



TOWNSHIP OF GUELPH/ERAMOSIA TRAIL GUIDE



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WELCOME TO THE TOWNSHIP OF GUELPH/ERAMOSA

In addition to being a large rural community the Township of Guelph/Eramosa is composed of the communities of Ariss, Walkerbrae, Blossom Hill, Hartfield, Marden, Eramosa, Brucedale, Everton, Rockwood and Eden Mills. Guelph/Eramosa is a progressive township with a growing population just over 12,000. Our community is fortunate to have a balance of rural and urban life. The Township boasts two conservation areas, golf courses, horse ranches, parks, walking trails including the Trans Canada Trail, camps, community centres and more.

The Township owns and operates a number of ball diamonds, soccer pitches, tennis courts, and outdoor skating rinks. We are proud of our community, heritage and value the unique environmental features, waterfront areas and natural settings that are part of our Township. Guelph/Eramosa has a great choice of industrial lands for development with a wide range of permitted uses. Through tourism, agriculture, commerce and industry we are committed to developing a diverse and stable local economy.

Important Numbers in the Township

Police/Ambulance/Fire	911	
Guelph General Hospital	519-837-6440	
Township Municipal Office	519-856-9596	www.get.on.ca

HISTORY OF THE TOWNSHIP OF GUELPH/ERAMOSA

In 1999, the former Townships of Guelph, Eramosa and part of Pilkington and Nichol were amalgamated and formed the Township of Guelph/Eramosa. Guelph/Eramosa was incorporated on January 1, 1999.

Eramosa Township was established in 1784, although at this time it was not surveyed when the Mississaugas surrendered the land to the government. Eramosa Township was first surveyed in 1818 by Samuel Ryckman. This was the first time the name Eramosa had been used to describe the parcel of land.

John Harris, the first settler of Eramosa Township built a small shanty in 1821 followed by Col. Henry Strange in 1840. In the 1850's the community, originally known as Brotherstown, became known as Rockwood.

In 1825, Samuel Rife was the first settler of Guelph Township. In 1827, a group of Scottish settlers called the La Guayrians, who originally settled in Venezuela, were resettled in Guelph Township by the Canada Company.

Throughout the 19th and 20th centuries, Guelph Township became a centre for agricultural excellence through rural and agricultural educational institutions.

The background image shows a dirt trail in a forest. In the foreground, the back of a dog is visible, looking towards the trail. The trees are large and have thick trunks. The overall scene is a natural, outdoor setting.

TRAIL ETIQUETTE

Trail Etiquette

- For your safety and to protect soil from erosion do not take shortcuts.
- Respect the sound of nature. Avoid loud voices and noise such as mobile phones and radios.
- Respect the privacy of people living along trails.
- Keep dogs on a leash, especially on or near farmland.
- Be courteous to other hikers. Say hello to fellow hikers as you pass each other along the trail.
- Walk, ride or cycle in single file in the middle of the trail, even when wet or muddy.
- Stay to the right of trail and pass on the left.
- Visit trails in small groups; split larger parties into smaller groups.
- Unless you are passing someone on a trail, try to maintain a distance between yourself and other hikers.
- Leave flowers, wood, rocks and plants behind in their rightful place for others to enjoy.
- Avoid tree damage. Do not break branches or strip bark off trees.
- Leave the trails cleaner than you found them. Carry out all litter.



TOWNSHIP OF GUELPH/ERAMOSA

Terrain Rating

Level 1

Well defined trails, gentle inclines. Hiking boots not required but trails may be wet. Suitable for beginners.

Level 2

Generally on trail. May be hilly, light bushwhacking, some rough spots or obstacles. Boots recommended.

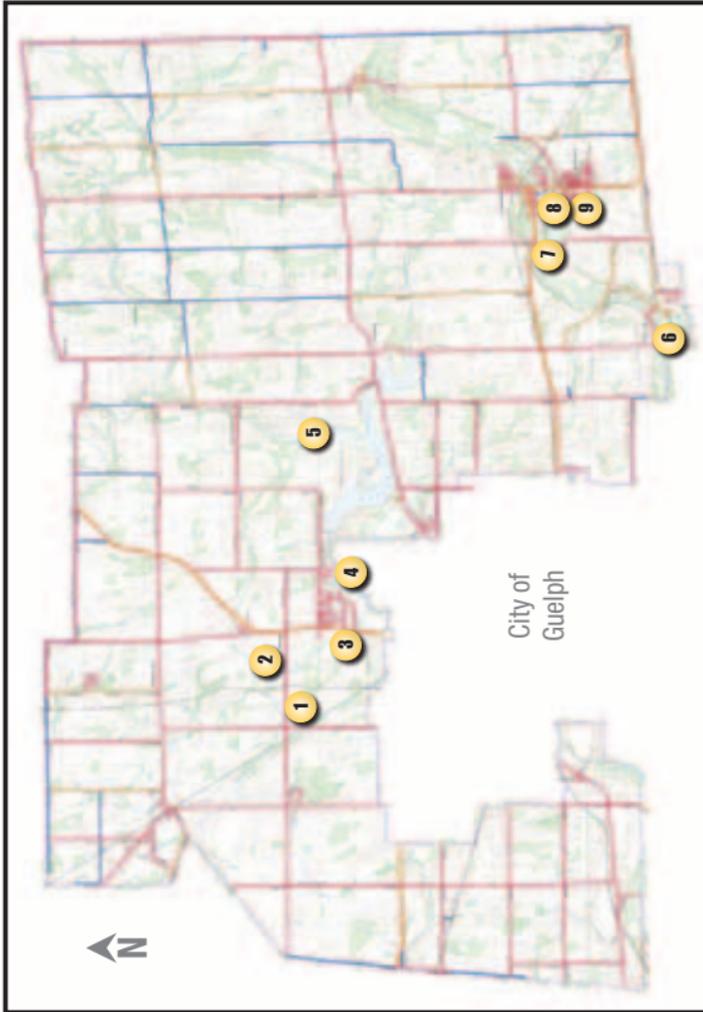
Level 3

Rough terrain. One or more of extensive bushwhacking, steep sections, long climbs and descents, beaver dams or other obstacles, rock scrambling. Boots, extensive experience and a high level of fitness essential. Long pants and sleeves recommended.

Things to Remember

- Power bars or other nutrition
 - Clothing layers suitable for weather conditions.
 - Map(s) of the trails being used
 - Proper footwear
 - Compass – optional
 - Whistle for safety
 - Need for water
 - Cell phone
 - Bug spray
- 

TOWNSHIP OF GUELPH/ERAMOSA



- | | | |
|------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. Kissing Bridge Trailway | 5. Guelph Lake Conservation Area Trails | 8. Historic Rockwood Walking Tour |
| 2. Marden Park | 6. Eden Mills Historic Walking Tour | 9. Indian Trail |
| 3. Ignatius Jesuit Centre of Guelph Trails | 7. Rockwood Conservation Area | |
| 4. Guelph Off Road Biking Association (GORBA) Trails | | |

KISSING BRIDGE TRAIL

Parking: Designated parking at 5535 Wellington Rd. 39, and in Ariss at the dead end of Schuett Rd.

Distance: Linear Trail – 8 km within Guelph/Eramosa Township. Total trail length 45 kilometer Guelph to Millbank.

Level of Difficulty: Level 1, easy.

Civic Address: Trail begins at 5534 Wellington County Rd. 39

Map Coordinates: 43° 33'59.03"N 80° 18'59.07"W

Features:

- Stone dust base with Township
- Spring Wild flowers
- Hiking and Biking trails
- OFSC snowmobile trail

Property Owner: Jointly leased by the County of Wellington, and the Regional Municipality of Waterloo from the Province of Ontario.

Additional Comments: This is a registered Trans Canada Trail.



MARDEN PARK

2



13.04.01



MARDEN PARK WALKING TRAILS

Parking: In designated areas within the park.

Distance: Loop trails of various distance. Total 2.5 km.

Level of Difficulty: Level 2, moderate.

Civic Address: 7368 Wellington Rd 30, Guelph

Map Coordinates: 43° 34'44.24"N 80° 18'32.96"W

Features:

- Walking Trails
- Large Pond
- Public Library
- Picnic Pavilions
- Sports Fields

Property Owner: The Township of Guelph/Eramosa
519-856-9596

Additional Comments: Easy loop trails make an excellent hike for families.



IGNATIUS JESUIT CENTRE OF GUELPH TRAILS

Parking: In designated areas.

Distance: 15 km

Level of Difficulty: Level 2, moderate.

Civic Address: 5420 Hwy#6 North, Guelph

Map Coordinates: 43° 34'15.51"N 80° 16'49.71"W

- Features:**
- Walking trails
 - Groomed Nordic ski trails (membership or day pass required)
 - Meditational spaces, including a labyrinth
 - Organic farming
 - Garden plots, orchards, Community Shared Agriculture
 - Wetlands, Marden Creek, Speed River
 - Plant An Old Growth Forest Project
 - Retreat and Conference Centre
 - Office Centre

Property Owner: Ignatius Jesuit Centre

Property Contact: Land Manager,
519-824-1250 x 238

Website: www.ignatiusguelph.ca

Additional Comments: Silence is integral to the retreat experience for our guests at Loyola House; please be mindful of our retreatants when using our trails. Dogs must be on leash; no bicycles permitted on the trails. Tours are available.



A Place of Peace

GUELPH OFF ROAD BIKING ASSOCIATION (GORBA) TRAILS

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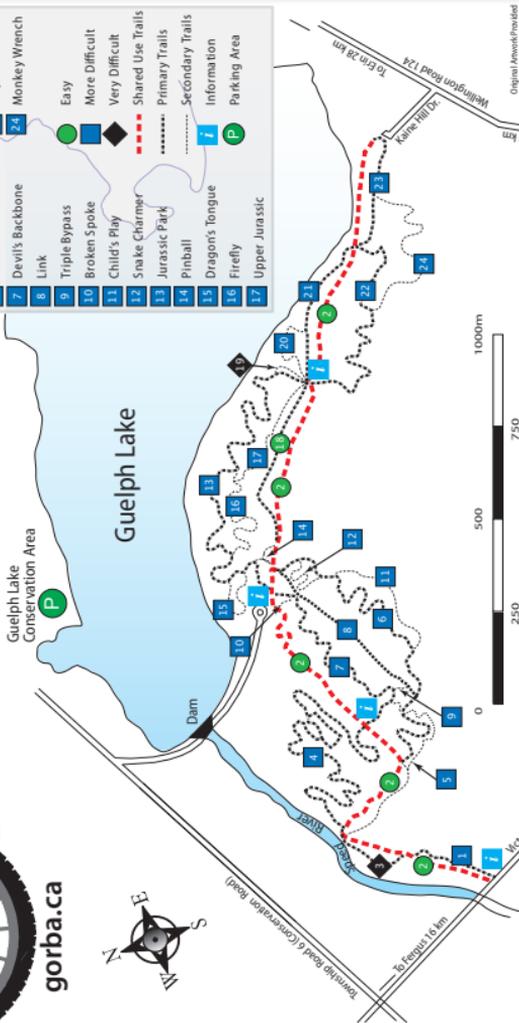
Guelph Lake Trail Guide



gorba.ca



LEGEND	
1	Rollercoaster
2	Grand Trunk Trail
3	West Nile
4	Homestead
5	Mad Harter
6	South Park
7	Devil's backbone
8	Link
9	Triple Bypass
10	Broken Spoke
11	Child's Play
12	Snake Charmer
13	Jurassic Park
14	Pinball
15	Dragon's Tongue
16	Firefly
17	Upper Jurassic
18	Highway
19	Ping Pong
20	Off Camber
21	Beach Cruiser
22	Hell's Kitchen
23	Slope Slide
24	Monkey Wrench
●	Easy
■	More Difficult
◆	Very Difficult
---	Shared Use Trails
.....	Primary Trails
.....	Secondary Trails
?	Information
P	Parking Area



Original Artwork Provided by: Santeo Consulting Ltd.
 Trail Photography: I.S. Hespelmann, 2008
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Mountain biking can be a dangerous activity. Always wear appropriate protective gear including a HELMET! You are responsible to yourself and to other trail users. Please ride with courtesy and ride with care.

Rules of the Trail

1. Ride on Open Trails Only.
2. Leave no trace.
3. Control your bicycle.
4. Yield to Others
5. Never scare animals.
6. Plan ahead.



GUELPH OFF ROAD BIKING ASSOCIATION (GORBA) TRAILS

Parking: In designated areas on Victoria Road or
Riverside Park in Guelph.

Distance: 5 km

Level of Difficulty: 2 - 3, moderate to difficult.

Map Coordinates: 43° 35'15.10"N 80° 16'23.73"W

Features: • Biking/hiking shared trails
• Guelph Lake

Property Owner: Grand River Conservation
Authority (GRCA)
Tel: 519-621-2761
Website: www.grandriver.ca

Additional Comments:

The GORBA Trail is comprised of many smaller trails. GORBA has a land-use contract with the GRCA.
Website: www.gorba.ca



GUELPH LAKE CONSERVATION AREA TRAILS

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Guelph Lake Conservation Area

Hiking Trails at Guelph Lake



GUELPH LAKE CONSERVATION AREA TRAILS

Parking: In designated areas within the Conservation Area.

Admission: A park admission fee is required.

Distance: Loop trails.

- Green Trail 0.8 km
- Blue Trail 1.6 km
- Red Trail 2.6 km
- Total 5.0 km

Level of Difficulty: Level 2, moderate.

Civic Address: 7743 Conservation Dr.

Map Coordinates: 43° 36'18.87"N
80° 15'23.76"W

- Features:**
- Hiking, snowshoeing, cross country skiing
 - Guelph Lake - swimming and non-motorized boating, fishing
 - Hardwood and evergreen forest
 - Camping

Property Owner: Grand River Conservation Authority (GRCA)

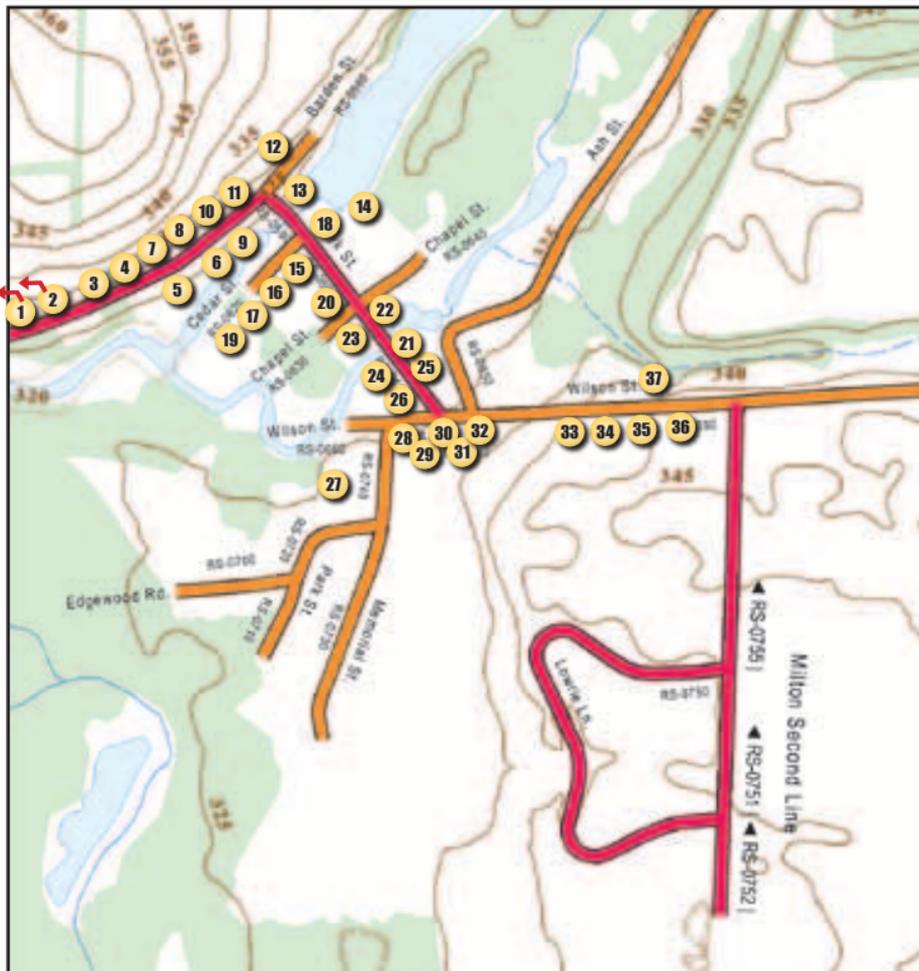
Tel: 519-621-2761

Website: www.grandriver.ca

Additional Comments: This area requires the user to pay a user fee. Admission fees posted at www.grandriver.ca

EDEN MILLS HISTORIC WALKING TOUR

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Historic walking guide available in its entirety at www.get.on.ca.

EDEN MILLS HISTORIC WALKING TOUR

Parking: Eden Mills Community Centre, 108 York St.

Distance: 1.2 km

Level of Difficulty: Level 1, easy.

Civic Address: Eden Mills, Ontario

Map Coordinates: 43° 34'42.69"N 80° 08'45.06W

Features: • Walking trails • Large Mill Pond
• Historic homes

Property Owner: Multiple ownership

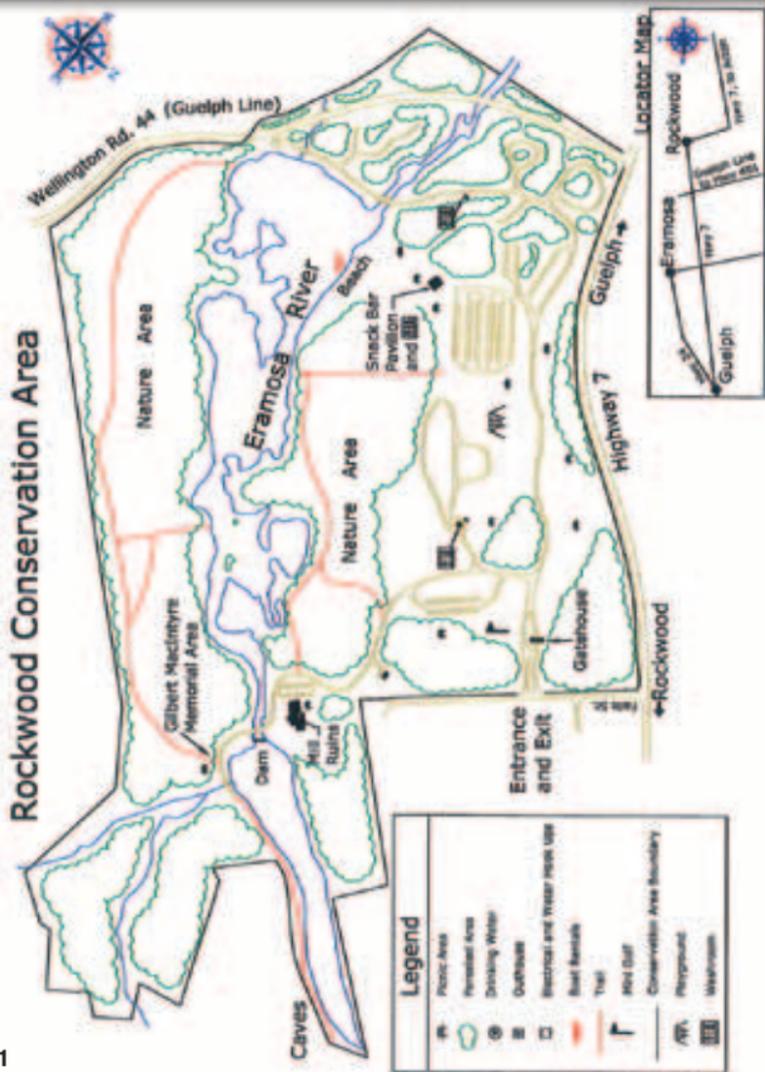
Additional Comments: Please respect private property.



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|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. Eden Mills Presbyterian Church – Founded about 1857 | 13. The Mill – Mill and dam built in 1842 | 25. House on corner of York, Mill & Wilson - Has many fine architectural details |
| 2. Ruins of La Mancha barn – Destroyed by fire in 1988 | 14. Cottage, behind Community Hall – a modest cottage in it's time | 26. House by coffee shop & garage – York St. |
| 3. Red brick house – Constructed around 1920 | 15. Craft Store, Eden Place – York St. - Built in 1861 | 27. Stone house & studio – Corner of Wilson and Station Streets |
| 4. Cottage, Main St. – Very old structure containing many architectural secrets! | 16. Gothic style house, Cedar St. – Built around 1880 | 28. Stone Cottage – Corner of Wilson and Station |
| 5. White stucco house, overlooking Main St. – Built around 1880 | 17. Salt-box house, Cedar St. – Also built around 1880 | 29. Red brick Edwardian – Wilson Street |
| 6. Stone cottage, Main St. – Interesting architectural details | 18. Community Hall, York St. – Constructed in 1917, original building burnt down | 30. Gable House – Vernacular building built in the early 1900's |
| 7. Dragonstone house, Main St. – Built in the 1860's | 19. United Church – Built around 1861 | 31. Shingle Salt-box house with verandahs – Known as 'Granny Gilbertson's' house |
| 8. Blacksmith house, Main St. – Very old home dating from the 1850's | 20. Decorated House – York St. | 32. Victorian brick, Wilson St. – Built around 1897 |
| 9. Hotel, corner Main & York – Inn was built in 1867 | 21. Trail on York Rd – This pathway has been used since the beginning of Eden Mills | 33. Clapboard Salt-box House – Wilson St. |
| 10. The Manse, Main St. – Built to house the Minister of the United Church | 22. Mill owner's house – Built in the 1850's | 34. Inn – Wilson St. |
| 11. The Store, Main St. – Built in 1873, operated as store & post office until 1990 | 23. Ice cream shop/Hampson house, York St. – Built around 1854 | 35. Barns – Acted as stables for the Inn |
| 12. Original Post Office – Believed to be one of the first stone homes built in Eden Mills | 24. Othello Cook house, York St. – Built around 1867 | 36. Stone Cottage – corner of Wilson & Second Line, built in 1896. |
| | | 37. Large stone house – Wilson Street built in 1848 |

ROCKWOOD CONSERVATION AREA

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ROCKWOOD CONSERVATION AREA TRAILS

Parking: In designated areas.

Distance: 5 km

Level of Difficulty: Level 2, moderate.

Civic Address: 161 Fall St., Rockwood, Ontario

Map Coordinates: 43° 36'45.23"N 80° 08'53.95"W

Features:

- Hiking
- Geological features
- Beach
- Mill ruins
- Mill pond
- Camping

Property Owner: Grand River Conservation Authority (GRCA)

Tel: 519-621-2761

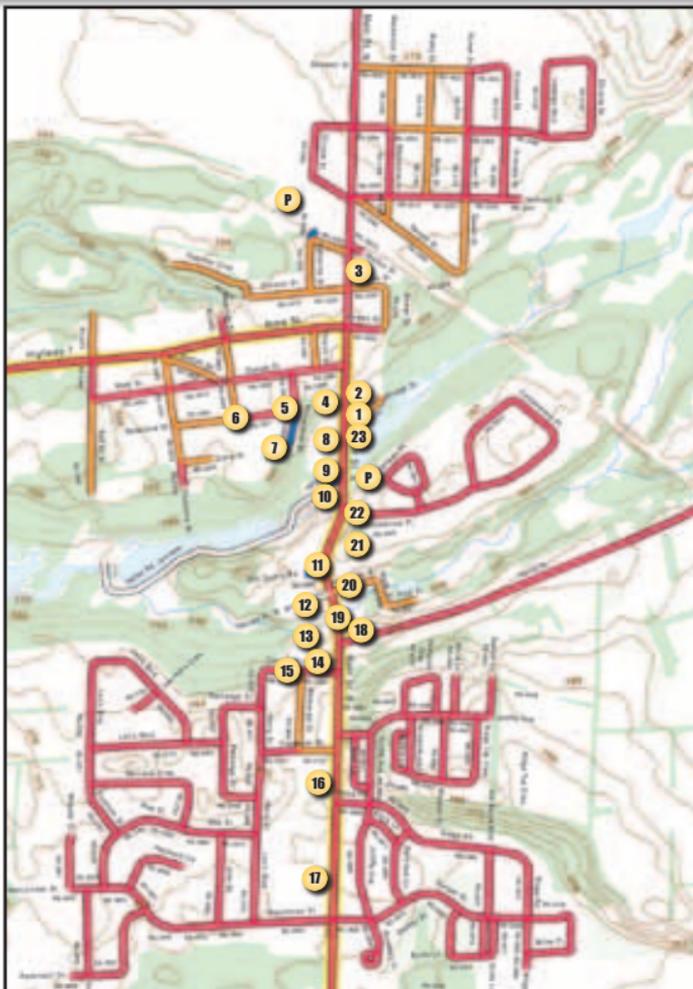
Website: www.grandriver.ca

Additional Comments: This area requires the user to pay a user fee.



HISTORIC ROCKWOOD WALKING TOUR

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Historic walking guide available in its entirety at www.get.on.ca.

HISTORIC ROCKWOOD WALKING TOUR

Parking: Riverside Park, Main Street, Rockmosa 74 Christie Street

Distance: 2.6 km

Level of Difficulty: Level 1, easy.

Civic Address: Rockwood, Ontario

Map Coordinates: 43° 37'01.67"N 80° 08'30.21"W

Features: • Walking trails
• Heritage buildings

Property Owner: Multiple property owners.

Additional Comments: Please respect private property.

1. 118 Main St. S. Built about 1884 (or earlier) with two feet thick walls and lovely wood floors.
2. Saunders Bakery, 104 Main St. S. Since 1864, this has been a bakery.
3. 132 Main St. N. Originally the Lawrence Building c.1905
4. St. John The Evangelist Anglican Church, 112 Main St. S. Built of quarried limestone in 1880's
5. Cottage 136 Guelph St. Believed to be oldest building in Rockwood
6. J. J. Hill Plaque 178 Guelph St. He became the most famous student of Rockwood Academy.
7. Millicent Milroy's Home 132 Richardson St.
8. Retaining Wall on Main St. Built in 1933, the stone mason was advised that it would never stand.
9. The Town Hall 191 Main St. S. Built in 1870 of inexpensive board and batten
10. The Candy factory 197 Main St. S. was built in late 1800's as an enclosed skating rink.
11. The Old Swimming Hole Generations of children learned to swim here above the mill dam.
12. The Grist Mill 201 Main St. S. The Henry Strange Grist Mill was built c. 1843,
13. Presbyterian Church 255 Main St. S. It was built of typical gothic church architecture in 1853
14. The Mill Owner's Home 267 Main St. S. This beautiful building was built of quarried limestone.
15. The Gzowski House 112 Old Quarry Rd. This was once occupied by radio host Peter Gzowski.
16. The Groundskeeper's Cottage 110 Frederick St. This stone home was built as the groundskeeper's cottage for the Rockwood Academy.
17. Rockwood Academy Built 1850 as a boys' school.
18. Rockwood United Church 119 Harris St. Built in 1867 as the Presbyterian Church for \$950
19. 310 Main St. Built in 1840's by Irish settlers, this is one of oldest homes in Rockwood.
20. 262 Main St. S. Built c 1895,
21. Colonel Strange House 238 Main St. S. built in 1838.
22. 262 Main Street South. The blurb on the next page would be AJ Casson Plaque created and erected at 262 Main St S by the Township's Heritage Committee to commemorate the work of local artist AJ Casson.
23. Grand Olde Emporium 132 Main St. S. Some of the original structure built in 1852 still remains.

INDIAN TRAIL

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INDIAN TRAIL

The Indian Trail is maintained by the Township of Guelph/Eromosa through a land use agreement with a private land owner. To ensure continued use of this trail please respect the land and crops of the private land owners adjacent to the trail by remaining on the designated path. The community's co-operation in litter pick-up, reporting of maintenance issues and obeying posted rules will ensure successful renewal of this land use agreement.

Parking: On-street parking

Distance: 1 km, one way

Level of Difficulty: Easy

Civic Address: 172 Parkinson Dr., Rockwood Ontario

Map Coordinates: Longitude -80.1331692

Latitude 43.6042609

Features: • Hiking, snowshoeing, cross country skiing

Property Owner: Private

Additional Comments: Warning: This is an active agricultural area, the use of pesticides and large farm machinery is permitted without public notice. For maintenance concerns call 519-856-9596 x113.

PLEASE STAY ON THE TRAILS

POISON IVY

Please stay on the trail. Poison ivy can be found in wooded areas along the trail. Poison ivy is a woody vine that is well known for its ability to produce urushiol, a skin irritant that causes an itching rash for most people. Found normally in wooded areas, especially along edge areas, poison ivy grows vigorously throughout much of North America. It also grows in exposed rocky areas and in open fields and disturbed areas.

The reaction caused by poison ivy, urushiol-induced contact dermatitis, is an allergic reaction. Some people simply do not have an allergy to urushiol. Once the urushiol poison has had contact with the skin, it is quickly bound to the skin. The poison can be washed off within a short time after contact, but once bound to the skin, it cannot be washed away.

THE TOWNSHIP OF GUELPH/ERAMOSIA RIVERS

SPEED RIVER

The Speed River begins south of Orton. Flowing southwards it travels through Guelph Lake and passes the Guelph Dam. Guelph Lake Dam was formed in 1974 as a result of the river being dammed. The Speed River joins the Eramosa River in the City of Guelph and continues to flow into Cambridge where it enters into the Grand River. It is a part of the Grand River Watershed and The Canadian Heritage Rivers System (CHRS) which is Canada's national river conservation program. It promotes, protects and enhances Canada's river heritage, and ensures that Canada's leading rivers are managed in a sustainable manner.



ERAMOSIA RIVER

The Eramosa River source rises near Erin and flows southwest through Rockwood and Eden Mills. It then enters the City of Guelph where it joins the Speed River which travels into the Grand River in Cambridge. Along with being located in the Grand River Watershed, this river is also part of the Canadian Heritage Rivers System.

The Eramosa River flows through an area covered with several hundred glacial potholes. The largest located in Rockwood on Private property is called Devil's Well which measures 13 meters deep and 6 meters wide.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION TO REMEMBER WHEN OUTDOORS

SUN AND HEAT STRESS

Most people know by now the dangers of too much exposure to the sun. Excessive exposure to UV radiation over many years has been shown to increase a person's risk of developing skin cancer.

SUNBURN

Cause: Too much exposure to the sun.

Symptoms: Red, painful, or blistering and peeling of the skin.

Treatment: Use skin lotions (avoid topical anesthetics) If the skin blisters, seek medical aid

Prevention: Retreat to the shade, hike in the early morning or late afternoon. Cover skin with clothing. Wear sunscreen with a sun protection factor of at least 15. People with fair skin should be especially cautious.

HEAT STRESS

The human body functions best within a narrow range of internal temperature. This “core” temperature varies from 36°C to 38°C. To get rid of excess heat and keep internal temperature below 38°C, the body uses two cooling mechanisms: The heart rate increases to move blood and heat from heart, lungs, and other vital organs to the skin. Sweating increases to help cool blood and body. Evaporation of sweat is the most important way the body gets rid of excess heat. When the body's cooling mechanisms work well, core temperature drops or stabilizes at a safe level (around 37°C). **When too much sweat is lost through perspiration the body doesn't have enough water left to cool itself.** The result is dehydration. Core temperature rises above 38°C. A series of heat related illnesses, or heat stress disorders, can then develop.

WEST NILE

Minimize time spent outdoors at dawn, and at dusk through to the early evening, when mosquitoes are most active and biting. Some mosquitoes may also be active during the day particularly in weedy, bushy and wooded or shaded areas. Wear insect repellent when in areas where mosquitoes are more likely to be found, such as woods and near ravines. Those that contain DEET are most effective. Repellents based on citronella or lavender oil are less effective.

A photograph of a forest path with a quote overlaid. The path is covered in brown pine needles and leads through a dense forest of tall, thin trees. The lighting is soft, suggesting a shaded forest environment. The quote is centered in the lower half of the image.

*Take nothing
but photographs,
leave nothing
but footprints.*