



Backgrounder

www.rougepark.com email: rougepark@rougepark.com

What is Rouge Park?

Rouge Park is Canada's premier urban wilderness park. It is protected park land in the Rouge River, Petticoat Creek and Duffins Creek watersheds, in and near Toronto, Canada's largest city. The Park was created by the Ontario government in 1995 in response to public concerns about the protection of the Rouge River valley. The award-winning Park provides a reservoir of biodiversity in the Greenbelt and the only link to Lake Ontario in the Greenbelt in Toronto. It has special recognition in Ontario's *Greenbelt Plan* (Section 3.2.6).

Visitor Services

Rouge Park is open 365 days a year. Admission is free. Hiking trails, seasonal riverside camping, a sandy beach and spectacular views await visitors. Many areas are accessible by public transit. Visit www.rougepark.com for details. Go "Wild in the City!"

Park size and location

The Park is in east Toronto and Markham, Ontario, Canada (See www.rougepark.com for maps). At over 46 km² (11,500 acres) in size, Rouge Park is 18 times the size of the City's next largest park, Downsview Park and 20 times the size of the Toronto Islands.

Bob Hunter Memorial Park, near 14th Avenue and Reesor Road in Markham is also in Rouge Park. Two municipal park areas (Milne Park, Markham and Phyllis Rawlinson Park, Richmond Hill) and one Conservation Area (Bruce's Mill, Toronto and Region Conservation Authority) are also part of Rouge Park.

How is Rouge Park Governed?

Rouge Park is a partnership park, with land and funds from the Province of Ontario, the Government of Canada, the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority, municipal governments and other agencies. The board of directors for Rouge Park is the Rouge Park Alliance, a partnership of 12 government organizations and one not-for-profit group.

Organization	Member
Government of Canada	Derek Lee, MP (Scarborough-Rouge River)
Province of Ontario	Brad Duguid, MPP (Scarborough Centre)
Region of Durham	Regional Councillor Bonnie Littley
Region of York	Regional Councillor Jack Heath
Town of Markham	Councillor Erin Shapero
City of Pickering	Councillor Jennifer O'Connell
Town of Richmond Hill	Councillor David Cohen
City of Toronto (2 members)	Councillor Paul Ainslie; Councillor Ron Moeser
Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville	Councillor Clyde Smith
Toronto & Region Conservation Authority	Gerri Lynn O'Connor, Chair
Toronto Zoo	Calvin White, General Manager
Waterfront Regeneration Trust Corporation	Pauline Browes, Director
Save the Rouge Valley System Inc.	Glenn De Baeremaeker, President
CHAIR	Gord Weeden (appointed by the Province of Ontario in 2005)

The Rouge Park Alliance is guided by the *Rouge Park Management Plan* (1994) and the *Rouge North Management Plan* (2001). Plans were created in 2006 for two areas of the Park which required special consideration: the Little Rouge Creek Corridor and Bob Hunter Memorial Park.

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For more information contact:

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