



Georgian Trail
since 1989

Staying on Track!

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Our 34km Georgian Trail provides a safe signed route for the Great Lakes Waterfront Trail.

Great Lakes Waterfront Signage



Stretching over 3000 km, the Great Lakes Waterfront Trail is a route connecting 140 communities and First Nations along the Canadian shores of the Great Lakes region. The Trail is a project of the Waterfront Regeneration Trust. It follows the Georgian Trail for much of its length, and in locations where it diverges from the Georgian Trail, we are working with the Trust to integrate our signage with theirs, to eliminate any potential confusion. The vision is to have a 1,000 kilometre-long signature cycling route around Georgian Bay that connects our communities, developing the region's tourism potential. For more information, go to: WaterFrontTrail.org.

The Awen' Gathering Place, Collingwood

Just west of the Georgian Trail's terminus in Collingwood's Harbourview Park you will find an impressive structure constructed this past summer. The concept for the Awen' Gathering Place is based on the teaching of the renowned educator, artist and poet Dr. Duke Redbird of the Saugeen Ojibway First Nation. The design links the Seven Grandfather Teachings to the seven layers of the food forest. The Seven Grandfather Teachings are an ancient Anishinaabe/Midewiwin doctrine on the ethics of proper behaviour and conduct, or 'the good way of life'. Supported by tall tree trunks, the individual canopies depict: Wisdom, Respect, Honesty, Love, Bravery, Truth, and Humility. The design of the Gathering Place is the result of collaboration between Dr. Redbird and the Indigenous design team of Brook McIlroy Architects / Landscape Architects.

The Awen' Gathering Place is a space of sharing, learning, teaching, ceremony, celebration and contemplation created by the Town of Collingwood to advance truth and reconciliation.



Our Trees Along The Georgian Trail



The Georgian Cycle & Ski Trail Association has asked arborist Tobias Effinger of Arboreal Tree Care Professionals for help in identifying trees along the trail that might be special and worth noting. These might be trees unique to the area, very old, or unusually large (in the case of an individual tree or grove of trees) which could be highlighted via an interpretive sign. Arboreal Tree Care will also identify any area that might require specific maintenance work due to an invasive species.

Share the Trail



This winter GC&STA volunteers will be placing seasonal signage along the more popular sections of the Trail, reminding our walkers, snowshoers and trail bikers to "Share the Trail" with cross country skiers.

Along the Trail



On Father's Day, 2014 Hugh Timmerman clocked 40,000 km on his bike's odometer. Four years later, on Father's Day, June 17, 2018 and at age eighty-seven, he reached 50,000 km in the same location on the Thornbury trestle bridge. This latest achievement represents 2,500 kilometers a year for this remarkable Meaford octogenarian!

Little Free Library



Along the Trail in Meaford a Little Free Library has been erected just east of Sideroad 13. Did you know that there are over 75,000 little free registered book exchanges worldwide?

St. Vincent Forest Lookout



Grey County completed the grading and widening of the St. Vincent Trail this summer. The 1.4 km (lookout & return) trail is designed to provide safe access to the lookout deck, offering a panoramic view high above Georgian Bay. Watch for the entrance when going west towards Meaford past Christie Beach Road.

Repair Station



Two recently installed bicycle repair stations have been gratefully used on many occasions this summer. Above is the repair station just below the Craigleith Heritage Depot. The second one is west of the Trestle Bridge in Thornbury.

Support The Trail!

We are always grateful for donations, for which we offer a tax receipt (for amounts of \$20 or more). Our Trail Map and Staying on Track! newsletters are dropped at various locations around Town, however supporters now receive a digital copy of their newsletter by email.



Donations help underwrite the cost of trail improvements.

Staying on Track!

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Board of Directors 2017-2018

Don DeGrandis, Janet Findlay,
Steve Gorton, Murray Knowles,
Bill Remus, Richard Rood
and Alan Ward

Your comments and ideas are welcome!

Please send them to:
info.georgiantrail@bell.net



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Mail To Georgian Cycle & Ski Trail Association, Box 151, Collingwood, ON L9Y 3Z5