BEFORE HEADING OUT ON THE TRAILS...

- Know your physical capabilities. Don’t attempt difficult trails unless you have the strength and experience.
- Pack ample supplies: plenty of water, lightweight snacks for energy, sunscreen, a compass, a hat, rain poncho, cell phone (reception may not be available), a map, insect repellent, and a first aid kit.
- Never let children run ahead on the trail.
- Be aware of weather conditions and reports.
- Be alert of dangers such as poisonous plants, wildlife, and cliff edges.
- When in doubt of trail conditions, turn around and head back the way you came slowly and calmly.
- Be aware of sunset and how many hours you have before night falls. Don’t get caught in the dark.
- Always hike with a partner. If you must hike solo, inform others of your plans and route in advance.
- Do not venture off marked paths. If you believe that you’ve gotten off course, retrace your steps back to the last trail marking.
- Remain in one place if you become lost or separated from your group.
- Be aware during hunting seasons. Wear a blaze orange hat and coat and if backpacking, cover your pack in blaze orange.

GREY SAUBLE CONSERVATION

Inglis Falls Conservation Area

Yours to explore

GREY SAUBLE CONSERVATION

natural choices

Take a waterfall tour with the family
Birdwatch at Bognor Marsh
Find Spirit Rock & the historical McNeill Estate
Enjoy a sunset on Old Baldy
Discover Inglis Falls on snowshoes or foot

>> www.greysauble.on.ca
Conservation Areas

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Grey Sauble Conservation
Our vision is a healthy watershed environment in balance with the needs of society.

The conservation and management areas listed in this brochure are only a few of the many thousands of hectares of land owned and managed by Grey Sauble Conservation (GSC). Many of these properties were acquired through donations and grants, and are areas of natural interest and spaces that needed protection from development. We hope that you enjoy visiting these special places and appreciate the effort and finances that go into maintaining them for public use. Donation boxes are available at most of the sites, and your donations are a welcome resource as we endeavour to keep these lands, trails and facilities open for the public.

Permitted Activities

All GSC lands are protected by the Conservation Authorities Act. Provincial regulations are in place to protect and conserve our natural resources for future generations. Permitted activity signs are posted at most access points. These signs reflect activities that are permissible and activities not listed are prohibited. Dogs on a leash are welcomed, please stoop and scoop. Conservation Area Provincial Offences Officers are available to answer your questions regarding regulations or to report an offence by calling our office at 519-376-3076.

Conservation Area Regulations

- Please be aware that you use these and other Grey Sauble Conservation lands at your own risk.
- No person shall cause willful damage to the park area, including buildings, trees, shrubs and wildlife, or perform any act likely to cause injury to any other person using the park.
- All conservation and management areas are closed to the public from sunset to sunrise and are day-use areas only. No camping allowed.
- Alcoholic beverages are not allowed in conservation or management areas.
- Please use receptacles provided by Grey Sauble Conservation for disposing of garbage, or take your garbage out with you.
- Hunting and trapping may be allowed in some areas.
- All users of the conservation and management areas are responsible for knowing the regulations.

The included mapping has been compiled from various sources and is for information purposes only. Grey Sauble Conservation Authority (GSC) is not responsible for, and cannot guarantee, the accuracy of all the information contained within the map. Produced by GSC with Data supplied under Licence by Members of the Ontario Geospatial Data Exchange. Includes Material © 2014 of the Queen’s Printer for Ontario and its licensors. May not be reproduced without permission. THIS IS NOT A PLAN OF SURVEY. The use of this Data does not constitute an endorsement by the MNR or the Ontario Government of use of such Data.
In 1881, this site became home for Alexander McNeill, a Federal Member of Parliament for the North Bruce Riding from 1881-1901. McNeill developed the land into beautiful gardens, manicured lawns and productive orchards and farmland. The heart of the estate was The Corran, a 17-room mansion lavished with oriental carvings, ancient weapons, tapestries and book-lined walls.

The McNeill estate was willed to the loyal housekeeper who sold it in 1960 to a Toronto resident. The property was sold to Grey Sauble in 1976. Shortly after, a fire destroyed the mansion leaving only a stone shell which is still visible today.

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The name Spirit Rock is derived from a legend involving an Indian maiden. Today, when the lighting and angles are just right, the face of the maiden can be seen in the cliffs from below. Encompassing 87 hectares, the site features historical ruins, an impressive view of Colpoy’s Bay from the top of the Niagara Escarpment, a spiral staircase to the water’s edge and access to the Bruce Trail.

Highway 6 North near Wiarton, see on pp. 13-14.
Bruce's Caves Conservation Area derives its greatest significance from the unique cave formations found along the escarpment face. These caves were formed by the wave action of post-glacial Lake Algonquin 7,000 to 8,000 years ago. The significance of the cave formations lies in their dramatic illustration of past weathering processes and impresses upon us the magnitude of post-glacial lake levels. The caves also illustrate the different physical and chemical weathering rates of various sections of the escarpment, soluble limestone and Amabel dolomite.

This property lies in the former Keppel Township just off Grey County Road #1, 4.8 km northeast of Wiarton. Bruce's Caves Conservation Area consists of 17 hectares of Niagara Escarpment and rock talus, upland hardwoods, wooded swamp and caves. It was named after a remittance man by the name of Robert Bruce who lived a hermit's life at the caves for many years. He died in 1908.

Grey County Road #1 NE of Wiarton, see 2 on pp. 13-14.
Indian Falls Conservation Area

The main natural feature of this 12 hectare site is the horseshoe shaped waterfall named after the Nawash Indian tribe who lived in this area at one time. The 15 metre high waterfall was formed by the erosion of soft Queenston shale beneath hard Manitoulin dolomite in a manner similar to Niagara Falls.

The 0.7 km rigorous trail to the waterfall follows the Indian River and provides many opportunities to view a variety of tree, fern and wildflower species and wildlife. Hard maple is the most common tree in the area but white cedar, beech and ash are also present. Sightings of downy woodpeckers, red-winged blackbirds and smaller mammals such as chipmunks and cottontails are common.

Near the parking area in a reclaimed gravel pit, ball diamonds, tennis courts and playground equipment. These recreational facilities are maintained by the Township of Georgian Bluffs for its residents, thus demonstrating a successful partnership between the two organizations.

Entrance: X 504278.30 • Y 4940672.49 • Longitude -80.94 • Latitude 44.61

Trail Difficulty Rating
(Easy / Very Difficult) – rocky terrain, steep path/cliffs
**Hibou Conservation Area**

Entrance: X 507316.01 • Y 4940365.59 • Longitude -80.90 • Latitude 44.61

Hibou Conservation Area is a scenic, 133 hectare day-use facility overlooking the beautiful waters of Georgian Bay. The name Hibou is derived from a freighter of that name which sank mysteriously off Paynter’s Bay in 1936. Seven crew and passengers were killed. The survivors of this, the most striking shipping tragedy ever to occur near Owen Sound, managed to struggle ashore at what is now called Hibou Conservation Area.

The entire family will enjoy the clear, sheltered waters and two natural sandy beaches of Hibou. Picnic facilities and playground equipment help to round out a full day at the beach.

If beaching isn’t your idea of a relaxing time, try out the 4.5 km of trails across the road from the beach. Along the trail are interpretive signs with information on tree and shrub species, beaver activities, wildflowers, beach ridges and more. Many stretches of the trail incorporate boardwalk to allow hikers to navigate low-lying wet areas. The trails are open to the public year round. A nominal parking fee is in effect from mid-June to Labour Day weekend. Seasonal passes are available providing access to both Hibou and Inglis Falls Conservation Areas.

Beavers have continuously growing front teeth that must be worn down by gnawing. They chew constantly. Beavers are excellent swimmers and dedicated parents.

Favourite Food: Soft broadleaf trees like birch, aspen, poplar and maple.

Claim to Fame: Other than being a Canadian icon, beavers are well known for their potential to significantly and quickly alter aquatic landscapes. They are the largest rodents in North America!

Beavers have lived in the wetlands at Hibou. You will see evidence along the trail. Look for the pointed tree stumps.
Encompassing 116 hectares of Niagara Escarpment land, the property features scenic Jones Falls. Cascading 12 metres over the escarpment, the Pottawatomi River eventually makes its way to Owen Sound Bay on Georgian Bay.

The trail leads the hiker to a vantage point providing a breathtaking vista of the surrounding lowlands and Jones Falls. You can join and follow the Bruce Trail further along the brow of the escarpment or hike/ski the alternate trail system provided.

This site contains various trees and shrubs ranging from wild rose to hard maples. Great white trillium and columbine are among the wildflowers that can be found. Cliff swallows, pileated woodpeckers, porcupines and woodchucks are common to the conservation area, as are garter snakes and painted turtles.

The Pottawatomi River, below the escarpment, possesses ideal conditions for migrating fish and other aquatic species. Rainbow trout and Chinook salmon use this area as spawning grounds, and brown trout often feed here.
The Arboretum & Administration Centre
(north of Inglis Falls Conservation Area)

Entrance: X 504928.82 • Y 4931399.29 • Longitude -80.93 • Latitude 44.53

Arboretum, a place where many kinds of trees and shrubs are grown for exhibition or study. The Inglis Falls Arboretum encompasses the Grey Sauble Conservation Administration Centre grounds and features two distinct areas. The “Trees of the World” portion of the Arboretum was originally established in 1963 and hosts a number unique native and non-native species of trees. The “Trees of Grey and Bruce” was started in 2000 with the purchase of an adjacent 21.5 acres to the north of the existing Arboretum. The “Trees of Grey and Bruce” project is very green, with new trees being planted by local school groups each year. In the fall, you can walk from the parking lot to the spawning channels and watch the salmon swim against the rivers’ current to complete their life cycle.

The Inglis Falls Arboretum features 3 km of accessible trails & benches, washrooms, pavillon, interpretive signage, ample parking and opportunities to connect with various trails within the Inglis Falls Conservation Area.
Inglis Falls Conservation Area

One of three waterfalls that surround the City of Owen Sound, Inglis Falls is the best known and most visited. Situated in the heart of the 200-hectare Inglis Falls Conservation Area, Inglis Falls is an 18 metre high cascade created by the Sydenham River meeting the edge of the Niagara Escarpment. The erosive power of the water has carved a deep gorge at the base of the falls. On a clear day you can see down the valley into the City of Owen Sound and out to the Owen Sound harbour.

There is something for everybody at Inglis Falls; a viewing platform for those unable to see over the stone wall; 7.42 km of trails of various difficulty; access to the Bruce Trail; more than 20 species of ferns; bird watching opportunities; a series of geological potholes; historical remains of a grist mill and water filtration plant and picnic facilities. A nominal parking fee is in effect from mid-May to Thanksgiving weekend. Seasonal passes are available providing access to both Inglis Falls and Hibou Conservation Areas.

Entrance: X 505110.39 • Y 4930264.39 • Longitude -80.93 • Latitude 44.52
This is a unique area. In a short time period you can be standing on the brow of the Niagara Escarpment and looking down on the backs of turkey vultures as they soar on air currents above the marsh. Next, you can be searching the quiet waters of the marsh for amazing aquatic creatures, such as water boatmen, giant water bugs and caddisfly larvae.

One of the largest marsh systems in Grey County, this management area encompasses 668 hectares of escarpment upland forests, three major marshes, reforested areas, natural regeneration areas, and several small springs feeding the marsh and stream system. A tributary of the Bighead River, joined by a feeder stream, flows easterly through the property. Water levels in the larger of the three marshes is controlled by a Ducks Unlimited dam to enhance habitat for waterfowl and other marsh-living animals, birds and plants.

At Bognor Marsh you will find 12.9 km of trails, an education shelter, boardwalks with interpretive signs, a viewing tower, access to the Bruce Trail and washroom facilities. A multi-use area, Bognor Marsh is visited by school classes, hikers, naturalists, birders and hunters, with little if any conflict.
Old Baldy Conservation Area

There are no facilities on site other than parking, but the sights to be seen after a 15 minute walk through the quiet woods make up for that. Upon reaching the brow of the Niagara Escarpment, which at this point rises 152 metres above the Beaver Valley, the view takes your breath away! Below are a patchwork of fields, forests and ski hills and the Village of Kimberley. It is likely that you will get a good view of a few turkey vultures as they soar on air currents off the rim of the escarpment.

Seen from below when driving through Kimberley, Old Baldy is also called Kimberley Rock. The Beaver Valley, a 32 kilometre long narrow wedge in the Niagara Escarpment that follows the Beaver River and eventually joins Georgian Bay, detaches this rock outcrop from the main escarpment.

Those wishing to do more hiking can follow the Bruce Trail markings through woodlands rich with ferns and spring flowers. Rock climbers are required to obtain a climbing permit from Grey Sauble Conservation.
Eugenia Falls Conservation Area

Situated in the very tiny village of Eugenia, Eugenia Falls Conservation Area encompasses 23 hectares of Niagara Escarpment, river valley and upland forests. The site features hiking trails, a picnic pavilion, privies, a war memorial, and its crowning glory, a 30 metre tall waterfall. The environment offers a wide variety of wildlife and bird habitat. Common mammals include porcupines, raccoons and skunks. Cliff-dwelling ferns are also abundant.

When first discovered in 1852, Eugenia Falls was the scene of a ‘Fools Gold’ rush. Later it became the location of five mills and a small private electric plant and by 1905, it was chosen to be the site of the second hydroelectric plant in Ontario (operated by the Georgian Bay Power Company). In 1915, Ontario Hydro moved the plant to the north and created Lake Eugenia, allowing more control over water levels. The waterfall was called Eugenia following a suggestion from some ex-soldiers of the French army (Crimean War) working with Charles Rankin surveying the former Artemesia Township. They suggested that the waterfall be named after Princess Eugenie, wife of Napoleon III.

Entrance: X 537894.83 • Y 4906805.47 • Longitude -80.52 • Latitude 44.31

Trail Difficulty Rating
(Easy / More Difficult) – rocky terrain, steep cliffs

Grey County Road 13, Village of Eugenia, see 9 on pp. 13-14.
Feversham Gorge begins on private property at an old mill dam in the Village of Feversham and extends downstream along the Beaver River. Its vertical limestone walls, towering 24 metres over the river, are cloaked with conifers and ferns.

The 12-hectare conservation area encompasses a large portion of the gorge as well as tableland above the gorge with mixed conifer and deciduous tree cover. A pleasant, if somewhat strenuous, 1.5 km hiking trail leads off to lookout stations and stairs along the edge of the gorge. The cliffs, although hard to access, are a botanist’s paradise and are home to a number of rare ferns, mosses and liverworts. These plants thrive in the permanent shade created by the trees and limestone cliffs. Towards the south end of the trail is a wonderful, almost Japanese-like garden created by springs seeping out of the side of the gorge. Soft mosses and grasses and the sound of bubbling water create a cool, relaxing place to stop and absorb your surroundings.

Feversham is located southwest of the Village of Feversham on Grey County Road #2. Facilities include washrooms, picnic tables and parking.