

The East Mountain Trail Loop



Since 1997, the City of Hamilton (former Region of Hamilton-Wentworth) explored ways to further reduce the impact of the Red Hill Valley Project on local environs. The process yielded positive results in two key areas: creek/fish habitat compensation, and ecological restoration. The one remaining concern was the loss of open space and the need to ensure east Hamilton continues to have quality recreational areas to access and enjoy. To this end, the goal of the Open Space Replacement concept is to replace the 70 hectares of open space permanently displaced by the Parkway with an equal amount of new open space that is fully connected by a trail system and is equipped with educational opportunities. City Council approved the Strategy in May 2004.

The Loop Trail, part of the Open Space Replacement Strategy, starts in the Red Hill Valley at the Niagara Escarpment and forms a large connected loop from there to Mount Albion Conservation Area, to the Eramosa Karst lands, to Felker's Falls Conservation Area and then back along the Niagara Escarpment to the Red Hill Valley.

Hamilton Conservation Authority, Celebrating 50 years of Conservation

- 2008 marks 50 years of flood protection, watershed management and grass roots conservation efforts by the HCA
- Strategic goal to increase environmental initiatives in the east end of the watershed

Two major projects were selected to celebrate this important milestone, opening the new Eramosa Karst Conservation Area and the commencement of the East Mountain Trail Loop.