



*The Couchiching  
Conservancy* 

# PASSPORT TO NATURE

**FREE & LOW COST EVENTS ALL YEAR LONG!**



# WELCOME!

The Couchiching Conservancy's Passport to Nature has been created with YOU in mind – those who want to explore the wild outdoors, experience new things and meet nice people. To make the most of your Passport, here are five basic steps to plan your next adventure and get involved with your local land trust.

1

## PLAN

Read this booklet for information on events, activities and visiting the nature reserves.

2

## REGISTER & DOWNLOAD

Visit our website to sign up for events and activities. Registration for in person events opens two months in advance.

3

## ATTEND!

Yes, the best part! Take part in downloadable activities or in-person events. Remember to dress for the weather, bring water, wear good footwear, leave your dogs at home, and be prepared for biting insects and seasonal conditions. Please arrive a few minutes before the start time for in person events.

4

## SHARE

We love seeing you share your experiences and photos. Use #WildwithCC and tag us on Facebook or Instagram at @couchichingconservancy.

5

## PROTECT NATURE

Get involved in local conservation efforts! Sign up for our monthly newsletter, volunteer, become a member or donor. As a non-profit charity, we rely on people like you to take the next step and actively contribute to make our work possible!

# THANK YOU

To our wonderful committee for bringing this program to life: Kathy Hunt, Janet Machan, Jamie Ross, Jane Sloley, Susan Crowe, Janine Turnbull, Tanya Clark and Madeleine Fournier. And to our Board of Directors for all of their support! Thanks to our talented event leaders who share their time and expertise. And of course to the businesses who have supported this program and our conservation efforts. We couldn't do it without all of you!

# Cuisinart

## Oceanware Collection

Handles crafted from recycled fishing nets





# PASSPORT TO NATURE IS ORGANIZED BY...

*The Couchiching  
Conservancy*



We are a non-profit, non-government land trust dedicated to protecting nature today, for current and future generations. Our work is powered by community members, supporters, businesses, volunteers and foundations. Since 1993, we have helped protect over 14,900-acres of wilderness – an area double the size of the City of Orillia!

We operate on the territory of the Anishnaabeg.

**Want to learn more & get involved? Reach out to us!**

OFFICE: 1485 Division Rd West, Severn, ON L3V 0X6

[couchichingconserv.ca](http://couchichingconserv.ca) | 705 326 1620



**@couchichingconservancy**

## QUICK STATS

### ESTABLISHED

in 1993

### PROTECTED PLACES

57 nature reserves & easements

### TRAILS

23.5km among 13 nature reserves



**Finished with  
your Passport?**  
Pass it to a friend!

# CALENDAR

## YEAR ROUND & SELF-GUIDED

Road Trip of the Wildlands  
Road Trip of Carden

**Sat, May 11:** Discover Trails Day  
**May 24 - 25:** Carden Challenge  
**Sat, June 1 :** Wildflower Photography  
**Sat, June 15:** Pride in Nature  
**Sat, July 20:** Grassland Flora Walk  
**Sat, Aug 3:** Paddle Party  
**Sat, Aug 17:** Wheels & Wetlands

**Sat, Sept 28:** Indigenous-led Hike & Sharing Circle

**Sun, Oct 6:** Painting in the Wildlands

**Sun, Nov 17:** Afternoon at the Movies

## 2025

**Sat, Jan 25:** Children's Story Walk

**Fri, Feb 14:** Full Moon Night Snowshoe

**Mar:** Annual General Meeting

## THANKS TO OUR PROGRAM SPONSORS

*Proud Sponsors of  
The Couchiching Conservancy*



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Phone 705-326-7371

Front cover photo ID: Yellow Warbler (T. Rowland), Grassland Bird Walk participants (N. Rulff), American Bullfrog (T. Rowland), volunteer (J. Horne), Paddle Party (K. Hunt).  
Back cover photo ID: Trees (C. Pellerin), Midland Painted Turtle (T. Rowland).



# PLAN YOUR VISIT TO OUR NATURE RESERVES

## DID YOU KNOW...

Many of the nature reserves The Couchiching Conservancy and partners help to protect have marked walking trails! On-going care of these reserves, including seasonal trail maintenance, is made possible by our members, volunteers and supporters.

There are a few simple and clear rules as a visitor to these places for everyone's benefit. Please treat these nature reserves as a gift. You can read the trail etiquette on the opposite page. They are open to the public at no cost but donations are gratefully accepted.

There are over 23km of trails between the following nature reserves:

- Adams
- Agnew
- Alexander Hope Smith
- Cameron Ranch (CAPP)
- Carthew Bay
- Church Woods
- Grant's Woods\*
- East Coulson Swamp (NCC)
- Starr Sanctuary
- Reid
- Scout Valley
- Sweetwater Farm
- Sedge Wren Marsh (CAPP)

See them all by flipping to the map on the centre page!

\*Make a booking with the office for groups, classrooms or photography sessions  
CAPP = Carden Alvar Provincial Park    NCC = Nature Conservancy of Canada

## GET THE MAPS ALL IN ONE PLACE!

**TAG US!**  
@couchiching  
conservancy  
#WildwithCC

Sign up to receive access to all of our Trail Maps. We'll keep you updated on our conservation efforts after that!





# TRAIL ETIQUETTE

1

## TREAD LIGHTLY

Visit the reserves for nature appreciation and low impact activities. Enjoy 'passive recreation' such as walking, birding, snowshoeing.

2

## KNOW YOUR ROUTE

Download a map, and stay on the **marked trails**. Be prepared for the trail conditions. Let someone know about your plans.

3

## BE AWARE

Pay attention to your surroundings and changes in the weather. Watch for plants & animals, make space for others.

4

## LEAVE NO TRACE

Do not take anything from the forest, this is poaching. This includes mushrooms, flowers, berries, sticks, etc. Take home any litter you bring and pick up after your pet.

5

## DOGS ON LEASH

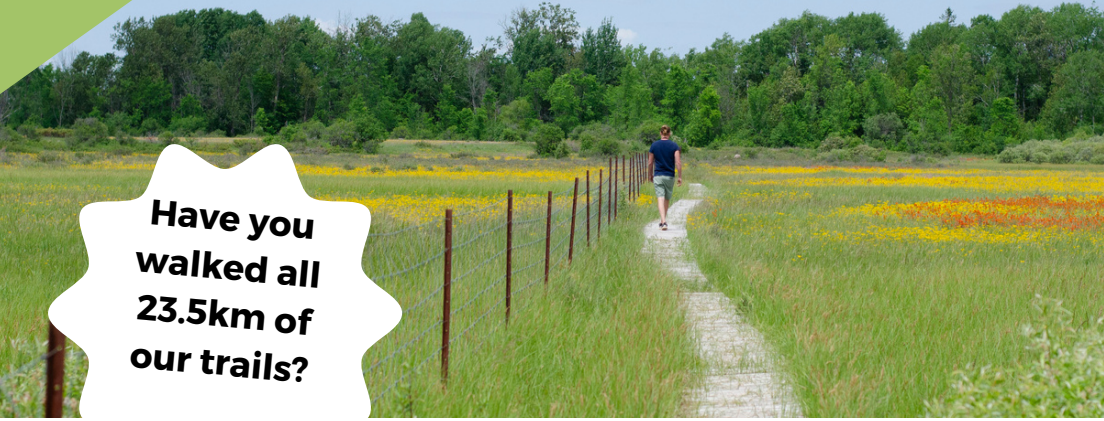
Do not let any pet off leash. This damages the reserve, and is disrespectful of wildlife and other visitors.



**Outdoor activities have inherent risks - use of our trail systems is done at your own risk.**

# DISCOVER TRAILS DAY

SAT, MAY 11 10AM - 2PM



**Have you  
walked all  
23.5km of  
our trails?**



Three locations



Drop-in event,  
no registration required



Donations  
Appreciated

Kick off this year's Passport program with Discover Trails Day! This is your opportunity to discover The Couchiching Conservancy's nature reserves with trails. Connect with volunteer trail ambassadors at one of three locations. Pick up resources, do an activity and learn about what you could see along the trails.

## **Volunteers will be at the following locations:**

Grant's Woods Nature Reserve: 10am - 2pm

Cameron Ranch Nature Reserve: 10am - 2pm

Orillia Fairgrounds Farmers' Market: 9am - 1pm

Photo ID: The trail at Cameron Ranch Nature Reserve (S. Vessios). Dogs on leash at our trails is a requirement to protect the habitat and keep your pup and others safe! (C. Pellerin), the '52 Fargo at Grant's Woods Nature Reserve (A. Aggarwal). Opposite page: A section of the trail at Grant's Woods is accessible.





## ! DID YOU KNOW...

In 2023, we upgraded 230 meters of trail at Grant's Woods Nature Reserve to be fully physically accessible. Wheelchairs, walkers, strollers...all abilities have an easier use of this section of the woods thanks to community partners, donors and volunteers.



## THANKS TO OUR EVENT SPONSOR



**YOUR  
GREEN  
LEGACY,  
FOREVER**

Members of the Past Presidents Council created the Heartwood Fund, a protected endowment, to support the core of The Couchiching Conservancy. Legacy gifts help grow this fund to ensure that the mission to protect nature continues forever.

# CARDEN CHALLENGE

**COUNT SPECIES.  
RAISE MONEY.  
PROTECT NATURE.**

- Any experience level;
- Count as many species as possible in 24 hours;
- Raise money to protect the Carden Alvar;
- Win prizes & trophies!



DATE

**MAY 24 - 25**



TIME

**6PM - 6PM**

LOCATION

**CARDEN ALVAR  
OR YOUR HOME**

## HOW YOU CAN CONTRIBUTE

- Form a team;
- Donate;
- Spread the word.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

[tanya@couchconservancy.ca](mailto:tanya@couchconservancy.ca)  
[couchichingconserv.ca](http://couchichingconserv.ca)  
705-326-1620

Pictured: Ruby-throated Hummingbird (G. Jaski), Challenge participants, Ovenbird (T. Rowland)





# YOUTH CONSERVATION OPPORTUNITIES

The Couchiching Conservancy is offering a new youth community science program that will provide opportunities for local youth (between the ages of 15 and 30) to participate in conservation projects. **The Angela Rehorn Commemorative Project**, will allow youth to be involved in making roads safer for wildlife and removing fences on the landscape, and will also introduce them to options available for a career in conservation.

This project has been made possible through the Commemoration Fund for the Victims of the Ethiopian Airlines Flight 302 Tragedy, which honours the Canadian victims and their families.

The Youth Stewardship program is made of three core seasonal initiatives, all aimed to protect and conserve natural landscapes and enhance habitat connectivity:

- **Trail Cams:** This is your opportunity to become a wildlife documentarian- your trail camera setup will contribute to the documentation of the reserve's biodiversity;
- **Release the Wild:** We will guide you through the process of identifying and dismantling harmful fencing;
- **Wildlife on Roads:** Learn how to document and submit data from observations, helping us identify where wildlife is crossing roads to access nature reserves, whether or not they cross successfully, and how current road design and infrastructure effect these statistics.

Dates for workshops are on our website!



## LEARN MORE



To learn more:  
Alysha Henry  
Youth Stewardship Coordinator  
alysha@couchconservancy.ca



[couchichingconserv.ca/youth-engagement](http://couchichingconserv.ca/youth-engagement)

# ROADTRIP OF CARDEN

**ANYTIME!** We recommend the spring



Carden Alvar



Register on our website



Donations appreciated

Looking to explore a new region but don't know where to go? We've got your itinerary planned for you! This do it yourself road trip takes you to a globally rare landscape with over 200 bird species who call this area home.

Trip highlights are scenic viewpoints, rare species and plants, and visiting three different nature reserves with trails.

Download our guide to receive insider tips from locals, ensuring an unforgettable exploration of the region. If you make a generous donation exceeding \$50, we'll mail you a physical copy of this guide. Get set for a day filled with wonder!

Photo ID: Balsam Ragwort (S. Vessios), Cedarhurst Nature Reserve (T. Clark).  
Opposite page: Alvar landscape (S. Vessios), Killdeer (T. Rowland).

## ! DID YOU KNOW...

**The Carden Alvar is one of the largest and most significant collections of alvars in the world. The 42,576-acre Carden Alvar Natural Area contains a mixture of alvar, forest, wetland and grassland.**



## THANKS TO OUR EVENT SPONSOR

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# WILDFLOWER PHOTOGRAPHY

**SAT, JUNE 1 9:30AM - 12PM**

**Discover the  
Carden Alvar!**



**Cameron Ranch  
Nature Reserve**



**Max: 16 people  
Register on our website**



**\$15 per  
person**

Join local photographers Deb Halbot (Through My Eyes Photography) and Nicole Rulff (N. Rulff Photography & Art) to examine the three elements of photography with a focus on the unique wildflowers found in the Carden Alvar. Appropriate lenses, apertures, lighting scenarios and perspectives will be discussed as we create beautiful images of Castilleja (commonly known as Painted Cup), Field Chickweed, Balsam Ragwort, and the iconic Prairie Smoke. Dress appropriately for the weather, including tick awareness (pants tucked into socks, shirts tucked into pants). Bring your curiosity, your artistic vision, and your questions!

Photo ID: 2019 Spring Flower Photography event (C. Curran), Deb Halbot (C. Curran), Chickweed (T. Clark), Painted cup - Castilleja (T. Rowland).



# THANKS TO OUR EVENT PARTNERS



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The Frenette-Ling Family  
would like to honour The  
Couchiching Conservancy  
and all the creatures they  
protect by supporting the  
Passport to Nature

## TESTIMONY

“The Passport to Nature program has been so exceptional to take part in. It’s gotten me out into nature, learning new things and visiting local places I hadn’t heard of. I’ve gotten to paint scenic views along a calm summer riverside and hike through old growth forest. I’ve met beautiful souls from all walks of life. Even if I join on my own the medley of community members has always been so welcoming and friendly.”

- Kirsten Weiss

# PRIDE IN NATURE

SAT, JUNE 15 1PM - 3PM



Grant's Woods  
Nature Reserve



Max: 20 people  
Register on our website



Donations  
Appreciated

Join Lake Country Pride and The Couchiching Conservancy in celebrating Pride Month with a nature walk for members of the queer community and allies. This walk will be an opportunity to explore Grant's Woods, and learn about ecology as it relates to Queer Theory along the way! Sheena Tolland (HBASc), a volunteer with the Conservancy and Max McKenzie (BSc, MA) from Lake Country Pride will serve as your guides. We'll be identifying plant and animal species, learning about the ecosystem, and discussing the diversity of identities and expression found in nature. Grab your rainbow gear and come enjoy Pride in Nature with us!

Photo ID: Monarch Butterfly, Swallowtail, Bumblebee (J. Burnie).  
Opposite page: Eastern Wood-pewee (T. Rowland).





# ! DID YOU KNOW...

Numerous studies show the physical and mental health benefits of spending time in nature. It is known to reduce stress and blood pressure, and boosts cognitive performance including memory and creativity.



## THANKS TO OUR EVENT PARTNERS

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The advertisement features a dark blue background on the left with white text. On the right, there is a photograph of two wine bottles (one dark, one pink) and a vineyard with a wooden trellis structure.

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The advertisement features a white background on the left with blue and red text. On the right, there is a photograph of a large white Hammond motor coach bus parked in front of the Toronto skyline, including the CN Tower.

# GRASSLAND FLORA WALK

SAT, JULY 20 9:30AM - 12PM



Deverell-Morton  
Nature Reserve



Max: 15 people  
Register on our website



\$15 per  
person

Join this walk on one of our newest nature reserves led by botanist and ecologist Dale Leadbeater who will share the history, geography, and geology of the area, its landforms and habitats and how those influenced the flora that is here today.

Dale has worked in the field of environmental assessment since 1978. Her areas of expertise include landscape ecology, vegetation analysis, wildlife assessment, and wetland evaluation, mitigation and restoration. Dale is on the Board of The Couchiching Conservancy. With Anne Barbour, Dale co-authored the book *The Flora of the Kawarthas*.

Photo ID: Participants at last year's Grassland Flora Walk event (N. Rulff).





**At one of our  
newest nature  
reserves!**

## THANKS TO OUR EVENT PARTNER



## TESTIMONY

**"In 2023, my husband and I went to three passport events. The first was in the spring to see grassland birds. Later in August we took part in a pleasant woodland walk about trees. Our third event was a mushroom walk in September in Grant's Woods. We identified many interesting species thanks to the knowledgeable guides. I'm hoping to be able to do more passport events in 2024. Thanks very much to all those who organize and lead these events!"**

**- Lindy Small**

# PADDLE PARTY

**SAT, AUG 3 10AM - 1PM**



Reid  
Nature Reserve



Max: 15 people  
Register on our website



Donations  
Appreciated

This paddle on the historic Black River is led by Phil Careless, Ontario Parks biologist. The route will take paddlers from the Rosebush Landing entry to the foot of Ragged Rapids and back. Along the way, our leader will intrigue you with interesting facts about the riparian landscape and local species, including one of the most endangered animals in North America. Bring your own canoe or kayak (no inflatables allowed). Life jackets are mandatory and must be worn. Dress for the weather. The Reid Nature Reserve is one of our wildest properties, at 729-acres, it's connected to the Queen Elizabeth II Wildlands Provincial Park. Register fast – this event is popular!

Photo ID: Participants at last year's Paddle Party event (K. Hunt, H. Kerslake), Aerial shot of Ron Reid Nature Reserve (C. Pellerin).





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**! DID YOU KNOW...**

**The Conservancy has important partnerships with Nature Conservancy of Canada, Ontario Parks and other organizations. We do more for nature together!**

# WHEELS & WETLANDS

**SAT, AUG 17 10AM - 12PM**



Grant Wetland,  
Wilson Pt Wetland



Max: 12 people  
Register on our website



Donations  
Appreciated

Grab your bike and join a guided cycling tour of an important watershed within the City of Orillia. You will learn about a hidden gem in our community – a rare cold-water stream that needs to be protected and restored. This will be a leisurely 15 km bike ride, beginning at Couchiching Beach Park. We will explore the flow of Sundial Creek, making stops at Grant and Wilson Wetland. Conservancy Board Members Jane Bonsteel and Bob Sullivan will share information about these properties and the biology and history of this unique stream, a spawning ground for brook trout and a refuge from the urban landscape for many species.

Photo ID: Dorthea, Bob, and Jane Cycling Sundial Creek (K. Hunt), Joelle and Tanya cycling, Green Frog (T. Rowland).



# ! DID YOU KNOW...

North Orillia is fortunate to have a rare cold water stream supporting Brook Trout in its midst, but it is gradually declining in health due to urbanization. We have information about Sundial Creek and action you can take on our website.

## THANKS TO OUR EVENT SPONSOR

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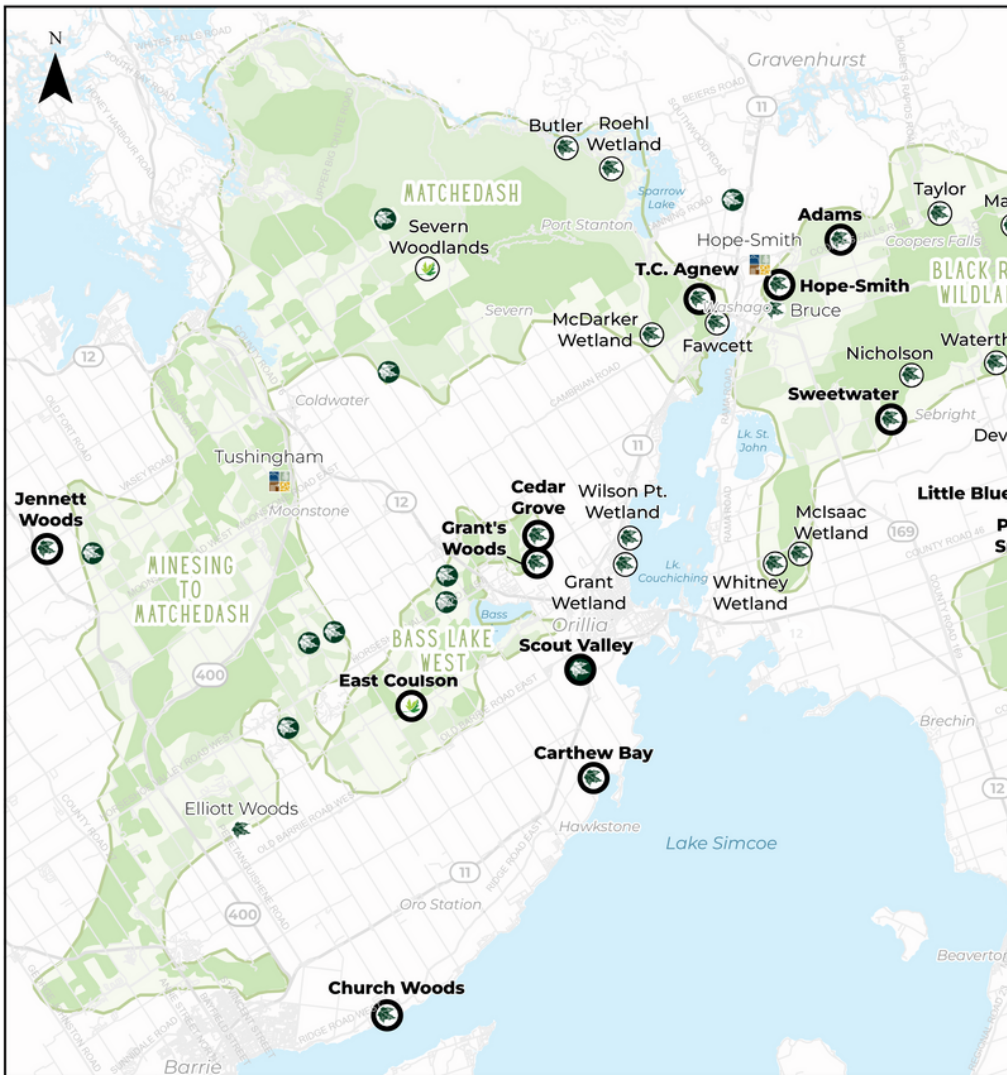


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[MARCI@MARCI.CA](mailto:MARCI@MARCI.CA)

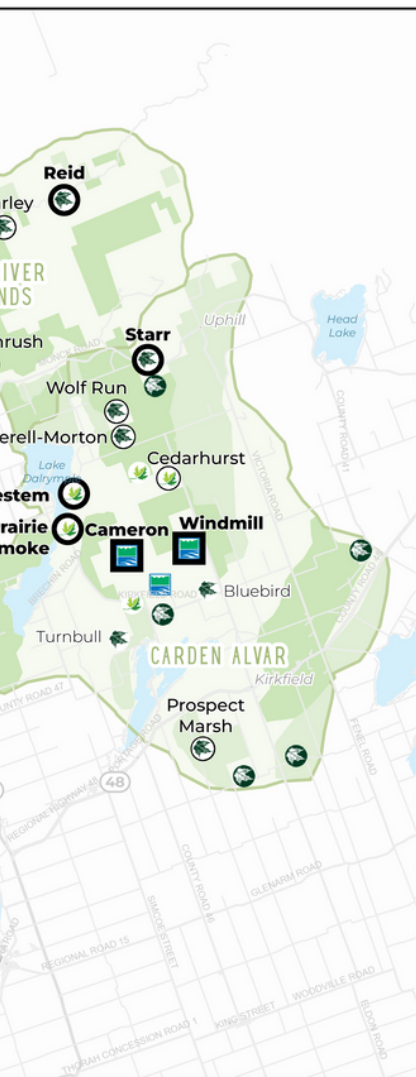
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Created by The Couchiching Conservancy, April, 2024. Projected coordinate system NAD 1983 UTM 17N. Contains information licensed under the Open Government License, conceptualized by Ron Reid and The Couchiching Conservancy and digitized by Kawartha Conservation (2020). This is an artistic rendering and is not meant to represent the territory of the Anishinaabeg.








Government Licence – Ontario); Priority areas and conservation corridors are for navigation or legal purposes. Contact for details. The land on which




## PROTECTED BY:

-  The Couchiching Conservancy
-  The Couchiching Conservancy Conservation Easement
-  Nature Conservancy of Canada
-  Ontario Heritage Trust
-  Ontario Parks

## ACCESS:

-  **Open to public with trails**
-  Use at own risk
-  Closed to the public

## AREAS OF INTEREST FOR CONSERVATION:

-  Conservation Corridor
-  Priority 1 Zone
-  Priority 2 Zone



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[www.sojournoutdoors.com](http://www.sojournoutdoors.com)

# ROADTRIP OF THE WILDLANDS

**ANYTIME!** We recommend the fall



Black River  
Wildlands



Register on our website



Donations  
Appreciated

Looking to explore a new region but don't know where to go? We've got your itinerary planned for you! This do it yourself road trip takes you to the Black River Wildlands. Home to hundreds of species, the Wildlands is a mixture of wetlands, forests and magnificent Canadian Shield. There is so much to explore.

Trip highlights are scenic viewpoints, beautiful streams, creeks, and forests, and visiting two different nature reserves with trails.

Download our guide to receive insider tips from locals, ensuring an unforgettable exploration of the region. If you make a generous donation exceeding \$50, we'll mail you a physical copy of this guide. Get set for a day filled with wonder!

Photo ID: Adams Nature Reserve (C. Pellerin).





## ! DID YOU KNOW...

The Black River Wildlands is one of our priority areas for protection. This mosaic of open marshes, majestic soft maple swamps, and coniferous wetlands is interspersed with clay and sand deposits, rock outcrops, and organic soils. It is home to Species at Risk, creates natural flood control, connection to other protected areas and more.

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*Would your friends like to come?*

# INDIGENOUS-LED HIKE & SHARING CIRCLE

**SAT, SEPT 28 10AM - 12PM**



Grant's Woods  
Nature Reserve



Max: 20 people  
Register on our website



Donations  
Appreciated

**Stories of the land:** A sharing of Indigenous teachings and stories based on a deep connection to the land and lessons passed down through generations. Dr. Sharla Mskokii Peltier and Elder Mark Douglas from Mnjikaning (Rama) First Nation will lead a leisurely walk through Grant's Woods (approximately 2km), culminating in a story and sharing circle in the forest. This event is open to both Indigenous community members and allies.

Photo ID: Grant's Woods Sharing Circle, Bench, Trail Signs (S. Vessios), Sharing Circle sign (M. Fournier).





## ! DID YOU KNOW...

We estimate that over 7,000 people visit this reserve each year! One of our most important volunteer jobs belongs to Grant's Greeters. They help connect with these visitors and ensure everyone leaves no trace in the woods.

## THANKS TO OUR EVENT PARTNERS



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tradition to another,  
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# PAINTING IN THE WILDLANDS

SUN, OCT 6 10AM - 1PM



Adams  
Nature Reserve



Max: 16 people  
Register on our website

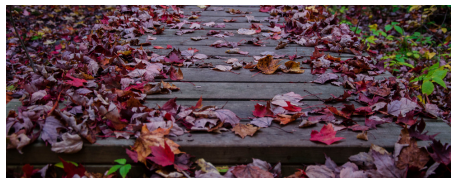


\$15 per  
person

Join Doug Cooper, a well-known artist from Washago, for an outdoor acrylic painting workshop. This 3-hour workshop will take place at Adams Nature Reserve located off of Coopers Falls Road, approximately 5km west of the village of Washago, providing stunning vistas to inspire you.

Participants are asked to bring their own painting supplies and dress for the weather as it will go rain or shine. So, sign up, come out and partake in this “plein air” experience!

Photo ID: Participants at last year's Painting in the Wildlands event (N. Rulff), a leaf covered trail (S. Vessios).





# THANKS TO OUR EVENT PARTNERS



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## ! DID YOU KNOW...

The Couchiching Conservancy is always working to acquire and protect new environmentally significant areas. Some land donations or acquisitions can take years to go through the entire process. That is one reason that having on-going support from people like you is so important.

# AFTERNOON AT THE MOVIES

SUN, NOV 17 1PM - 3PM



Lakehead  
University



Watch for details on our  
website and newsletter



Donations  
Appreciated

Join us as we view and discuss a thought-provoking documentary film about what impacts the natural world around us and how we can better preserve it. The title of the film will be published at a later date but prior to the registration deadline. This engaging and educational film will be introduced by Dr. Gerardo Reyes, Assistant Professor at Lakehead University in the Departments of Biology and Sustainability Sciences and subject matter expert on Environmental Issues, Biodiversity, Climate Change, Population Ecology, and Sustainable Development.

Photo ID: Eastern Red-backed Salamander (T. Rowland), Beaver (A. Aggarwal), Carden Alvar (S. Vessios).







## ! DID YOU KNOW...

We recently celebrated our 30th anniversary! The Couchiching Conservancy was founded by a group of passionate nature lovers in 1993. Their dreams have come a long way: we now protect over 14,900-acres of wilderness between over 50 nature reserves and easements.

## THANKS TO OUR EVENT SPONSORS



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# CHILDREN'S STORY WALK

SAT, JAN 25 10AM - 12PM



In partnership with



Scout Valley



Register on our website



Donations Appreciated

We invite you to a unique walk in the woods! The library staff have chosen a special nature story for you to read page by page, as you hike through beautiful Scout Valley. January 25th happens to be Family Literacy Day! You will also enjoy time with your family as you look for unique natural features along your walk. Follow our scavenger hunt to look for evidence of animals passing or to identify and learn about natural features of the forest. Finish your walk at Regan House with a warm cider, a craft and place your entry into our scavenger hunt prize draw.

Photo ID: Participants at last year's Children's Story Walk event (N. Rulff).



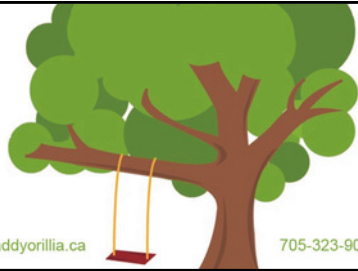


# THANKS TO OUR EVENT PARTNERS



COME IN AND PLAY!

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# FULL MOON NIGHT SNOWSHOE

**FRI, FEB 14 8PM - 10PM**



East Coulson  
Swamp



Max: 15 people  
Register on our website



\$15 per  
person

Bundle up and embark on a magical winter adventure at East Coulson Swamp (NCC). Under the glow of the full moon, explore the snow-covered landscape on a snowshoe trek while our knowledgeable guides share insights into the ecology of the area. Please bring your own snowshoes.

Event guides: Chase Moser, (M.Sc. Biology), is a member of the Biology & Sustainability Sciences staff at Lakehead University & Jamie Ross, (B.Sc. Biology, B.Ed.), Past President of the Couchiching Conservancy, has held multiple volunteer roles at the Conservancy.

Photo ID: Winter snowshoeing at TC Agnew Nature Reserve (T. Clark).



# THANKS TO OUR EVENT SPONSORS

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## Here to help with Federal Services

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3W-366 Midland Avenue  
Midland, Ontario  
L4R 3K7  
705-527-7654

### Orillia Office

575 West Street South, Suite 12  
Orillia, Ontario  
L3V 7N6  
705-327-0513



[adamchambersmp.ca](http://adamchambersmp.ca)



[adam@adamchambersmp.ca](mailto:adam@adamchambersmp.ca)



**ADAM CHAMBERS**

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## ! DID YOU KNOW...

This is the 10-year anniversary of our popular Passport to Nature program. Our program has inspired other environmental non-profits across the country to use the same model for their own activities.

# ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

MARCH 2025



March, stay tuned for the date



Watch our website and newsletter for details

**Save the date!** Our Annual General Meeting is our most important event of the year, where we recap the past year's activities and share what is next. We recognize supporters and volunteers, vote in the next Board of Directors and more.

Members have voting rights, and absolutely everyone is welcome to attend. This is a great chance to chat with others committed to protecting nature, ask questions and connect with the community.

Photo ID: Photos from last year's meeting by Joseph Horne. The audience, Board members Neil, Kathy, and Jack, Founders of The Couchiching Conservancy, guest speaker Waubgeshig Rice.





# GET OUT. CONNECT. PROTECT.

**You've visited the nature reserves, you understand the importance of protecting these landscapes - for species, for our community and for the future. So now what? Take action for nature today by making a gift!**

Your donation fuels our vital work, protecting ecosystems and promoting environmental stewardship. Together, let's create a sustainable future. Every contribution, big or small, powers positive change.

## **MAKE A GIFT TOWARDS:**

- Become a member (\$40 individual, \$60 family);
- Support monthly, like a nature subscription;
- Make a special gift to the Corridors Campaign;
- Buy a gift of nature for a loved one (and we can send them a card on your behalf!)

The Couchiching Conservancy is funded by people like you. People who take action to protect nature - who visit the nature reserves, who appreciate bird song, sunsets and butterflies. People who know that protecting wild landscapes is critical to our collective future.

## YOUR GIFT FOR NATURE

**ONLINE:** scan our QR code or visit [couchichingconserv.ca/donate](https://couchichingconserv.ca/donate)

**BY PHONE:** 705-326-1620

**MAIL:** cheque payable to The Couchiching Conservancy, mail to Box 704, Orillia, ON L3V 6K7

**IN PERSON:** 1485 Division Rd W, Severn, ON L3V 0X6. Open Monday to Friday.

Charitable Reg. Number: 13972 5030 RR0001



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## PROTECTING NATURE

Stay up-to-date on local conservation efforts and ways to get involved by signing up to our newsletter!

You will also be notified of other events such as nature reserve unveilings.







# PROTECT NATURE BY VOLUNTEERING



**Love the outdoors?  
Passionate about land  
conservation? Looking to  
connect with like-minded  
individuals? JOIN US!**

Volunteers are at the heart of our organization. They enable us to steward and manage over 50 nature reserves, drive projects and campaigns, and help build a community of supporters working to protect nature in the region. You can help monitor the nature reserves for species at risk, or talk with trail users. You could help in the office, or track wildlife on roads. We recruit annually in the winter.

**LEARN MORE ON OUR WEBSITE:**

[couchichingconserv.ca/how-to-help/volunteer](http://couchichingconserv.ca/how-to-help/volunteer)

## THANKS TO OUR PROGRAM SPONSORS


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# COMMUNITY FUNDRAISERS



## TOUR THE TASTE OF ITALY

 Sat, June 15  
3pm - 6pm


Music by L'italiano fortunato gratta & Appetizers  
Tour the historic Grant family home  
Tickets are \$40 in advance, with proceeds supporting The Couchiching Conservancy

 Grant on Brant 159 Lacile Street Orillia

Tickets: 705-500-5530 or  
grantonbrant@gmail.com



## BLUMOOSE ALVAR RIDE

 Sat, Sept 7  
8:30am


Travel along the beautiful, gravel and tarmac roads of Simcoe County and Kawartha Lakes during this annual event in memory of Danya Leemhuis. The ride encompasses the extraordinary Carden Alvar Provincial Park.

 Carden Alvar. 95km or 140km route.


Details & Registration: [www.theblumoose.com](http://www.theblumoose.com)



## MASQUERADE BALL

 Thurs, Oct 31  
7pm - 11pm

To the spirit of Moonshine Willy  
Come dressed in period pieces

 Grant on Brant 159 Lacile Street Orillia

Tickets: 705-500-5530 or  
grantonbrant@gmail.com

# THANKS TO OUR PROGRAM SPONSORS



ANGELA REHHORN  
Inspiring Others, Changing The World

"The Passport to Nature program inspires people to connect with nature. It is our honour to support this program in memory of our daughter and sister, Angela."

The Rehhorn Family

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SEE OUR EVENT CALENDAR  
FOR MORE EVENTS!

[couchichingconserv.ca/about-us/events-calendar/](http://couchichingconserv.ca/about-us/events-calendar/)

# THANKS TO OUR PROGRAM SPONSORS



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# PROTECT NATURE, BE ENTERED TO WIN!

Protect nature, one stamp at a time. Complete the challenges and stamp each one. Once you have at least three stamped, bring it into our office at Grant's Woods Nature Reserve (1485 Division Rd W Severn, ON) to be entered into a draw to win one of three prizes!

**Draw dates and prizes:**

Aug 3 at Paddle Party: two passes to Braestone Golf Club

Nov 17 at Nature Documentary: Four snowtubing passes to Horseshoe Resort

March at our Annual Meeting: prize from The Crank & Sprocket Bicycle Co.



Sign up for our e-newsletter



Become a member for \$40 or \$60



Pass your booklet onto a friend



Attend a Passport event



Hike at one of our nature reserves



Identify three new birds



Follow us on social media



Support a sponsor



Pick up 10 pieces of litter



# I'M TAKING ACTION FOR NATURE!

**Name(s):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Contact info (☎/✉):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Tell us about your experiences:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## MAKE A GIFT

**Making a donation:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Becoming a member:**  \$40, individual  \$60, family

**Giving via:**

**Visa/Mastercard:** \_\_\_\_\_

Expiry: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ CVC: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**Cheque** made out to The Couchiching Conservancy

**Etransfer** sent to info@couchconservancy, password Nature

## THANKS TO OUR PRIZE SPONSORS



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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.newscientist.com/article/2217483-plastic-tea-bags-shed-billions-of-microplastic-particles-into-the-cup/>



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*The Couchiching  
Conservancy*



## PROTECTING NATURE FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS

Founded in 1993, The Couchiching Conservancy is a non-profit, non-government land trust powered by people like YOU. Together, we are dedicated to protecting nature.

### HOW YOU CAN HELP

- Become a member
- Volunteer your time
- Grow into a monthly giver
- Share this booklet with a friend



### CONNECT WITH US

[couchichingconserv.ca](http://couchichingconserv.ca)  
705-326-1620

LET'S BE FRIENDS!



@couchichingconservancy

