

Land Acquisition

The addition of the latest 342 acres of Escarpment land to the Bruce Trail's Conservation Corridor supports wide ranging ecological functions, provides safe passage for animals and people, and preserves a stunning variety of flora and fauna for us all to enjoy and appreciate.



Lower Valley Road Nature Reserve

Photo: Brian Popelier

Lower Valley Road Nature Reserve – Beaver Valley Section

Once again, a tremendous thank you to all that donated funds and time to conserve this spectacular property. Lower Valley Road Nature Reserve is 66.78 acres and is one of a very few properties that provide a link between Eugenia Falls and Hogg's Falls in the upper Boyne/Beaver River system.

The property itself is terrifically varied, boasting a reverting orchard meadow, a rich, thriving wetland that feeds the Boyne River, high hog's back ridges and, most notably, a beautiful and extensive maturing hardwood forest interspersed occasionally with cedar and hemlock. The property stretches along the lovely, rustic Lower Valley Road and its acquisition has secured 1,300 m of Optimum Route.

The Lower Valley Road Nature Reserve can be found on the east side of Lower Valley Road in the vicinity of km 57.9 on Map 26 (28th Edition Bruce Trail Reference).

Daphne and Gordon Nicholls Nature Reserve – Beaver Valley Section

Long time members and supporters Daphne and Gordon Nicholls truly and fully committed themselves to furthering natural habitat conservation in Ontario. Active in promoting the need for land conservation in the Kitchener Waterloo area, and enjoying hiking and exploring the Beaver Valley in their free time, the Nicholls family were guided by Daphne's passion for the great outdoors.

Sadly, in August Daphne passed away. Her husband Gordon, their friends and family decided to memorialize Daphne and honour Gordon with a most fitting tribute: by creating the *Daphne and Gordon Nicholls Nature Reserve*. The Nature Reserve will be created in two phases, with the first 13.6 acres having been acquired in Fall 2016 and the adjacent 16.3 acres to be acquired in Spring/Summer 2017.

The Daphne and Gordon Nicholls Nature Reserve is located on the north side of County Road 40 in Euphrasia, Grey



Daphne and Gordon Nicholls Nature Reserve

Photo: Brian Popelier



Highlands. This new nature reserve, when completed, will secure a 550 m length of Optimum Route, and provide dry passage for the Trail on Escarpment upland. Importantly, it is a critical part of a continuous stretch of permanently protected land stretching from Webwood Falls in the south to Griersville to the north.

The Daphne and Gordon Nicholls Nature Reserve is south of km 103.1 on Map 28 (288th Edition Bruce Trail Reference). The Bruce Trail is not yet on the property; it will be established by Summer 2017 once the remaining land for the Reserve has been acquired, and a notice of the reroute will be placed in the Bruce Trail Magazine.

Otter Lake Nature Reserve – Peninsula section

Our sincerest thanks to all who supported the preservation of the Otter Lake Nature Reserve. The Reserve is actually two properties totalling 262 acres that Contain the 2,050 m Otter

Lake Side Trail.

The Otter Lake Nature Reserve is a haven for birds of many kinds, providing important habitat for breeding and migrating waterfowl, shorebirds and songbirds. Many of you attended our June fundraiser and were captivated by the Bald Eagle, Bobolink, American Kestrel, and spectacular Sand Hill Cranes that were seen that day.

The reserve's large wetland, karst and sinkholes, as well as its alvar, open meadows, and forested areas, all provide rich habitat for many creatures including Black Bear, Massasauga Rattlesnake and Mink, which were also seen at the June event.

The benefits of conserving this land reaches beyond its borders as it combines with neighbouring natural areas to create significant wildlife linkages that encourage species movement between the natural areas. The Otter Lake Nature Reserve is a true paradise and one we are proud to care for in perpetuity. It can be explored via the Otter Lake Side Trail, found on Map 29 (28th Edition Bruce Trail Reference). •



Otter Lake Nature Reserve

Photo: Brian Popellier

Photo: Beth Gillespie

Bruce Trail

MAGAZINE

The Bruce Trail Conservancy
PO Box 857, Hamilton, ON L8N 3N9
Toll-Free: 1-800-665-4453
Tel: (905) 529-6821

Email: info@bruce-trail.org
Website: bruce-trail.org

Facebook: [facebook.com/TheBruceTrailConservancy](https://www.facebook.com/TheBruceTrailConservancy)
Twitter: @BruceTrail_BTC

Honorary President
Dr. Philip Gosling

Bruce Trail Founders
Raymond Lowes, Dr. Philip Gosling,
Dr. Norman Pearson, Dr. Robert McLaren

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Directors at Large

Warren Bell (Board Chair)
John Grandy (Board Vice Chair)
Lynn Allen

Stephanie Bird (Finance & Audit Committee Chair)

Rob Graham (Governance Committee Chair)

David Hass

Brian Johnston

Janice McClelland (Fundraising Committee Chair)

Leah Myers

Anjee Patel

Directors from Clubs

Niagara: Corrie Kellestine

Iroquoia: Paul Toffoletti

Toronto: Marlis Butcher

Caledon Hills: David Lamb (Risk Committee Chair)

Dufferin Hi-Land: Sue Simons

Blue Mountains: Marietta Service

Beaver Valley: Bruce King

Sydenham: Frank Schoenhoeffer

Peninsula: Walter Brewer

STAFF

Executive Office

Chief Executive Officer: Beth Gilhespy

Executive Assistant: Allison Wright

Communications and Fund Development

Director of Communications &

Fund Development: Marsha Russell

Director of Fundraising: Jan Graves

Outreach & Engagement Specialist: Laura Tuohy

Donor Stewardship Coordinator: Kimra Shillingford

Membership Administrator: Lyndsey Martin

Land Acquisition and Management

Director of Land Acquisition and Management:

Antoin Diamond

GIS Cartographer: Scott Langley

Land Stewardship Coordinator & Ecologist:

Adam Brylowski

Land Stewardship Coordinator & Ecologist:

Brian Popelier

Finance

Director of Finance: Kevin Durfy

Bookkeeper: Sharon Fennell

Organizational Resources

Director of Organizational Resources: Jackie Randle

Office Administrators: Pat Stainton, Cheryl Sullivan

Design and Production: Rossi Piedimonte Design Inc.

Bruce Trail Magazine is published quarterly by The Bruce Trail Conservancy (BTC). Non-BTC related materials may not be the opinion of the BTC. Advertising herein does not imply the endorsement of the BTC. Trademarks of the BTC published herein are used with the permission of the BTC. No part of this publication may be reproduced without written consent of the BTC. Canadian Publications Mail Agreement #40040698. Return undeliverable copies to BTC, P.O. Box 857, Hamilton, ON L8N 3N9. Charitable Registration # 11921 7578 RR0001.



RECYCLED
Paper made from
recycled material
FSC® C011563



Peninsula
Warton - Tobermory

Sydenham
Blantyre - Warton

Beaver Valley
Craigleith - Blantyre

Blue Mountains
Lavender - Craigleith

Dufferin Hi-Land
Mono Centre - Lavender

Caledon Hills
Cheltenham - Mono Centre

Toronto
Milton - Cheltenham

Iroquoia
Grimsby - Milton

Niagara
Queenston - Grimsby

Cartography: Scott Langley, Bruce Trail Conservancy
Queen's Printer for Ontario © 2012