

Oak Ridges Corridor Conservation Reserve Trails

Program: Federal Gas Tax Fund

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

In 2013, Richmond Hill used the federal Gas Tax Fund to help construct trails in the Oak Ridges Corridor Conservation Reserve.

Located on the Oak Ridges Moraine and supporting the headwaters of three watersheds (the Humber, Don and Rouge), the 603 ha Oak Ridges Corridor Conservation Reserve:

- plays an important role in the recharge of headwater streams
- supports a wide array of diverse natural heritage features such as kettle lakes, wetlands, bogs and significant forest tracts
- contains a high number of wildlife and plant species
- represents one of the most diverse habitats found on the Moraine

Situated in the heart of Richmond Hill, the great accessibility of these public lands in combination with their rare natural habitat features, make them a unique opportunity for local and regional visitors in York Region and the Greater Toronto Area.

The Oak Ridges Corridor Conservation Reserve Trails project, in partnership with the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA), resulted in over 2.8 km of new trails being constructed. These trails provide an important pedestrian and cycling connection for Richmond Hill residents, linking the southern part of the Town to Oak Ridges. They also provide improved access to the Conservation Reserve to users region-wide.

In addition to the trails, the project also features trailheads where users can access information about the trail network, seating along the trail and a viewing platform.

Project Highlights:

Shared federal, municipal and conservation authority investment in pedestrian and cycling infrastructure.

Anticipated results:

- 2.8 kilometers of new trails to expand Richmond Hill’s trail network
- An important active transportation connection, linking the south part of the Town to Oak Ridges
- Improved access to the Conservation Reserve and a unique recreational experience in a natural setting



The Conservation Reserve Trails project is part of Richmond Hill’s commitment to being a pedestrian and cycling supportive community where people are encouraged to leave their cars at home and commute to work, school and other destinations by active modes of transportation, while visitors come to enjoy the healthy lifestyle and attractions along the trail system.



Richmond Hill, where people come together to build our community.

PROJECT FACTS	
	<p>Project Budget: \$600 000</p> <p>Federal Gas Tax Fund Contribution: \$436 000</p> <p>Completion Date: Fall 2013</p>

PROJECT BENEFITS

Expanding Richmond Hill’s trail network to create a connected community was part of what the community envisioned in Richmond Hill’s 2009 Strategic Plan.

Physical Connections

Our community is strengthened as we construct trails that expand and connect into the existing trail network. Trails provide connections for people to access local amenities by means other than the car, and improve the function of streets and neighbourhoods. The Oak Ridges Corridor Conservation Reserve Trails project provides an off-road pedestrian and cycling connection, for the first time, between the southern part of Richmond Hill and the Oak Ridges community.

Better Options for being Active and Involved

Richmond Hill is committed to providing better choices for our community. The Oak Ridges Corridor Conservation Reserve Trails project provides better options to move around and better options for being active and involved. It is also better for the environment.



A Vibrant Community

The Oak Ridges Corridor Conservation Reserve Trails project contributes to a more vibrant Richmond Hill by promoting opportunities for people to experience the natural environment in one of Richmond Hill’s unique places, the Oak Ridges Corridor Conservation Reserve. Visitors can enjoy the benefits of passive recreation while engaging in a natural setting that is considered to be one of the most diverse on the Oak Ridges Moraine.

Trail construction in the Oak Ridges Corridor Conservation Reserve provides an important connection in Richmond Hill while offering opportunities for active transportation and recreational enjoyment in a beautiful natural setting.



225 East Beaver Creek Road,
Richmond Hill, ON L4C 4Y5

Tel: 905 771 8800
Email: peopleplan@richmondhill.ca
Website: RichmondHill.ca

The Oak Ridges Corridor Conservation Reserve Trails were built with contributions from the federal Gas Tax Fund.

