Welcome to Durham

Durham Conservation Area is nestled along the scenic Saugeen River. This Conservation Area attracts over 5,000 visitors annually. The park extends over 60 hectares within the charming Town of Durham and includes over 200 spacious campsites within mature woodlands.

The season opens in late April and extends through to Thanksgiving. Durham C. A. includes both seasonal and transient sites. Pets are allowed, but please be sure to keep them on a leash and clean up after them.

A wide variety of activities are available in this park, including volleyball, horseshoes, fishing, hiking, picnicking, etc. The Town of Durham is just a short hike away for those wishing to take advantage of the shopping opportunities, events, functions, etc.

Beautiful McGowan Falls

The area formerly known as the home of Edge's Mill, is currently referred to as McGowan Falls as a tribute to one of the historical pioneer families in Durham.

Samuel and James Edge came into possession of land along the Saugeen River in 1847, which included the present day falls. Robert McGowan bought the property in 1888 and started development on the 'The People's Mill' soon afterwards. The Mill produced flour, oatmeal and other byproducts associated with the milling of grain. Unfortunately, operations at that time were tormented by flood and fire.

The current dam serves as a recreational and conservation flood control project.

Take to the Trails!

(Please note that all trail systems are designated as 'use at your own risk')



A variety of trails are available for those wishing to explore the local scenery or to visit the many attractions within the Town of Durham.

Gunpit Trail is a .7 km looped trail that encompasses a great deal of history. Until 1913, Gun Pit Trail would have been echoing with the sounds of musket shots. The local Volunteers #4 Company, 5th Battalion, 31st Regiment Grey Militia, practiced their rifle drills from the river flats, firing at targets built into the hill. A man stayed in a gun pit at the top of the hill, changing targets before the next firing round.

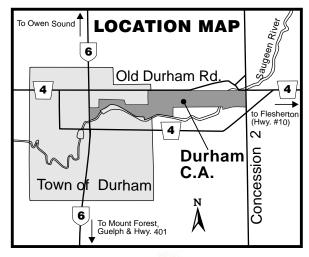
Riverview Trail is the longest of the trail systems (2.7 km), winding along the Saugeen River into the Town of Durham. This trail begins at the Pinewood Campground, in close proximity to one of the first settlements within the Town. This trail meanders past a 6 metre (20 foot) limestone bluff, the scenic McGowan falls and through a quiet cedar forest.

Another looped trail for those who wish a leisurely short trek, is the **Cedar Ridge Trail.** This trail system begins at the horseshoe pits and winds through cedar, mixed forest. Hikers can conclude their adventure back at the horseshoe pits, or take the connected trail to the Gunpit Trail.

In the winter months, bring your snowshoes or skiis and explore the various sites and sounds. The park is a much different place under the soft cover of fallen white snow!!

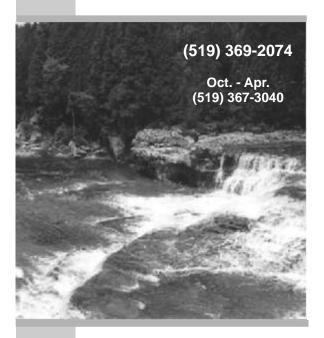
H ow to Find Us!

From Highway #401, take Highway #4 north to the Town of Durham. Follow the 'C' signs. From Highway #10 (Flesherton), take County Road #4 west to Durham. Follow the 'C' signs.





D urham Conservation Area Campsite Map





Prepared in cooperation with:



Human Resources

Développement des



nstructions for Campers

Please report to camp office to register.

Be sure to choose a developed campsite. Each campsite is numbered and has a picnic table.

Please travel campground roads in direction indicated by signs.

Campsites are numbered. The permit holder appears on the far side of the site, when approaching from the correct direction. Firewood is available at the gatehouse.

Camping is not permitted in areas other than the numbered campsites, unless authorized by the superintendent.

Regulations

Only one camping unit allowed to occupy each campsite unless otherwise authorized by the superintendent.

A maximum of one vehicle and one camping unit per camp site. Other vehicles must be left in the parking areas.

Profanity, intoxication or other disturbances will not be tolerated.

Swimmers do so at their own **risk.** Swimming is unsupervised.

Pets must be leashed at all times and are not permitted in swimming areas.

Quiet hours in the Conservation Area are from 11 p.m. - 7 a.m. Unnecessary noise at any time will not be tolerated.

All users of the area are responsible for knowing the regulations.

Any person violating the Conservation Area regulations may be evicted without refund and subject to court action.

