

Booking Your Photography Session at a Nature Reserve

The Couchiching Conservancy is a non-profit, charitable land trust, dedicated to protecting nature for future generations. There are thousands of acres of wilderness protected in the region thanks to members, supporters and volunteers, and many Nature Reserves are open to the public.

Some of the Nature Reserves are popular for loved ones to gather for family photos, engagement, wedding and other types of photography. Photographers charging a fee to customers and using one of the Nature Reserves as a location need to (1) book the date and time with the Conservancy, and (2) help protect nature with a contribution towards our work. Your support allows us to upkeep the trails, bridges and protect the Reserves.

Booking your session is important to ensure your date and time doesn't conflict with a Conservancy event, especially at the Grant's Woods Nature Reserve which is also the location of our office. Please see our ***Frequently Asked Questions*** section on page 4 for more information.

How to Book

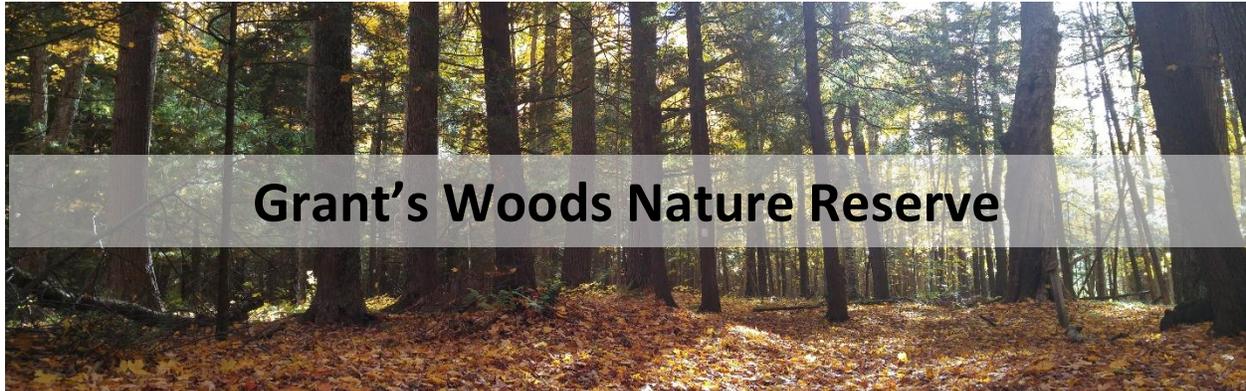
- Requests must be submitted at **least 5 business days prior** to the requested date to Courtney Baker, courtney@couchconservancy.ca or by calling 705-326-1620. She will confirm if the date and time is available.
- For multiple dates, you can make payment in advance and you do not need to book all dates at once. We still need at least 5 business days prior to each date.
- We can take payment by credit card over the phone, or cash/cheque in person.

Who and how many	Single Day Use	Multiple Dates
Families and couples (small shoots)	\$30	\$60 Per calendar year
Weddings and large groups (10+)	\$100	\$200 per calendar year

We can provide a receipt for your business records.

Available Locations

There are 50 Nature Reserves & Easements, thirteen of which have trails (some managed by other environmental organizations). The below list are the locations suggested due to natural features, parking and ease of use. If you have questions about any of the other Reserves, please reach out to us.



Grant's Woods Nature Reserve

Over 4.4km of trails, scenic bridges and of course, the '52 Fargo Truck - it is a popular location!

Location & Parking: 1485 Division Road West, Orillia, ON L3V 6K7. Max 15 cars.*

Washrooms: Composting toilets open ~May to mid October. Not accessible.

Trails: Mostly flat, with tree roots and stumps to watch out for. It is possible to navigate a stroller along most trails.

NOTE: Do not sit in or on the Truck. Refrain from touching the doors and hood.

*This is a popular spot for walkers and groups. We cannot anticipate how many parking spots will be available but try to manage groups the best we can by asking them to book. A sign at the trail entrance with the upcoming bookings lets people know what to expect.



Adams Nature Reserve

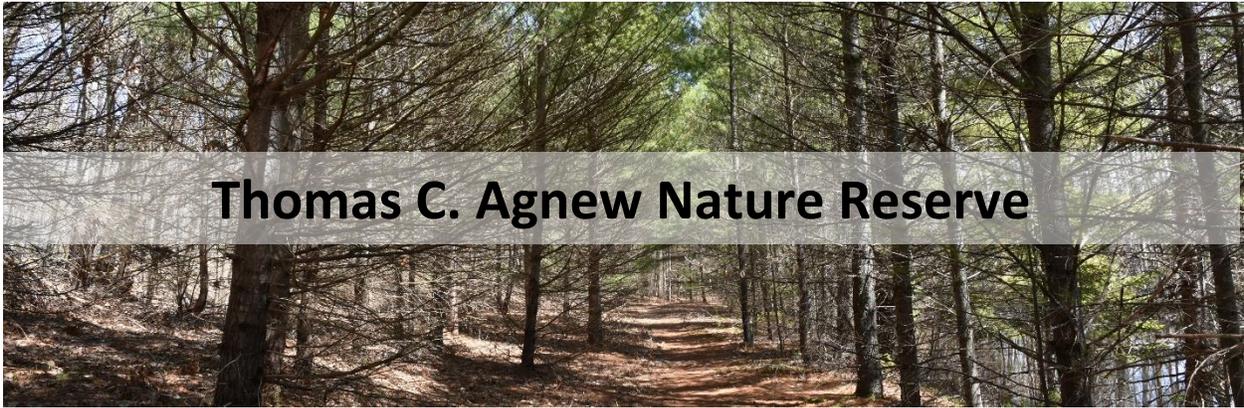
1.4km of trails, beautiful Canadian Shield covered in interesting moss and striking waterways.

Location & Parking: 1900 Cooper's Falls Road, Washago, ON. Max 4 cars, parking at the cabin.

Washrooms: None

Trails: Flat to start out, with some elevation and trickier rocky areas once you get to the ponds.

NOTE: Closed annually from March to mid June. It is also very buggy in the early summer!



Thomas C. Agnew Nature Reserve

2.4km of trails through mixed forests, passed by small beaver ponds.

Location & Parking: Fawcett Road, Washago, ON. Max 4 cars, parking on the cul-de-sac.*

Washrooms: None

Trails: Mostly flat, with tree roots and stumps to watch out for. One area is very sandy.

NOTE: Very buggy in the early summer!

*FYI there is a dog, Max, who lives in the last house on Fawcett Road. He is very energetic! It is about a 20 minute walk up the roadway to the Agnew Nature Reserve.

Learn more about these Nature Reserves, download a trail map and see a Google Map of the locations on our website: <http://couchichingconserv.ca/what-we-do/properties/>

Frequently Asked Questions

Who Needs a Permit?

Anyone wishing to use the Reserves for student, commercial, corporate, or documentary photography or filming must apply for a booking at least five days in advance. This includes any kind of wedding photo shoot, whether or not the photographer is a professional.

Will You Have Exclusive Use of the Location?

No, your booking grants you permission to take photographs on the Reserve, but many of the Reserves are also open to the general public. Depending on the time of year there may also be school groups, tours, or other groups on site at the same time as you. We try our best to encourage groups to book in advance to avoid disappointment but we cannot always anticipate how busy a location will be.

How Can We Be Good Nature Reserve Visitor?

- Please stay on the trails and respect all postings with regards to trail or area closures;
- Keep your pet(s) on leash so wildlife are protected and all visitors can enjoy;
- Pack out any garbage or recycling;
- Do not use props that could affect the peace of the Nature Reserve such as smoke bombs, sparklers, fireworks, etc.

Do I Need to Check In with Staff or Bring My Booking Confirmation with me?

No need to check in with staff, but feel free to connect with us. We encourage you to tell your clients that you have booked with us, and are helping protect the Nature Reserves!