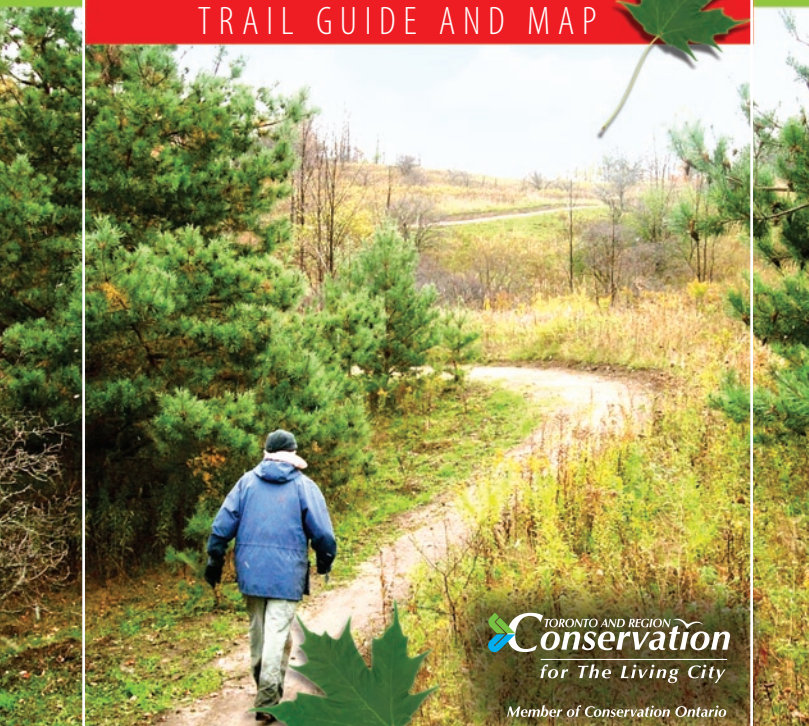


Walker Woods and Glen Major Forest

TRAIL GUIDE AND MAP



www.trca.on.ca

Emergency numbers

Police/Emergency Services..... 911

Information numbers

Toronto and Region Conservation..... 416-661-6600



5 Shoreham Drive, Downsview, Ontario M3N 1S4
Phone: 416-661-6600 Fax: 416-661-6898 www.trca.on.ca



Pictures: Hiking, cycling, Red-shouldered Hawk and Red Eft.

Walker Woods and Glen Major Forest

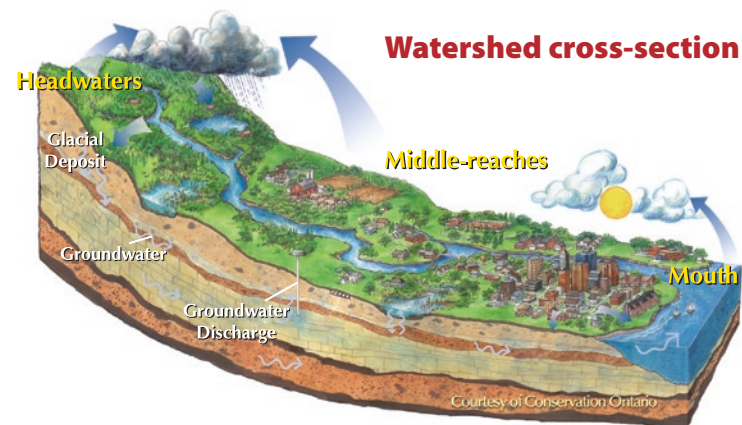
Duffins Creek watershed

The Duffins Creek Watershed stretches from the Oak Ridges Moraine to the Lake Ontario waterfront and covers an area of 28,300 hectares. This watershed is one of the healthiest river systems in the Toronto region. Over 50 per cent of the entire watershed is under the ownership or care of Toronto and Region Conservation (TRCA), federal and provincial governments and regional and local municipalities.

Oak Ridges Moraine

The Oak Ridges Moraine is one of the most distinct physiographic landforms of southern Ontario. It stretches as a ridge of hilly terrain for 160 kilometres from the Niagara Escarpment in the west to the headwaters of the Trent River in the east. The moraine was created as glaciers receded and deposited layers of sand and gravel that are separated by clay and till soils. Rain that is collected and stored in the moraine's vast underground layers of sand and gravel, which are known as aquifers, eventually resurfaces as healthy, clean water that feeds the majority of river systems in the Greater Toronto Area.

As a unique and valuable environmental asset, the moraine is a key water resource, an area rich in biodiversity and a beautiful landform. However, other land uses such as urban development and the extraction of sand and gravel compete for space on the moraine. Toronto and Region Conservation, other environmental organizations and citizens' groups have and will continue to work to preserve the moraine in its natural state.



Multi-use Trails – 74 kilometres

The multi-use trail network includes the Oak Ridges and Trans Canada trails and consists of a series of linked routes. The system provides users with a great variety of loop alternatives to explore over 1,500 hectares of forested area and experience significant natural heritage features and breathtaking vistas. The multi-use trails are all available for non-motorized, passive recreational use.

Trail marker posts are located at major trail intersections and other key locations. The posts are oriented to the north, are numbered and have directional signage including maps to help you navigate through the forest.

As you travel through the forest you will notice that some apparent trails are not shown on the map. Toronto and Region Conservation and our local trails committee have declared these trails as surplus and have closed them to minimize impact on the natural environment. Please respect "closed trail" signs.

Look for trail indicator signs (pictured below) that will let you know you are on an official trail and help to guide you in the correct direction. In addition, the Trans Canada and Oak Ridges trails have their own marking system, as outlined below.

We recommend the use of a compass when traveling on these trails if you are not familiar with the area.



Trail indicator



Trans Canada Trail – 8.1 kilometres

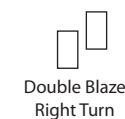
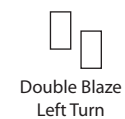
This section of the Trans Canada Trail (TCT) connects the Township of Uxbridge to the City of Pickering. The trail enters Walker Woods from the north at Concession Road 7, marker number 8, and winds west and south to the Uxbridge-Pickering Townline, east of Concession Road 6.



Oak Ridges Trail – 17.8 kilometres

The Oak Ridges Trail (ORT) is marked with white blazes on trees, rocks, fences, posts and stiles. Loop or side trails are marked with blue blazes. Each blaze is a vertical rectangle, about five centimetres wide and 15 centimetres tall (two inches by six inches). A single blaze shows the direction to proceed. A double blaze indicates a direction change in the trail.

The trail map shows access points to the ORT at marker numbers 3, 4, 5 and 8. Loop trails in the North Walker Woods property can be accessed from the main trail at marker numbers 3 and 4. Similarly the two loop trails in the main Walker Woods property can be accessed from the main trail running between the 6th and 7th concessions and at marker numbers 6 and 8.



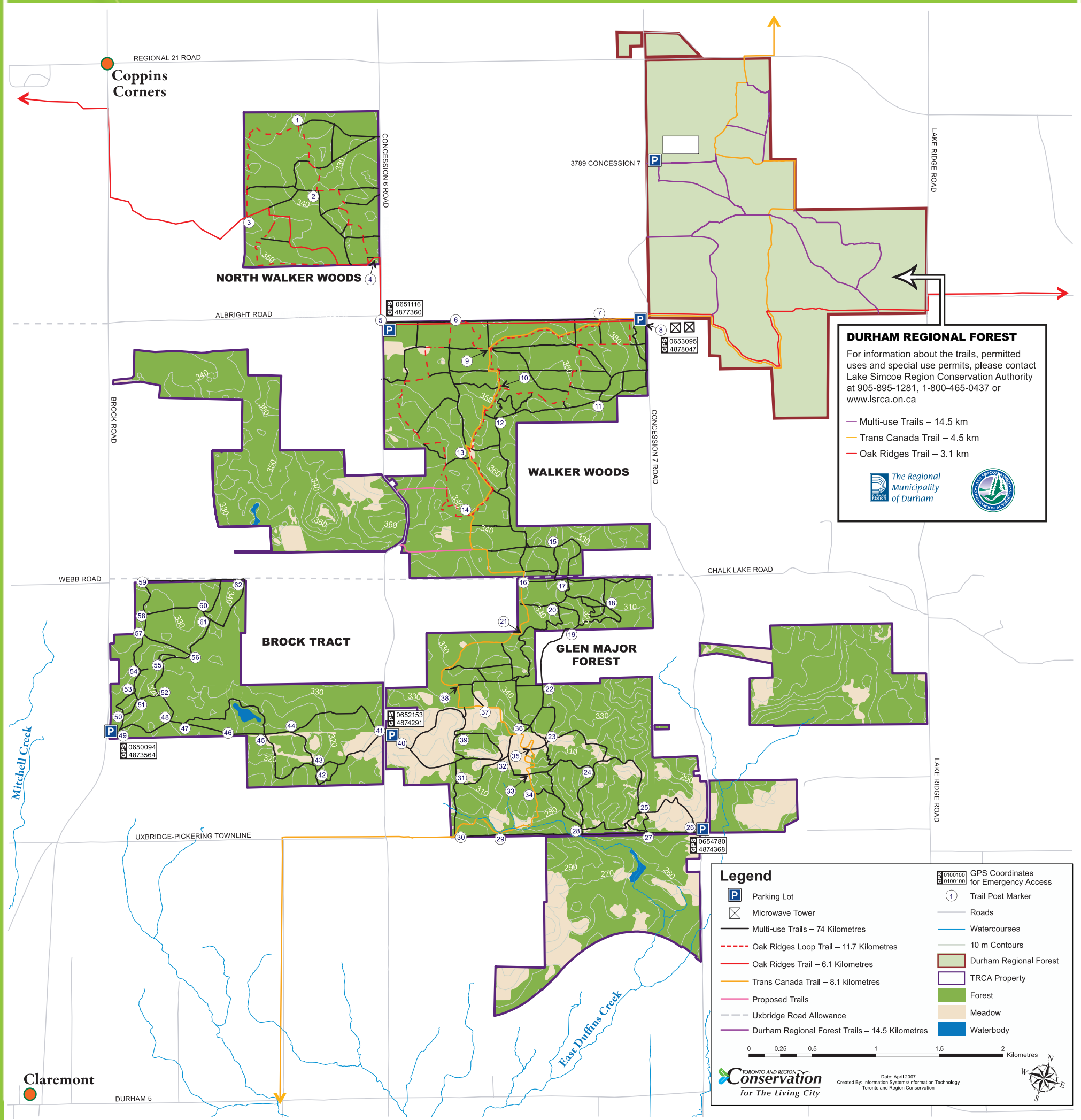
Welcome to the Walker Woods and Glen Major Forest—a priceless natural resource for current and future generations. We need your help to keep it in its natural state. Please respect the trail rules and sign information outlined in this guide.

This forest is owned by Toronto and Region Conservation (TRCA) and is an environmentally significant forest located on the Oak Ridges Moraine in the Duffins Creek watershed. This mixed deciduous and coniferous forest provides many important environmental functions including:

- Habitat and food supply for a variety of birds and wildlife.
- Improved air quality by producing oxygen.
- Clean water entering Duffins Creek and replenishing groundwater storage.
- Better water infiltration.
- Slope stabilization.

The Ontario Heritage Trust owns approximately 72 hectares of land situated between Walker Woods and Glen Major Forest. This property provides a strategic natural corridor which links the two TRCA properties. The Ontario Heritage Trust and TRCA established a partnership in 1978 to ensure the protection of the natural, cultural and scenic features of the properties.

Walker Woods and Glen Major Forest



Trail rules

- Keep on marked trails and off private land.
- Do not create new trails, openings or use shortcuts.
- Please keep your dog on a leash for safety and wildlife reasons. You are responsible for your pet.
- Hikers and cyclists yield to horseback riders.
- Cyclists yield to hikers.
- Do not pick or damage vegetation.
- Do not climb fences — use the stiles provided.
- Carry out all garbage.
- Do not light fires.
- Do not feed or aggressively approach wildlife, including birds.
- In the winter: hikers, snowshoers, bikers and equestrians should use one side of the trail, while skiers should use the other.

Safety on the trails

- Users of these trails bear full responsibility for their own safety, as well as the results of their own negligence.
- In the case of an emergency, call 911.
- Trails are open year-round. Conditions on trails will vary seasonally, especially in winter and wet weather. During seasonal transitions and periods of heavy rain, please avoid using wet trails as they are more vulnerable to erosion and damage.
 - Wear comfortable shoes and appropriate clothing for the weather, surroundings and insects.
 - Always carry adequate amounts of drinking water.
 - Ensure your children are within sight at all times.
 - Watch for trail blazes and markings to ensure you are going in the right direction.
 - Use a compass if you are not familiar with the area.
 - Be aware of poison ivy.
 - Trails may be temporarily closed to ensure user safety. Please respect “closed trail” signs.

Permitted activities

Passive activities including hiking, leashed-dog walking, cycling, horseback riding, cross-country skiing, snow-shoeing, bird watching and wildlife viewing are the only activities permitted on the designated trails within the property. All other activities constitute a trespass.



Hiking



Cross-country skiing



Horseback riding



Cycling



Poison Ivy

Parking areas and trail access points

Parking areas are shown on the trails map. For safety reasons, we encourage users to use these designated areas. Safe trail access is provided at all parking areas. Please do not attempt to access the trail at any other point.

Trail marker posts

These posts are numbered and are clearly shown on the trails map. They will allow you to orient yourself anywhere in the forest simply by reference of the map. The posts are oriented such that users are facing north when reading the maps.