

## Your Guide to Connect with Nature

The Couchiching Conservancy has a number of nature reserves with trails that are open to the public. Sometimes going to a new trail can be a little intimidating for the first time, and it's hard to know which trail to pick. Sometimes information from other online sites and apps is inconsistent and even incorrect. That's why we have put together this guide to help you!

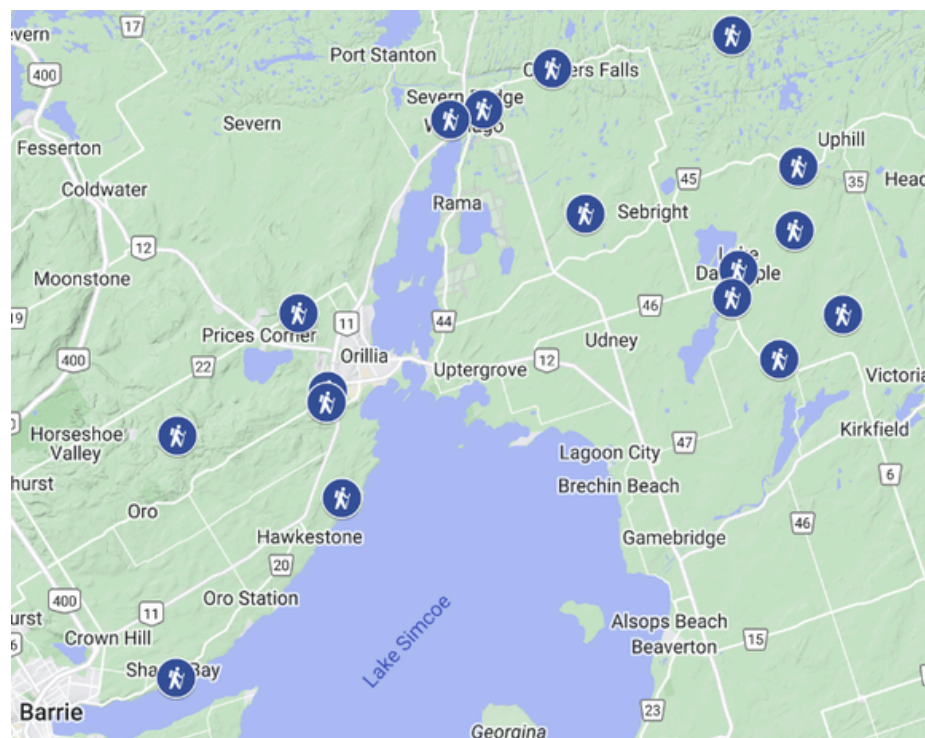
## Visitor Guidelines

### Do:

- Enjoy the trail with friends and family;
- Enjoy 'passive recreation' like walking or birding;
- Stay on the trail;
- Take photos;
- Make a booking with us for groups, classrooms or photography sessions for Grant's Woods Nature Reserve;
- Tell someone where you are going if walking alone.

### Do Not:

- Let any pet off leash. This damages the reserve, and is harmful of wildlife and other visitors;
- Take anything from the property, this is poaching. This includes mushrooms, flowers, berries sticks, etc;
- Release any wildlife you have caught;
- Litter – take home anything you bring and pick up after your pet.



### SPECIAL NOTES:

Hunting can occur in properties surrounding our nature reserves and precautions should be taken during hunting season, such as wearing bright colours like hunter orange and exercising caution at dawn and dusk.

Please read our drone policy on our Nature Reserves & Easement page.

The biggest issue that we deal with is dogs off leash and the impact it has not only on the nature reserve, but the species who live there and your fellow trail visitors. Please look for local off leash dog parks if you are not able to follow this rule.

Did you know...

14,938

ACRES

protected since 1993

57

RESERVES & EASEMENTS

## About Us

The Couchiching Conservancy is a non-profit, charitable land trust dedicated to protecting nature. We are in a time of twin crises - climate change and biodiversity loss. By securing and protecting environmentally significant landscapes now, we can combat those issues and ensure we are ready for whatever the future may bring. Our work is powered by members, donors, volunteers, business and foundations. We have a small staff team, and hundreds of volunteers. Our entire community benefits from the work we do, from butterflies and birds, to mammals and amphibians. It makes sense that it takes a community to do this work!

## Trail by region

### Orillia, Oro Medonte

Carthew Bay  
Church Woods  
Grant's Woods

Also in this area:

East Coulson Swamp (NCC)  
Scout Valley (City of Orillia)

### Carden

Kris Starr Sanctuary

Also in this area:

Cameron Ranch (CAPP)  
Prairie Smoke Alvar (NCC)  
Windmill Ranch - Sedge Wren  
Marsh Trail (CAPP)  
North Bear Alvar (NCC)

### Washago area

Adams  
Alexander Hope Smith  
Ron Reid  
Sweetwater Farm  
Thomas C. Agnew

## Where to next?

Not sure where to go? We can help! You can find details on these nature reserves on our website.

**Longest trail:** Alexander Hope Smith Nature Reserve

**Staff favourites:** Adams Nature Reserve for the Canadian Shield and pond views, Ron Reid Nature Reserve for views of Ragged Rapids, Sweetwater Farm Nature Reserve for the stream and beautiful forest

**Best for flowers:** Grant's Woods Nature Reserve for trilliums, or Carden Alvar for prairie smoke, balsam ragwort and others.

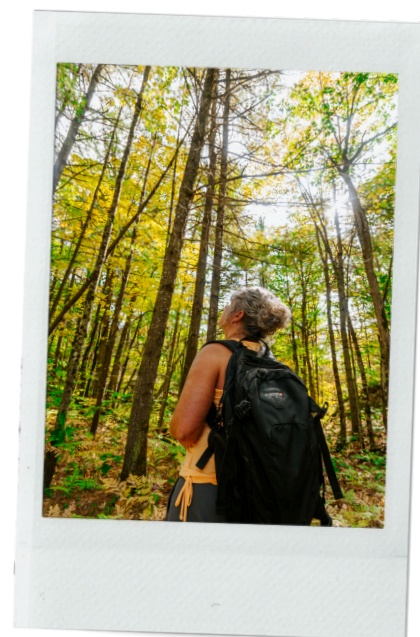
**Best for birds:** Carden, Wylie Road and Sedge Wren Marsh. Kris Starr Sanctuary for warblers.

**Most family friendly:** Grant's Woods Nature Reserve. Kids love the bridges and the old Fargo in the woods

**Wheelchair accessible:** Grant's Woods Nature Reserve has 230m of hard packed gravel

**Most popular:** definitely Grant's Woods Nature Reserve. The Fargo truck in the woods is famous!

**Don't miss:** Thomas C. Agnew Nature Reserve. Technically the trail is only 2km but the walk to get to the reserve is longer (depends on which way you access the property)



**Pictured, left to right:** Grant's Woods Nature Reserve (NR) has 230 meters of wheelchair accessible trail that is suitable for strollers or walkers as well, alvar landscapes, Alexander Hope Smith NR, dogs on leash is a must at all of our trails!