

# Dofasco 2000 Trail

The Dofasco 2000 Trail is an 11.5 kilometre multi-use trail on Hamilton's East Mountain. The trail links the Devil's Punch Bowl Conservation Area, 87-Acres Park, the Bruce Trail and Battlefield House Museum and Park. It passes through the beautiful rural countryside of Stoney Creek, with a boardwalk section through the Vinemount South Swamp. The trail will eventually continue on road to link with the Ontario Waterfront Trail and Fifty Point Conservation Area on Lake Ontario. The Dofasco 2000 Trail is managed by the Hamilton Conservation Authority. It was built in partnership with the Hamilton Conservation Foundation, Dofasco Inc., the Millennium Bureau of Canada and the City of Hamilton.

## Come and Explore...

Your trip begins at the Devil's Punchbowl Conservation Area at First Road East, which offers a stunning city view from its lookout. From there the trail will pass an apple and cherry orchard and provide a link to the Bruce Trail, and the Battlefield House Museum. A 1.7 kilometre boardwalk section runs through the Vinemount South Swamp, an environmentally significant swamp

forest. Also along the trail you will observe the Sinclair Sugar Bush, and 87-Acres Park's quarry pond, home to a wide variety of wildlife and a habitat for several species of migratory waterfowl.

## Trail Highlights:

### Devil's Punchbowl

The Devil's Punchbowl Conservation Area is one of the most amazing sights of the Niagara Escarpment. It was created at the end of the last ice age by huge streams that plunged over the Stoney Creek Escarpment and carved out the Punchbowl. From the lookout at the top of the Punchbowl, you get an spectacular view of Stoney Creek and Hamilton Harbour, not to mention the view down into the seemingly bottomless Punchbowl.

### Linkage to the Bruce Trail

The Bruce Trail is 725 kilometres long, with more than 200 kilometres of associated side trails. The Niagara Escarpment, along which the Bruce Trail runs, was proclaimed a UNESCO World Biosphere Reserve by the United Nations in 1990. It is one of only six such reserves in all of Canada. Please note that the Bruce Trail is a footpath only.

### Battlefield House Museum and Park

Battlefield House was built in 1796. It gives visitors the chance to experience what life was like in the 1830's. This pioneer homestead is where the Gage family was held as the Battle of Stoney Creek took place around their home. The one hundred foot high Battlefield Monument is dedicated to one hundred years of peace between the United States and Canada since the War of 1812. From the main Bruce Trail, follow the side trail marked in blue for access to Battlefield House.

### Vinemount South Swamp

This swamp forest is the biggest natural forest area south of the Escarpment in the Hamilton area. It is home to several endangered and important species, including the Northern Harrier, the Sedge Wren and Edward's Hairstreak Butterfly. Visitors can experience the beauty of its natural features from the boardwalk through the swamp, giving them a unique view of the centre of a wetland.



### Erland Lee (Museum) Home

Built in 1808, it was home to the Lee Family for six generations. Erland Lee and his wife Janet were instrumental in founding the Women's Institute. They invited Adelaide Hoodless to come speak in Stoney Creek in 1897, which helped to lay the Institute's foundations. The house is the best example of gothic revival in Ontario. It is located at 552 Ridge Road, just east of the on-road section of the Dofasco 2000 Trail.

### Saltfleet Northeast Woods

The woods provide a home to 50 species of breeding birds, nine of which are uncommon in the Hamilton area, including a breeding ground for the Sedge Wren, a highly significant species of wren. Approximately 55 hectares, the woods are made up of marshy fields and woodlots.

### 87-Acres Park

The park's large quarry pond is habitat to several species of migratory waterfowl as well as home to mammals such as muskrats. The wetlands were recently expanded to provide a larger waterfowl habitat. 87-Acres Park also has a hawk-watching field for viewing species such as the red-tailed hawk.

