



TREES AND TRAILS ADVISORY PANEL MEETING AGENDA

Held on Wednesday, July 16th, 2025, at 1:00 PM
at Town Hall – 30 King Street East (Council Chambers)

Video Conference Link: [Click Here](#)

1.	Call Meeting to Order
2.	Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest & General Nature Thereof
3.	Approval of Minutes (Adoption) – June 11, 2025
4.	Public Question/Comment (Only Addressing Reports on the Agenda)
5.	Disclosure of Additional Items
6.	Delegations
7.	Presentations by Staff (Others) – None
8.	Correspondence
	1. Cataraqui Region Conservation Authority – 2026 Invasive Phragmites Control
9.	Unfinished Business
	1. Tree By-law Update – Heritage Tree List
10.	New Business/Reports
	1. Bikes on Trails – Calder Schweitzer
11.	McLean Forest Sub-Committee
	1. Sub-Committee Update
	2. Restrictive Covenants
12.	Invasive Plants
	1. RFQ Update (Japanese Knotweed)
	2. Rotary Invasive Plant Clean Up – 18 July 2025 8:00 AM to 2:00 PM

The Town invites and encourages people with disabilities to attend and voice their comments in relation to accessibility related reports. For those who are unable to attend, the Town encourages the use of the Customer Feedback Form found on the Accessibility Page on the Town's website.

13.	Trail Updates
	1. Signage and Maintenance Updates – Trailhead Sign and Distance Markers
	2. Trail Maps
14.	Discussion of Additional Items
15.	Next Regular Meeting – August _____, 2025, at 1:00 PM
16.	Questions from the Media
17.	Adjournment



TREES AND TRAILS ADVISORY PANEL MINUTES

On Wednesday, June 11, 2025 at 1:00 PM

Town Hall, 30 King Street East, Gananoque and Online via Webex

PANEL MEMBERS PRESENT		STAFF PRESENT
Chair:	Councillor David Osmond	Robert Kennedy, Superintendent of Parks and Facilities
Members:	Doug Bickerton	David Armstrong, Manager of Public Works
	Gerry Brown	Lynsey Zufelt, Recording Secretary
	Kate McLean	
	Calder Schweitzer	
	Alan Smith	
	Alison Timusk	
Regrets:	Terry Childs	
	David Frid	
1.	Call Meeting to Order	
	Chair David Osmond called the meeting to order at 1:01 PM.	
2.	Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest & General Nature Thereof – None	
3.	Adoption of Minutes	
	Motion-TTAP-2025-04 – Adoption of Minutes – March 27, May 8, and May 29, 2025 Moved By: Alan Smith Seconded By: Calder Schweitzer BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE TREES AND TRAILS ADVISORY PANEL HEREBY ADOPTS THE REGULAR TREES AND TRAILS ADVISORY PANEL MINUTES OF MARCH 27, MAY 8, AND MAY 29, 2025, AS AMENDED. CARRIED – UNANIMOUS	
4.	Public Question / Comment – None	
5.	Disclosure of Additional Items – None	

	Panel Members were invited to compile a list of significant trees to be considered for a Heritage List to be added to the Tree By-law.
	2. Trails – Signage and Maintenance Update Robert Kennedy, Superintendent of Parks and Facilities, provided an update on trail signage: - Distance markers will be installed by Panel Members in the coming weeks. - The Murray/Bickerton Trailhead sign will be installed under the Susan Push “Umbrella”, pending approval of the Municipal Heritage Advisory Panel. - Directional and informational trail signage requires updating.
10.	New Business/Reports
	1. McLean Woods Sub-Committee – Add Member – Kate McLean Motion-TTAP-2025-07 – McLean Forest Sub-Committee – Add Member Moved By: Alan Smith Seconded By: Gerry Brown BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE TREES AND TRAILS ADVISORY PANEL ADD PANEL MEMBER KATE MCLEAN TO THE JUDITH MCLEAN FOREST SUB-COMMITTEE. CARRIED – UNANIMOUS
11.	McLean Forest Sub-Committee
	1. Sub-Committee Update - Member Alan Smith presented an update for the McLean Forest In-Year Plan. - The Panel considered the following. Motion-TTAP-2025-08 – 2025 McLean Forest Objectives Moved By: Alan Smith Seconded By: Doug Bickerton BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE TREES AND TRAILS ADVISORY PANEL REQUEST COUNCIL APPROVE OBJECTIVES: 1 D (3), 2 A (4), 2 C (5) AND (6), PER THE “MCLEAN FOREST IN-YEAR PLAN”, AS PRESENTED TO THE TREES AND TRAILS ADVISORY PANEL ON JUNE 11, 2025. AND FURTHER, DIRECT STAFF TO CARRY OUT THE OBJECTIVES. CARRIED – UNANIMOUS
12.	Invasive Plants
13.	Discussion of Additional Items – None
14.	Questions from the Media – None

15.	Next Meeting – Wednesday, July 16, 2025 @ 1:00 PM (Tentative)
16.	Adjournment
	Motion-TTAP-2025-09 – Motion to Adjourn Moved by: Alan Smith BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE TREES AND TRAILS ADVISORY PANEL HEREBY ADJOURNS THE WEDNESDAY, JUNE 11TH, 2025 MEETING AT 3:01 PM. CARRIED – UNANIMOUS
Councillor David Osmond, Chair	Lynsey Zufelt, Recording Secretary

McLean Forest in-year plan 2025 - 29 May 2025

The McLean Forest strategy presentation was presented to Councillors at the Council meeting on 3 Dec 2024. This in-year plan for 2025, targets priority objectives from the strategy, focusing on actions that are achievable in-year and require minimal resources. Each action is shown against the relevant objective. Council will be requested to authorise the following actions:

Goal 1: A mature mixed native forest and native ecosystem.

Objective 1A	Protection of some coniferous blocks	
Objective 1B	Re-establishment of native forest and ecosystem.	- 1. Subject to receipt of confirmed funding, authorize the Frontenac Arch Biosphere Network to conduct a (fully funded) wildlife survey of the McLean Forest.
Objective 1C	Preservation of native wetland	
Objective 1D	Removal of invasive and non-native species.	2. Authorise the Rotary Club (under their own insurance) to conduct an invasive plant clean-up to manage invasive plants through manual methods before they spread further. (This is already going through the staff report process). 3. Subject to receipt of confirmed funding, authorise the installation of boot cleaning stations at the North and West entrances to the McLean Forest in order to minimise the risk of spread of further invasive plant seeds. The Frontenac Arch Biosphere Network has offered the possibility of funding for build and installation using a proven design used on the Bruce & Rideau Trail.



Goal 2: A looped trail system that supports education and the enjoyment of nature.

Objective 2A	Improve existing trail system and boundary marking.	4. Add a short 8ft boardwalk over the small stream at the output from Grandpas pond at 44.33589, -76.14632. 
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Objective 2B	Establish a new looped trail system.	
Objective 2C	Establish a river view point.	5. Add the well-established 500m side trail to Turtle Rock to the official trail network. This will require the addition of signage and some widening of the last 100m of trail. This should be conducted after the summer to minimise the impact on wildlife. 6. Authorise a memorial bench to be placed at the view point at Turtle Rock. This would be funded using the commemorative bench bylaw. 
Objective 2D	Design and implement an educational element.	
Objective 2E	Ensure sufficient parking.	

Goal 3: Enduring community involvement from initiation.

Objective 3A	Community involvement in the development of the area.	
Objective 3B	Community involvement in the ongoing maintenance and evolution of the area.	7. Authorise a small group of Trail Stewards operating under guidance from the Trees and Trails Advisory Panel. They would regularly hike the trail and act as an early warning system for issues that require rectification. They would be authorized to remove minor obstacles and

		invasive plants from the trail, clean the boot brush stations. Power tools would not be used.
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Vision: To establish and maintain a mixed deciduous and coniferous native forest, with a mature trail system for the enjoyment and education of residents and visitors.

From: [Holly Evans](#)
To: [Lynsey Zufelt](#)
Cc: [Alan Smith - Gan Trees and Trails](#); [Jeff Johnston](#)
Subject: 2026 Invasive Phrag Control in the CR-PMA
Date: July 7, 2025 2:12:39 PM
Attachments: [image007.png](#)
[image008.png](#)
[image009.png](#)
[image010.png](#)

Good afternoon, Lynsey,

At this time, we're planning what could be included in the 2026 Invasive Phragmites Control Fund collaborative project. The work would support implementation of the [Management Plan](#) that was finalized with the Cataraqui Region Phragmites Working Group.

There are a few roadside and parkland patches of invasive Phragmites within Gananoque (below are a few excerpts from the Management Plan and this will bring you to the web map: <https://www.arcgis.com/apps/dashboards/23004e61f827485cb1d0aa1ca7b054f0>), and there may also be other locations that are municipal priorities.

Would you or other Town of Gananoque staff be interested to speak with me about the possibility of the Town of Gananoque being included in a funding application for invasive Phragmites control next year?

I look forward to hearing from you.

Table 3. Invasive Phragmites data for each of the 11 lower-tier municipalities within the CR-PMA. Municipalities are in descending order by total recorded area (m²).

Municipality	Number of Observations	Largest Patch (m ²)	Total Area (m ²)	Proportion of Total Area (%)
Kingston	290	59,665	358,524	68.5
Loyalist	102	10,384	49,222	9.4
South Frontenac	157	3,245	33,414	6.4
Leeds and the Thousand Islands	62	10,785	26,096	5.0
Brockville	13	6,484	14,189	2.7
Gananoque	5	9,140	11,767	2.2
Napanee	27	5,129	9,648	1.8
Front of Yonge	24	1,855	8,058	1.5
Rideau Lakes	30	2,317	6,727	1.3
Elizabethtown-Kitley	29	1,519	5,110	1.0
Athens	4	374	743	0.1
Total	743	-	523,498	-

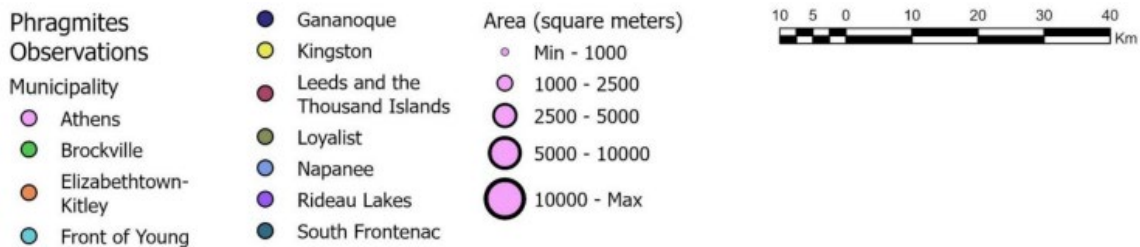
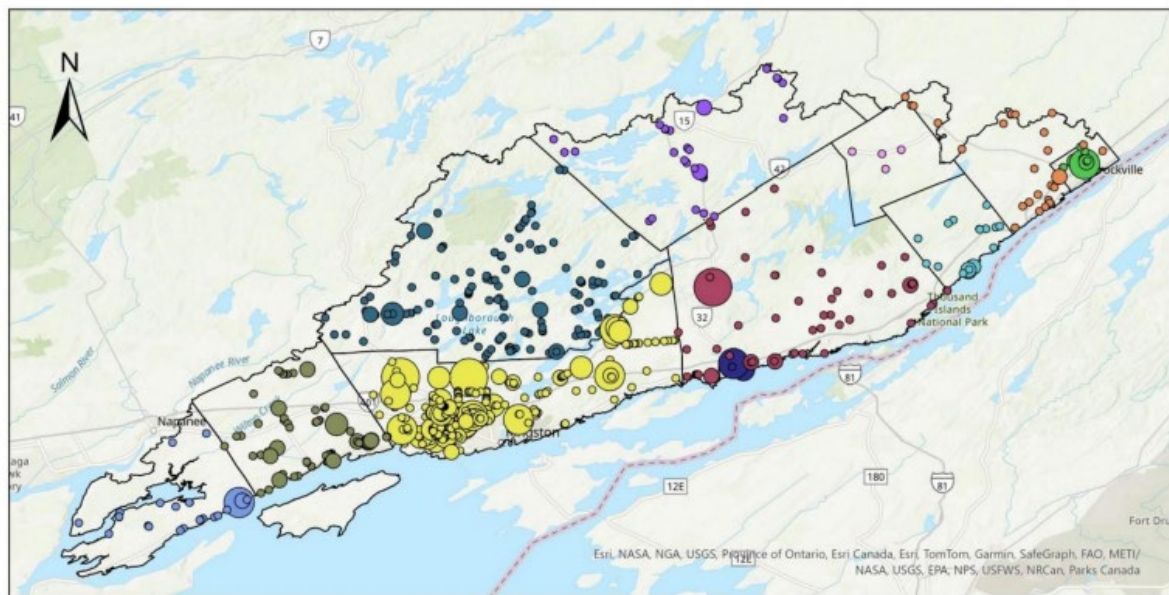


Figure 4. Phragmites observations by municipality and scaled by area to highlight areas of higher infestation severity.

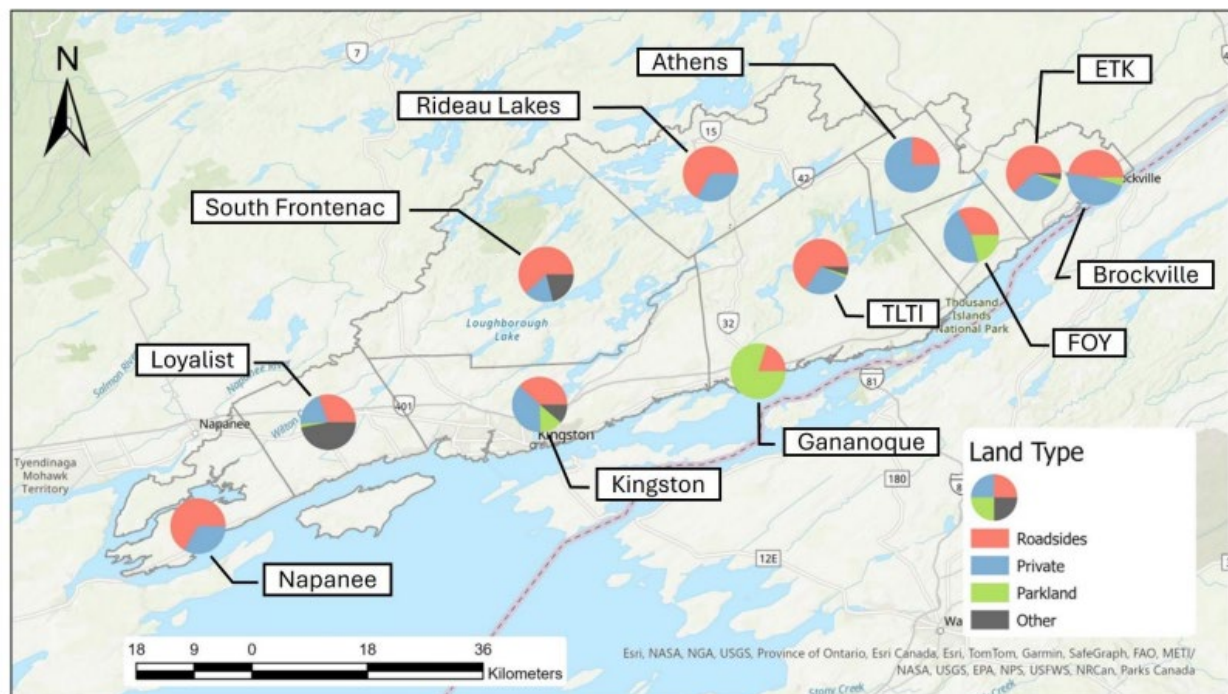


Figure 7. Proportion of invasive Phragmites instances reported as occurring within parkland, private land, roadside allowances, or other land use types (ETK: Elizabethtown-Kitley, FOY: Front of Yonge, TLTI: Township of Leeds and the Thousand Islands).

Take care,

Holly Evans (she/they)
Watershed Planning Coordinator



Cataraqui
conservation

2069 Battersea Road, Glenburnie ON, K0H 1S0

Phone: (613) 546-4228 ext. 233

Toll-Free: 1-877-956-2722

Web: www.CataraquiConservation.ca and www.cleanwatercataraqui.ca

Cataraqui Conservation sits on the traditional lands of the Haudenosaunee & Anishinabek peoples, and we want to thank the Indigenous people for their continued care and protection of All of Our Relations on this shared land.

Gananoque Heritage Tree List - Draft

Current:

	Tree	Location	Description	Photo
1	American Elm <i>Ulmus Americana</i> (native)	44.33148, -76.16155 Garden & Charles St	In the 1930s Dutch elm disease decimated over 95% of the American Elm population. This disease resistant survivor has been a subject of study in the past. In 2025 the tree was 24m high with a girth of 3.3m. This tree was added to the Gananoque heritage tree list prior to 2017	
2	Silver Maple <i>Acer Saccharinum</i> (native)	44.32856, -76.16510 Town Park	Planted by Prime Minister Jean Chrétien during a visit in 1981. In 2025 the tree was 15m high with a girth of 1.1m. This tree was added to the Gananoque heritage tree list prior to 2017	

Recommended:

	Tree	Location	Description	Photo
3	Sugar Maple <i>Acer Saccharum</i> (native)	44.32851, -76.16456 Town Park	One of the 58 maple trees planted in 1919 to commemorate the 58 Gananoque fallen during WW1. This is the closest remaining specimen to the war memorial. There are also a few commemorative Silver Maples remaining in Town Park. In 2025 the tree was 19m high with a girth of 2.8m. This tree should be added to the Gananoque heritage tree list now.	
4	Silver Maple <i>Acer Saccharinum</i> (native)	44.32857, -76.16427 Town Park	One of the 58 maple trees planted in 1919 to commemorate the 58 Gananoque fallen during WW1. There are only a few remaining and this is the closest remaining Silver Maple to the war memorial. In 2025 the tree was 24m high with a girth of 3.1m. This tree should be added to the Gananoque heritage tree list now.	

5	Pitch Pine <i>Pinus Rigida</i> (native)	44.32790, -76.16515 Confederation Park	A clump of 20 Pitch Pine introduced into Gananoque as part of a project studying these trees which are relatively rare in Ontario. These saplings were planted in 2003 by John Cornish. The Pitch Pine was declared the tree of Gananoque in 2004 and a stone plaque denoting this fact is located at the base of trees.	 
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For Future Consideration:

	Tree	Location	Description	Photo
6	Pendunculate Oak <i>Quercus robur</i> (non-native)	44.32906, -76.16433 Town Park	'Vimy Oak'. Planted with acorns harvested from Vimy Ridge. This tree could be a future addition to the Gananoque heritage tree list once it has become more established.	
7	Pendunculate Oak <i>Quercus robur</i> (non-native)	44.32648, -76.16488 Memorial Park	'Vimy Oak'. Planted with acorns harvested from Vimy Ridge. This tree could be a future addition to the Gananoque heritage tree list once it has become more established.	

RESTRICTIVE COVENANTS

The Lands to which these Restrictive Covenants apply are LT 1110 E GANANOQUE RIVER PL 86; PT LT 17 CON 1 LEEDS AS IN LR141666 EXCEPT PT 2 TO 4 28R6806, PT 1 TO 3 28R7758, PT 1 28R7779, PT 2 28R2050, PT 1 28R6341, LR93000 (SECONDLY), LR93322, GA6490, GA4297; T/W LR209605, T/W LR233851; S/T LR210861, S/T LR307864, S/T LR307865, S/T LR254224, S/T LR210861, LR247215, S/T LR353018; GANANOQUE; Being all of PIN 44244-0195 (LT), (the "Lands").

For the purposes hereof, the term "Transferee" means any owner of the Lands and their heirs, executors, administrators, successors and assigns in title, and the term "Transferor" means the owners of the property described as LT 1009 E GANANOQUE RIVER PL 86 ALSO SHOWN AS BLK M; PT LT A E GANANOQUE RIVER PL 86 AS IN 16G1023; S/T 16G1023; GANANOQUE; TOGETHER WITH AN EASEMENT OVER LT 552-554 PL 167; LT 546 W GANANOQUE RIVER, 547 W GANANOQUE RIVER, 548 W GANANOQUE RIVER, 549 W GANANOQUE RIVER, 550 W GANANOQUE RIVER, 551 W GANANOQUE RIVER PL 86 AMENDED BY PL 92 AS IN LE62371; TOWN OF GANANOQUE, Being all of PIN 44250-0109 (LT), and their successors and assigns.

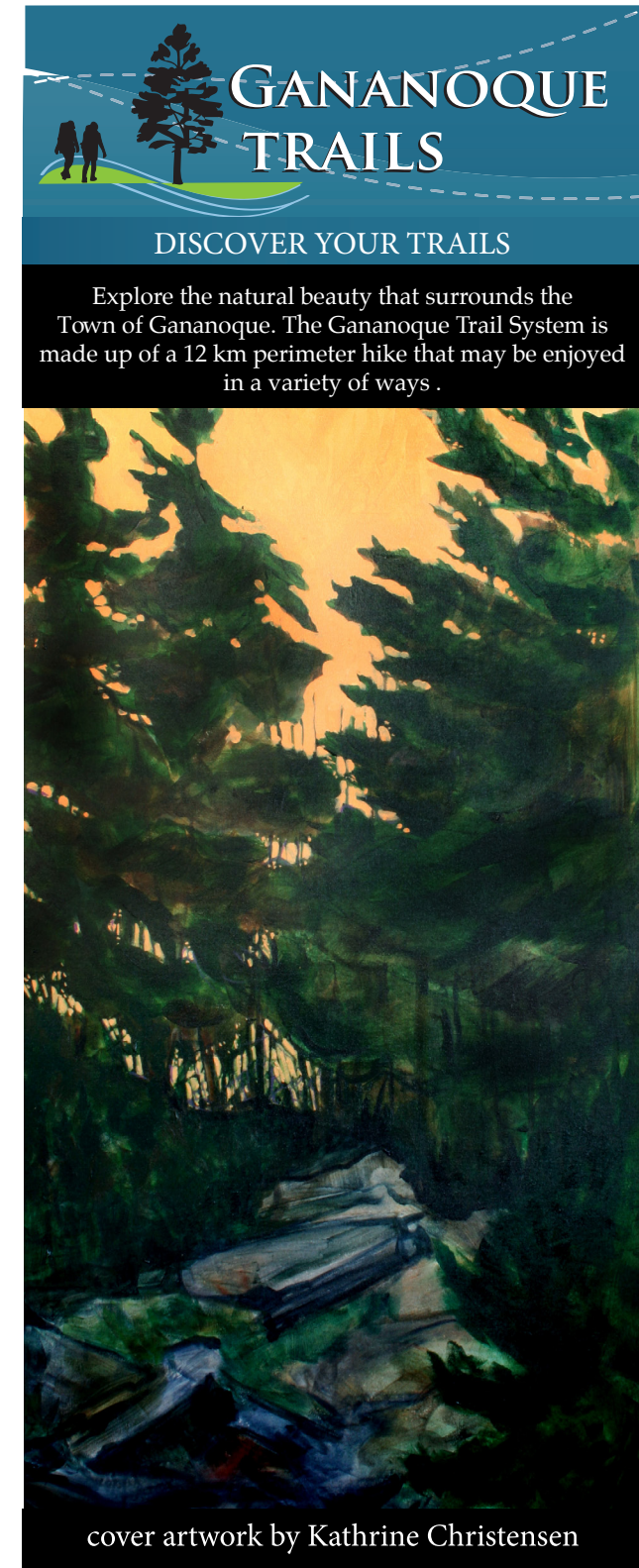
The Transferee agrees with the Transferor that the Restrictive Covenants are hereby annexed to the above noted Lands. The Transferee covenants with the Transferor to observe and comply with the Restrictive Covenants and agrees not to use the Lands or permit the Lands to be used in a manner that violates the Restrictive Covenants.

The Transferees, for themselves, their heirs, executors, administrators, successors and assigns, covenant and agree as follows:

1. No structure of any nature whatsoever shall be built upon the Lands nor shall the Lands to which these restrictions apply be developed in any fashion or subdivided for private ownership.
2. No development or construction of the Lands shall be undertaken which would detract from or prevent the Lands from qualifying for the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry's managed forest program.

Nothing in the foregoing restrictions shall prevent any extension or expansion of municipal infrastructure in, over, upon, or through the Lands.

These covenants shall be binding upon the owners from time to time of any part of the above-described Lands, their respective heirs, executors, administrators, successors and assigns and shall run with the land for a period of nine hundred and ninety-nine (999) years.





GANANOQUE TRAILS

DISCOVER YOUR TRAILS

Explore the natural beauty that surrounds the Town of Gananoque. The Gananoque Trail System is made up of a 12 km perimeter hike that may be enjoyed in a variety of ways .



Hike to be happy, Hike to be healthy!"

Dr Stewart Kennedy, past President of the Ontario Medical Association says: "Regular participation in exercise such as walking can help prevent illness, improve fitness, fight depression and prolong life!"



The map will show you where to start and where the trail markers will guide you to the destination you have selected.
Please observe the hiking etiquette of
“Leave nothing and take nothing”

Enjoy the Trails

The Gananoque Trail has been constructed with the assistance of the Town of Gananoque Volunteer Trails Committee, and the financial and moral support of the Town of Gananoque, the Ontario Trillium Foundation, The Lions Club of Gananoque, The Kinsmen Club of Gananoque, and the kindness of the landowners who have allowed the trail to pass over their property.



Kathrine Christensen - cover artwork A dedicated artist, Kathrine Christensen has been involved in the arts in Eastern Ontario for the past 25 years. Her studio is on Marble Rock Road, north of Gananoque, which truly is in the heart of the Thousand Islands. Her recent landscape paintings are acrylics and the ancient wax based encaustic paints, and the results are richly layered paintings of sensual and mysterious fragments of country side.
www.kathrinechristensen.com

CHOOSE YOUR WALK

A relaxed meander in the woods or along the river.
A town walk through old Gananoque.

Longer Hike? The 3 main trails connect together for a 12 Km/ 4 hour walk. Just follow the BLUE HIKERMAN trail markers.

Want a shorter walk?
Pick one trail and then Loop back, following the ORANGE DIAMONDS.

Bicycles: Welcome on main trails, except where signed otherwise.

Access and Parking: Lots of spots to enter the trails; lots of parking.

Accessibility for wheelchairs and walkers: We highly recommend the Lion’s Trail!

Washrooms are indicated on the map.



Gananoque is also part of the Frontenac Arch Biosphere which was officially designated by the National Geographic as the world's ninth Geotourism Region.
For more information on our regional trails visit : <http://www.frontenacarchbiosphere.ca/>

LION’S TRAIL 90 Minutes, full return loop
Easy walking or cycling. Great photo opp’s!
Begin at little train engine by the park and follow blue markers north.
Enjoy the sculptures around the pond..
Scenic “mini- loops” along the Gan River with benches and picnic tables.
At Queen Street, follow orange diamonds for return loop to trailhead.

ROGER’S TRAIL 2 hours, full return loop
Mostly woodland trails. Moderate terrain with a few hills and some rocky footing.
Begin at Recreation Centre (east end) or James Brennan Road (west end).
Shorter version: use Herbert Street access point to begin or end.



RIVER TRAIL 30 minutes to 2 hours, with various loop options. Hike the Piney Woods, parks, streetscapes and the historic St Lawrence waterfront. Start behind No Frills (Carmichael Street), follow blue hiker markers south through pine forest. (30-minute short loop: after woods, follow blue markers along street, then take field lane with yellow diamond markers back to No Frills.) Continue on streets, watching for blue markers, then into parklands, emerging on to interesting residential streets. On past Playhouse and Gananoque Inn, crossing swing bridge to enjoy the busy



waterfront action and waterside parks. HINT: You can turn north at any street to return to the main street, or continue up Bay Road and back to the Trailhead through the historic streets of old Gananoque.

HISTORICAL GANANOQUE From the Trail head explore the rail bed of the THOUSAND ISLAND RAILWAY, now part of our trail . Check out the interpretative plaques en route. “Gananoque was once known as the Birmingham of Canada, with many factories producing metal products, wood products leather and more using the water power of the Gananoque River.”



WWW.GANANOQUE.CA