ASL, this was the view from our lunch stop, in the Picos.

onto the floor, before refilling. It's quite a spectacle, and a learning experience, for newcomers!



The group had the opportunity to walk extensively in the major towns of the area, including Oviedo, Gijón, Bilbao and San Sebastián. Each of the communities were interesting to explore. Bilbao is the largest centre, and boasts the Guggenheim Museum, designed by Frank Gehry.

Although Green Spain is likely not as well known to travellers as other destinations in Spain, it should be on the "must experience" list of every travel-loving hiker.

The cider fermentation room at Sidreria Petritegi, near San Sebastián.

### The Geological History of the Grand River: Glacial Erratics

By Madeline Rosamond

Did you know we have interlopers in the Grand River watershed? Things which should not be here, but we're stuck with?

I don't mean the various invasive species in our area (rusty crayfish, purple loosestrife, etc.). I mean rocks that don't belong! Geologists love obscure names for things, so we call them "erratics."

The bedrock in this area is limestone and dolostone. These are usually pale grey, white or yellow, and often have layers and sometimes fossils, as they are sedimentary rocks. They are about 500 million years old.

If you've ever seen pink or white granite, blue or black basalt, sparkly schist full of mica, or almost any other rock, you've seen something that has come from far away.

If you've read this column for a while, you can guess that the answer to "how did they get here?" is glaciers. When North America was glaciated, millions of tons of rock, sand, silt etc. were moved as the glacier moved. This means we get rocks from the north-west and north-east, where igneous and metamorphic Canadian Shield rocks are found. Often they are more than 1 billion years old, much older than the limestone from our region. Glacial erratics are usually smooth because they have been ground down by other rocks and sediment as the glaciers moved them.

The Economical Insurance Trailhead of the Walter Bean Trail, off Riverbend Dr. in Kitchener, has a good collection of large glacial erratic boulders that farmers removed from fields, ranging from pillow lava (my favourite) to marble and schist. However, you can see them almost anywhere they haven't been removed by people—in the river, in forests and meadows. Keep an eye out on your next hike.



I like to think the glaciers left behind some "postcards" from Sudbury, Montreal, and beyond!

A map showing where glacial erratics in the Kitchener area originally came from. For more information, see http://www.walterbeantrail.ca/.glacial.htm. [Note they have misspelled "Gowganda Conglomerate"!]

### Species of Interest in the Grand River Watershed: The Snapping Turtle

By Madeline Rosamond

You have probably seen large snapping turtles (*Chelydra serpentina*) sunning themselves on the banks of the Grand River, and if you're lucky, you've maybe seen a female laying eggs or seen hatchlings emerge from a sandy nest. They are the only turtle in this area with a very large shell, up to 20 inches (50 cm) across.

Snapping turtles, as their name implies, have very powerful jaws to capture fish, ducklings, and other prey. However, they are omnivores which mostly eat aquatic plants. They are not very quick in the water, though you may have seen them jump from land to water quickly when startled.

The snapping turtle family (*Chelydridae*) has fossil species all over the Northern Hemisphere dating back to the late Cretaceous, about 70 million years ago. (This is older then the extinction of the dinosaurs, which happened 65 million years ago). However, only two genera survive in the modern day, both in the Americas. The common snapping turtle, found here, is the most common of this ancient lineage.

It is difficult to know exactly how long they live, but research from Algonquin Park suggests snapping turtles can reach over 100 years of age. Next time you see one on the river, beside a storm pond, or maybe just crossing the road (slowly), take a minute to appreciate this turtle, whose ancestors probably snapped at a dinosaur.



Left: A common snapping turtle. Image by Dakota L., via Wikimedia Commons.

## Tips for Enjoying Summer Hikes

- 1) Bring a hat and sunscreen
- 2) Don't forget your camera
- 3) Keep an eye out for coldblooded animals sunning (snakes, turtles, frogs)
- 4) Look for summer wildflowers, especially in meadows (see page 12 for examples)
- 5) Bring plenty of water and snacks
- 6) Know your route—may we suggest the GVTA Grand ValleyTrails Map?



XC Ski · Cycle · Snowshoe · Hike · Kayak Day Trips · Travel · Social Events ....

Call 905-634-2012 • email info@haltonoutdoorclub.ca

## haltonoutdoorclub.ca



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



#### **EASTER April 19 - 22, 2019**

Spring training on the trails, snow will be gone with spring on the way. Ed promises a Polish Easter dinner.

# Canada Day - June 28 - July 2, 2019 Great hiking weather with lots of time on the south facing deck to relax, Jeanette will find places to swim.

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, \$75.00 private-double occupancy, \$90.00 private-single occupancy, USD per day per person. These outings have proven to be popular with the lodge filling quickly.

For more information, including driving directions, please see hikevincent.wordpress.com or contact Greg Vincent at 519-579-8210 or vincent.greg@gmail.com

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

### **Summer Wildflowers on the GVTA Trails**

By Madeline Rosamond

Keep your eyes out for these lovely flowers this summer!

(All images are licenced under Creative Commons, courtesy of Wikimedia.)



Canada anemone (Anemone canadensis). Image by John

Jerusalem Artichoke (Helianthus tu-berosus). [The editor's personal favourite.] Image by Paul Fenwick.





The New England aster (*Symphyotrichum novae-angliae*). Image by Randy Nonemacher.

## **Hikes and Events**

By Charles Whitlock

 denotes Independent Outings, possibly without Certified Hike Leader.

The GVTA accepts no responsibility for notices identified as Independent Outings (\*). These notices appear for the convenience of members.

### **June Hikes**

## Saturday, June 1, 2019. Winterbourne/ West Montrose Area.

Level 2. Pace: 2-3 km/h (slow-moderate). ~ 8 km

Leader: Jamie Hember (519-745-1375).

Depart: 10:00 a.m. from Letson Park, West Montrose (43.585520, -80.479824). A car shuttle will be required so arrive with space in your vehicle for other hikers. The Grand Valley Trail takes us from Winterbourne (Short Street) along Cox Creek, the Grand River to Buggy Lane, and proceeds north through West Montrose before we return to Letson Park on a short section of the Kissing Bridge Trailway. Check <a href="https://www.hember.ca/grouphikes">www.hember.ca/grouphikes</a> for last-minute changes.

# Friday June 14, 2019 - Annual Excellent Orchid Adventure - Bruce Peninsula National Park. • Independent Hike

Pre-registration required. Confirm participation and hotel bookings with hike leaders. Average day walks 6 kms. Daily hike duration: 5 hr. Level 1. Slow paced. Park entry fees required.

Greg & Jeanette Vincent. 519-579-8210 vincent.greg@gmail.com

Meet: 6.00 PM, Friday, 14th June 2019.

Join Jeanette and Greg as they explore the "Tip o' the Bruce Tobermory" in search of orchids and other flowers. Arrive Friday, June 14 and depart Sunday, June 16, two nights. Our search will extend to Flower Pot Island (cost approx. \$55.00 for the glass bottom boat and Parks Canada fee). All fees and other inci-

## **Last-Minute Hikes**

or last minute weather changes Check the GVTA website:

www.gvta.on.ca

dentals are the participants' responsibility. Walks are slow paced to enjoy the plants, trees and geology. We stay and have our meals at the Princess Hotel in Tobermory, a comfortable hotel overlooking Little Tub Harbour. This outing is restricted to those staying with Greg and Jeanette at the Princess Hotel. For more information please contact Greg Vincent, as shown above.

### Saturday, June 15, 2019. Taking Sides on the Bruce Trail- Iroquoia and Tiffany Falls Conservation Areas - Iroquoia Section.

13 km. Level 2, moderate. Pace of 3-4 km/hr.

Jane Kenyon. 226-750-8263 or janekenyon64@hotmail.com

Georgia Mulholland. 519-884-4638 or glm@csg.uwaterloo.ca

Depart: 9:00 am. Meet at BT guide book, edition 29.0 Map 8 at marker 38.7km (parking lot – Chedoke Civic golf course on Beddoe Drive off Aberdeen Ave. GPS N 43.246205, W79.906935

Join us for and out and back hike, walking in the Iroquoia and Tiffany Falls Conservation areas. We will hike to marker 45.2km and back to 38.7km (NO Car Shuttle)

Please bring lunch, water (2 litres recommended), snacks, sun screen, bug repellent, hat and sunglasses. Hiking boots or other similar sturdy footwear is required.

## Hikes and Events — Summer 2019 — visit www.gvta.on.ca

## **July Hikes**

# Saturday, July 6, 2019. Bruce Peninsula Club, Emmett Lake, Map 41.

Level 3. Car hike and car shuttle. 15 km. Pace 4/5 km. Terrain: Hills & rough in some spots. No access to water for 7 km. Challenging.

Charles Whitlock: Mobile 519-505-6298 or walkaway.treks@sympatico.ca

Depart 0900 hrs. Meet at Northern Peninsula Halfway Dump Parking lot, map 41 near marker 141.5. GPS 45.227342, -81.480393. From Ferndale, Northern Bruce Peninsula travel north on Hwy 6 to Emmett Lake Road, a distance of about 20 minutes. Turn right on to High Dump Rd and travel about 7 km to the parking area. Parks Canada car fee: Range \$12.00. We will leave as few cars as possible at this site and participants are to share all park costs. Bring small change. Compensate drivers accordingly. All participants must meet at this location. Toilets on site.

We will car pool to Crane Lake. GPS 45.190813, - 81.419658. Park well away from the farm and Park gates. A Porta-potty on site.

From Crane Lake Rd the trail travels on a relatively flat northern route passing by many bush roads that intersect our trail. Once we are at the water's edge the trail become extremely rugged with no water access for 7 km. Ensure you have sufficient water. The section between 135.3 and 141.5 is considered to be the most challenging hiking along the entire length of the Bruce Trail. BE PREPARED. Poison ivy and Hog weed is present so dress accordingly to prevent contact with these toxins.

# Sunday, July 7, 2019. Bruce Peninsula Club, Hope Bay, Map 37.

Level 3. Car Hike. 22 km- Loop Hike. Pace 4/5 km. Terrain: Hills & rough in some spots. Challenging.

Charles Whitlock: Mobile 519-505-6298 or walkaway.treks@sympatico.ca

Depart 0900 hrs. Meet at Hopeness Rd & Cathedral Dr. or GPS 44.933319, -81.159330.

Directions: From Wiarton, South Peninsula travel north on Hwy 6. Turn right to Bruce Road 9. Travel 20 km to Hopeness Rd. In 2 km turn right on Cathedral Dr. (about 20 minutes)

This outing located in the North Bruce Peninsula will follow the main trail through Hope Bay Forest, a nature reserve. This reserve contains outcroppings of exposed bedrock that are 500 million years old. There are numerous look outs. We will walk by well recognized BT sites: Jackson Cove, Cape Dundas, Rush Cove, and Barrow Bay side trails.

Sturdy footwear and plenty of water is required. Dress to protect yourself against poison ivy and hog weed. Depending on conditions the hike could be reduced by 3 to 4 km.

### Saturday, July 13, 2019. Taking Sides on the Bruce Trail- Hilton Falls Side Trail - Toronto Section.

18 km. Level 2, moderate. Pace of 3-4 km/hr.

Jane Kenyon. 226-750-8263 or janekenyon64@hotmail.com
Georgia Mulholland. 519-884-4638 or glm@csg.uwaterloo.ca

Depart: 9:00 am. Meet at BT guide book, edition 29.0 Map 11 at Hilton Falls Conservation Area enter from Campbellville Rd (Halton Rd 90) GPS N 43.505705, W 79.961589.

Join us as we explore the Hilton Falls side trail and conservation area. Today we will hike the Philip Gosling side trail and Hilton Falls side trail visiting Hilton Falls, a glacial pothole and old sawmill ruins. \$7 park entry fee applies.

## Hikes and Events — Summer 2018/19 — visit www.gvta.on.ca

Please bring lunch, water (2 litres recommended), snacks, sun screen, bug repellent, hat and sunglasses. Hiking boots or other similar sturdy footwear is required.

# Sunday, July 14, 2019. Brigadoon Woods and Beyond in SW Kitchener

7 Km.

Leader: Janice Bock 519-745-3296 <u>travel-jb2014@gmail.com</u>

Depart: 1:55 PM. Meet at 105 Kilkerran Crescent, Kitchener. It is accessed from Biehn Drive. The Community Trail is right beside the hydro house.

BRIGADOON WOODS is an area new to many of you and in the late spring this forest showed off Spring Wildflowers as we trekked by several of the tributaries of Strasburg Creek and took a moment to pause by the hidden pond. We will see the new bridge under construction for the extension of Strasburg Rd. Also, we will note the neighbourhood around Chapel Hill and some country-sized lots near Caryndale Park. Experienced or beginner hikers are welcome. What pleasant way to spend a Sunday afternoon! Bring water.

AFTERWARDS—all are welcome to stop at The Rabbid Fox pub/restaurant in Pioneer Park Plaza. If coming, reply to Janice at traveljb2014@gmail.com

## **August Hikes**

Saturday, August 17, 2019. Taking Sides on the Bruce Trail- Peninsula Section Sneak Peek - Dyer's Bay.

17.7 km. Level 2, moderate. Pace of 3-4 km/hr. No car shuttle - yippee

Jane Kenyon. 226-750-8263 or janekenyon64@hotmail.com

Georgia Mulholland. 519-884-4638

or glm@csg.uwaterloo.ca

Depart: 9:00 am. Meet at BT guide book, edition 29.0 Map 40 near marker 115.1km. Meet in the car park off Britain lake road on Dyers Bay Rd –GPS N 45.162328, W 81.340377

This weekend we are going to explore around the Dyers Bay area. This hike will be a figure of 8 hike.

In the morning we will head north of Dyers Bay taking in the main trail and the Laird and Juniper flats side trails. Charles Whitlock is the BTC Land Steward for this section of trail. Then heading south, exploring 3 side trails including Cotterill lake and enjoying the amazing views from the main trail.

Bring your swimsuit and towel for a cool swim at the end of the walk at a private cottage. Please bring lunch, water (2 litres recommended), snacks, sun screen, bug repellent, hat and sunglasses. Hiking boots or other similar sturdy footwear is required.

## Sunday, August 18, 2019. Taking Sides on the Bruce Trail- Peninsula Section Sneak Peek - Dyer's Bay.

14 km. Level 2, moderate. Pace of 3-4 km/hr.

Jane Kenyon. 226-750-8263 or janekenyon64@hotmail.com

Georgia Mulholland. 519-884-4638 or glm@csg.uwaterloo.ca

Depart: 9:00 am. Meet at BT guide book, edition 29.0 Map 40 near marker 112.8km (Lillie parking on Britain Lake Rd. GPS N 45.147416, W 81.338921

Today we continue to explore the Dyer's Bay area and the Devil's Monument Side Trail. What's a flowerpot? Find out when we hike to the Devil's Monument - the largest of the Bruce Peninsula's flowerpot formations and one of the many spectacular places along the craggy Georgian Bay shoreline known for incredible views.

Please bring lunch, water (2 litres recommended), snacks, sun screen, bug repellent, hat and sunglasses. Hiking boots or other similar sturdy footwear is required.

## Trail Markings Volunteers

Managing Editor

Madeline Rosamond
newsletter@gvta.on.ca

Advertising Coordinator **Bett Fitzpatrick** advertising@gvta.on.ca

GVTA Membership
Chris Kaczynski
membercoordinator@gvta.on.ca

Hike Coordinator **Charles Whitlock** hikes@gvta.on.ca

Electronic Newsletter

Jane Wilson

Proofers and Printing Help **Geoff Bell, Janet Feller** 



Rockwood Lake in late March 2019. Summer is coming...right? Photo by Madeline Rosamond.



Return undeliverable Canadian addresses to:

Grand Valley Trails Association
PO Box 40068, Waterloo, ON N2J 4V1

