



February 2020



# Dufferin County Forest General Information



Natural hazards exist in the Forest; you are responsible for your safety. Please be aware of other users at all times. Obey all signs.

- ◆ No motorized vehicles except snowmobiles on designated O.F.S.C. trails
- ◆ No hunting June 1 - September 30; forest use permit required for hunting at all other times.
- ◆ No littering or dumping      ◆ No campfires      ◆ No camping

Recreational use of the County Forest is governed by a recreational use policy and County of Dufferin by-law 2017-39. Copies of the full by-law and recreational use policy are available at [www.dufferincounty.ca](http://www.dufferincounty.ca) or from the County Forest office (contact information on reverse).

## History

- ◆ the first purchase of land for the Dufferin County Forest was made in 1930, consisting of 426 ha (1,013 acres) on Concessions VII and VIII in Mulmur Township
- ◆ the last purchase was made in 1971, consisting of 41 hectares (100 acres) on Concession VI in Mulmur Township
- ◆ from 1930 to 1995, the Forest was managed on behalf of the County by the Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR). The relationship was governed by twenty-year agreements made under the *Forestry Act*.
- ◆ since 1995, the County has managed the Forest
- ◆ in 2001, the County was recognized for its management of the Forest and for its co-operation with the Dufferin South Simcoe Land Stewardship Network with a national award – the Forest Stewardship Recognition Program award

## Management

- ◆ the County has improved signage in the Forest, produced information items about the Forest, and promoted the Forest through tours, presentations, and special events
- ◆ annually, the County tenders timber for sustainable harvesting
- ◆ the County has developed a monitoring program to ensure that its objectives for the Forest are met
- ◆ self-guided forestry interpretive trails have been established at the Main Tract and the Little Tract
- ◆ a fully accessible trail has been established at the Hockley Tract
- ◆ in March, 2016 Dufferin County Council approved a comprehensive twenty-year (2016-2036) management plan for the Dufferin County Forest, which included an operating plan for 2016-2021.
- ◆ in May, 2017 Dufferin County Council approved a comprehensive recreational use policy for the Dufferin County Forest. For further details, see the brochures *Dufferin County Forest—Recreational Use* and *Dufferin County Forest—Hunting*
- ◆ in September, 2017 County Council approved a revised by-law governing use of the County Forest; its main provisions are listed on the reverse

## For more information

County Forest Division  
c/o Museum of Dufferin  
936029 Airport Road, Mulmur, ON L9V 0L3  
519-941-1114 or 877-941-7787  
forest@dufferincounty.ca      www.dufferincounty.ca

## Facts and Figures

- ◆ the Forest is a 1,066 hectare (2,636 acre) area, owned by the County of Dufferin, divided into fourteen tracts, distributed across all six of Dufferin County's rural municipalities
- ◆ the largest single area is the Main Tract (607 hectares/1,501 acres) located in Mulmur Township, just north of the hamlet of Mansfield
- ◆ major tree species include red pine, white pine, white spruce, eastern white cedar, larch, red oak, sugar maple, white ash, black cherry, white birch, and poplar
- ◆ a variety of ecosystems is represented, including conifer plantations, upland tolerant hardwoods, upland oak, bottomlands, wetlands, and creeks
- ◆ the Forest serves important functions in terms of erosion and water control, natural heritage protection, biodiversity, wildlife habitat, recreational opportunities, and support of the rural economy through timber production and employment opportunities
- ◆ a provincially recognized Life Science Area of Natural and Scientific Interest - the Oak Ridges South Slope Forest - is located in the Main Tract
- ◆ provincially or locally significant wetlands are located in the Randwick, Melancthon, Riverview, Hockley, and Amaranth Tracts