



MEMORANDUM

TO: Regional Councillor Vito Spatafora,
Chair, York Region Accessibility Advisory Committee

FROM: Ian Buchanan, Manager
Natural Heritage and Forestry - Transportation Services

DATE: September 20th, 2010

RE: **York Regional Forest Accessible Trail Initiative**

We are pleased to announce that the construction of the one-kilometre accessible trail loop in the Hollidge Tract of the York Regional Forest, Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville is completed and is now open to the public.

This is the first accessible trail to be constructed in York Region and is built to adhere to the *Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005* (AODA) – draft Built Environment Standard. The trail is constructed with granular material, making the ground surface firm. The trail width is 150 cm or greater and is free of physical barriers. The cross slope does not exceed 5% and the trail has been graded to ensure a gradual slope of less than 5% . This design makes the trail accessible for a person with a wheelchair or scooter.

A new brochure has been developed to promote the new trail to the community (Attachement 1). In addition, York Region's website will feature a description of the site and have 360 degree photographs of sections of the trail. This will provide the public with a unique opportunity to preview the trail and site conditions prior to using the trail.

We would like to take opportunity to thank all the members of the York Region Accessibility Advisory Committee for their input and feedback on this initiative, and in particular the contributions of the Trail Sub Committee members; Regional Councillor John Taylor, Co-Chair Wilf Morley, Margaret Gaukel and Kirsten Hill. We hope you have an opportunity to visit the trail in the near future.

/PT

YORK REGIONAL
F O R E S T

Accessible Trail

at the
Hollidge Tract



York Regional Forest

The York Regional Forest was established in 1924. Today, 20 properties with an area of 2,257 hectares (5,578 acres) are owned and managed by The Regional Municipality of York.

These public lands offer rich natural habitats which are home to a diversity of wildlife. They provide for a variety of recreational uses, including bird watching, dog walking, horseback riding and mountain biking.

YORK REGIONAL
F O R E S T

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For more information on the Accessible Trail
at the Hollidge Tract, please contact York Region
Natural Heritage and Forestry Services
905 830-4444 ext. 5256



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YORK REGIONAL FOREST

Accessible Trail

at the
Hollidge Tract

*The beautiful Hollidge Tract
in the York Regional Forest
provides a unique nature
experience for all users*





About the Trail

The Accessible Trail is a one-kilometre loop located in the York Regional Forest's Hollidge Tract in the Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville. Access to the trail is on the east side of Highway 48, south of Vivian Road, adjacent to Cherry Street.

Accessibility Features

The trail is one of the first to be constructed to the proposed *Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005 (AODA)* Built Environment Standard. It is the first trail in the York Regional Forest to be built to this standard.

The entire trail surface is constructed from packaged granular material to provide a durable surface for wheelchairs and other assistive devices. The trail has also been widened, cleared of obstructions and graded to ensure ease-of-movement for all visitors.

Features

The trail passes through a variety of areas including red pine forest, lowland mixed wood forest, young hardwood forest and wetland.

There is accessible parking and a display case with information about the trail.

Note: Please remember to take any waste with you, including pet waste. Poison Ivy is common, so appropriate footwear, gloves and long pants are recommended.

YORK REGIONAL FOREST Accessible Trail at the Hollidge Tract



Hollidge Tract Accessible Trail

16389 Hwy 48, Whitchurch-Stouffville

Accessibility Information

Trail Length 1.1 km (.07 mi)

Cumulative Gain 18m (61 ft)

Elevation Change Loss 6m (19 ft)



Typical Grade is 2.3%

37% of the trail is between 3% and 5%
349m (1146 ft) is between 4% and 5%



Typical Cross Slope is 1.8%

22% of the trail is between 3% and 5%
55m (180 ft) is between 4% and 5%



Typical Tread Width is 187cm (74 in)

Tread Width ranges from 152cm (60 in)
to 366cm (144 in)



Trail Surface is Soil

100% of the trail is Firm or better
1100m (3612 ft) of the trail is Firm

