

City of Markham Trails Overview

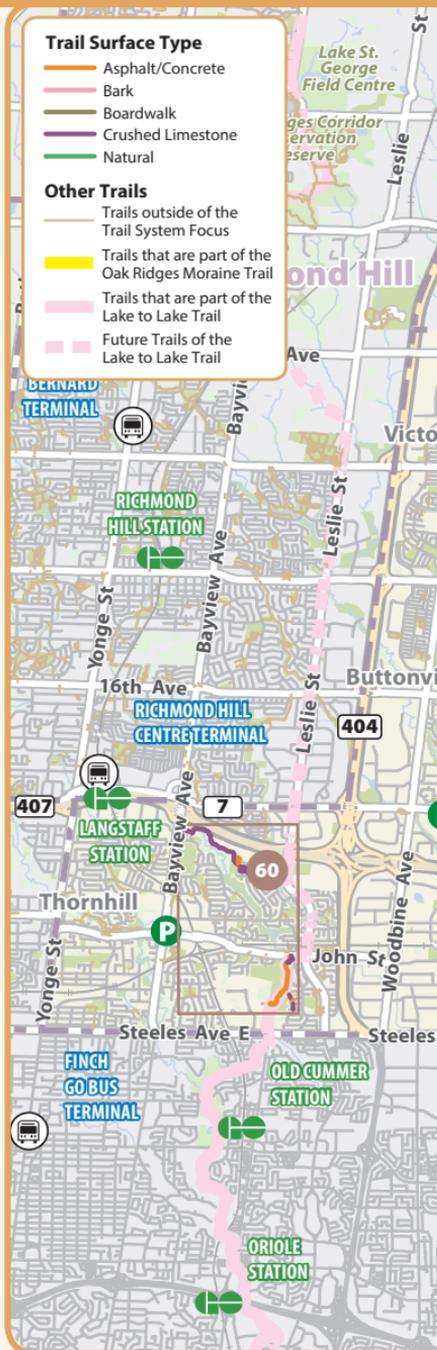


Markham has more than 22 kilometres of scenic pathways that provide access for walkers, joggers and cyclists. The City takes pride in keeping Markham beautiful. The parks and public green spaces promote an active and healthy quality of life. The natural, unmanicured spaces in the community including woodlots, ravines and valleys, benefit the residents, plants and animals. These spaces are home to rare plant and insect species and provide specialized foods and shelters to many types of native birds, bees and butterflies for survival.

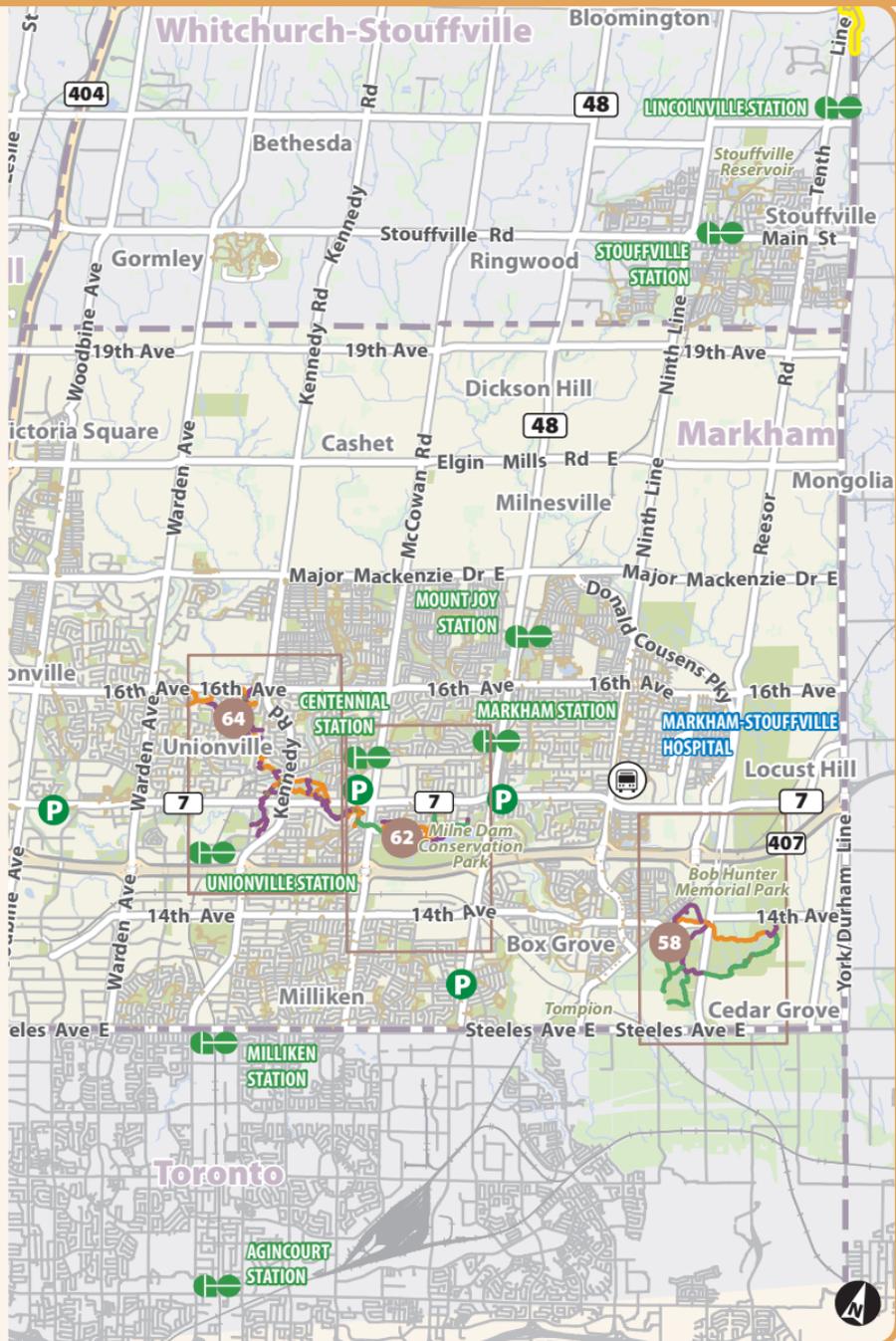
For more information about trails in Markham contact:
City of Markham
905-477-5530
markham.ca

Page Name

58	Bob Hunter Memorial Park
60	Huntington Trail
62	Milne Dam Conservation Park
64	Rouge Valley Trail



City of Markham Trails Overview



0 2 km - Average walking time 32 minutes



The Rouge Park Alliance oversees the management of **Bob Hunter Memorial Park**. A network of trails will be established connecting the Oak Ridges Moraine to Lake Ontario along the corridors of the Rouge River and its tributaries. Planning for the proposed Rouge Park Trails Network is underway.

Trails on public lands within the Rouge River watershed are part of the existing network of trails in the Rouge Park. Respective governments set the restrictions for use of these trails which must be followed by all trail users.

Be sun safe

Use sunscreen with a sun protection factor (SPF) of 30 or higher, with both UVA and UVB protection. Apply generously before going outside and reapply often, especially after swimming or exercising.

Be mindful

When walking or running on trails, be alert and avoid distractions – don't text or use headphones so you can see and hear your surroundings.



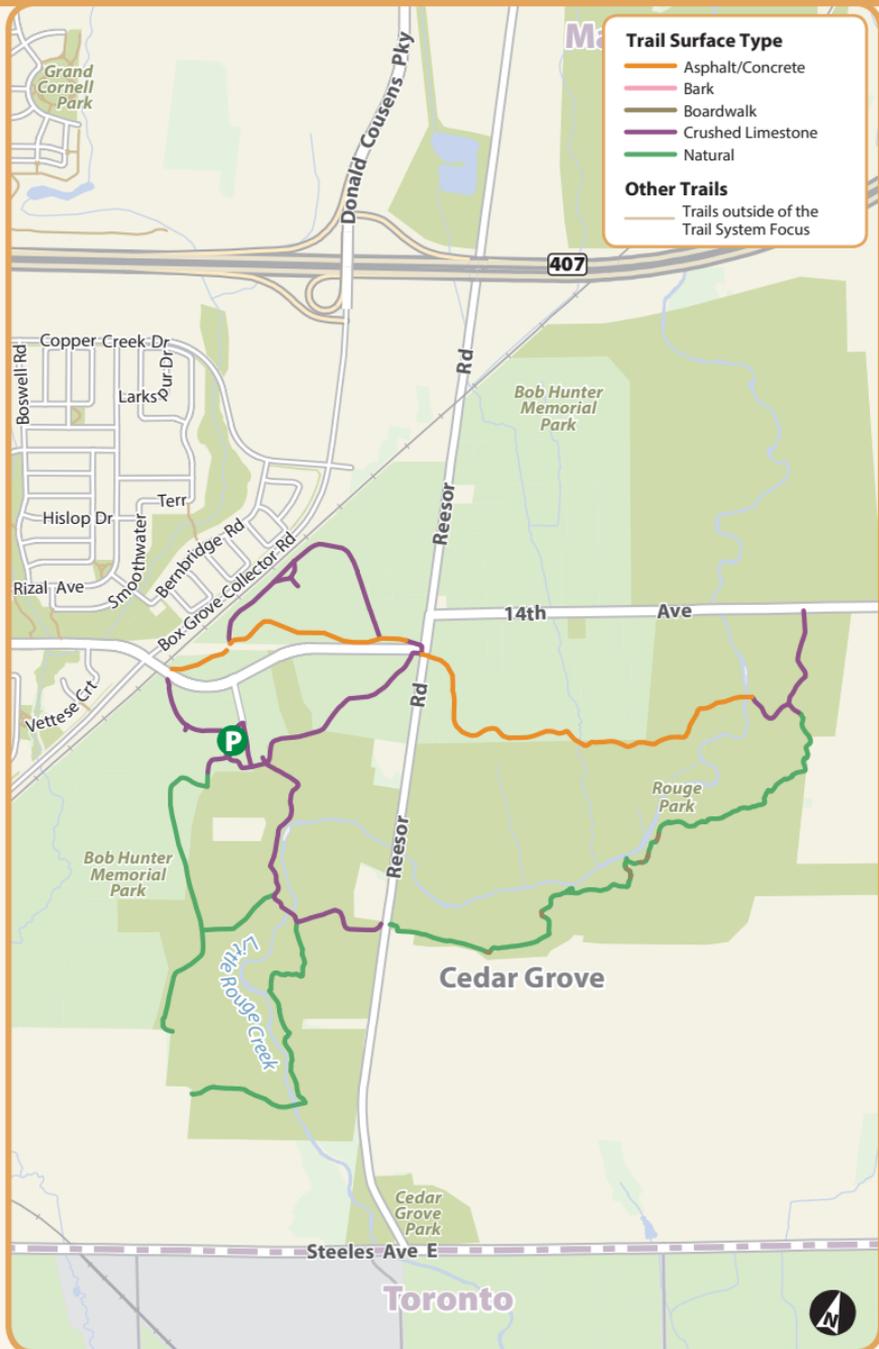
Trail difficulty: Easy-Moderate

Distance: 8.5 km

Access point: 14th Avenue, 1 km west of Box Grove By-pass

For more information: Toronto and Region Conservation Authority

416-661-6600 trcaparks.ca





The **Huntington Trail** runs west from Leslie Street in Thornhill and crosses Little German Mills Creek to Huntington Park, which has a picnic shelter, two baseball diamonds, two lit tennis courts and a playground. It then proceeds west along the edge of Maple Valley, a mature, hardwood forest, crossing German Mills Creek to Evergreen Court.

Within this forested haven, you may encounter white-tailed deer, coyotes, rabbits, raccoons, squirrels, ring-necked pheasants and enjoy the melodious chirping of blue jays and chickadees. Portions of this trail are part of the old Leitchcroft Farms horse trails.

German Mills Settlers' Park has become a unique wildlife habitat and a wonderful natural resort. It is hard to imagine that before 1970, part of this place was a gravel pit and consequently a landfill site.

Thirty-seven years without destructive human intrusion restored the natural balance and brought back salmon and other fish to the creek, welcomed more than 70 species of birds, made this park a living place for 15 species of mammals, including deer and hares, as well as reptiles and butterflies.

Cycling etiquette

Riders should yield to trail walkers and let them know if you intend to pass (bell or horn)

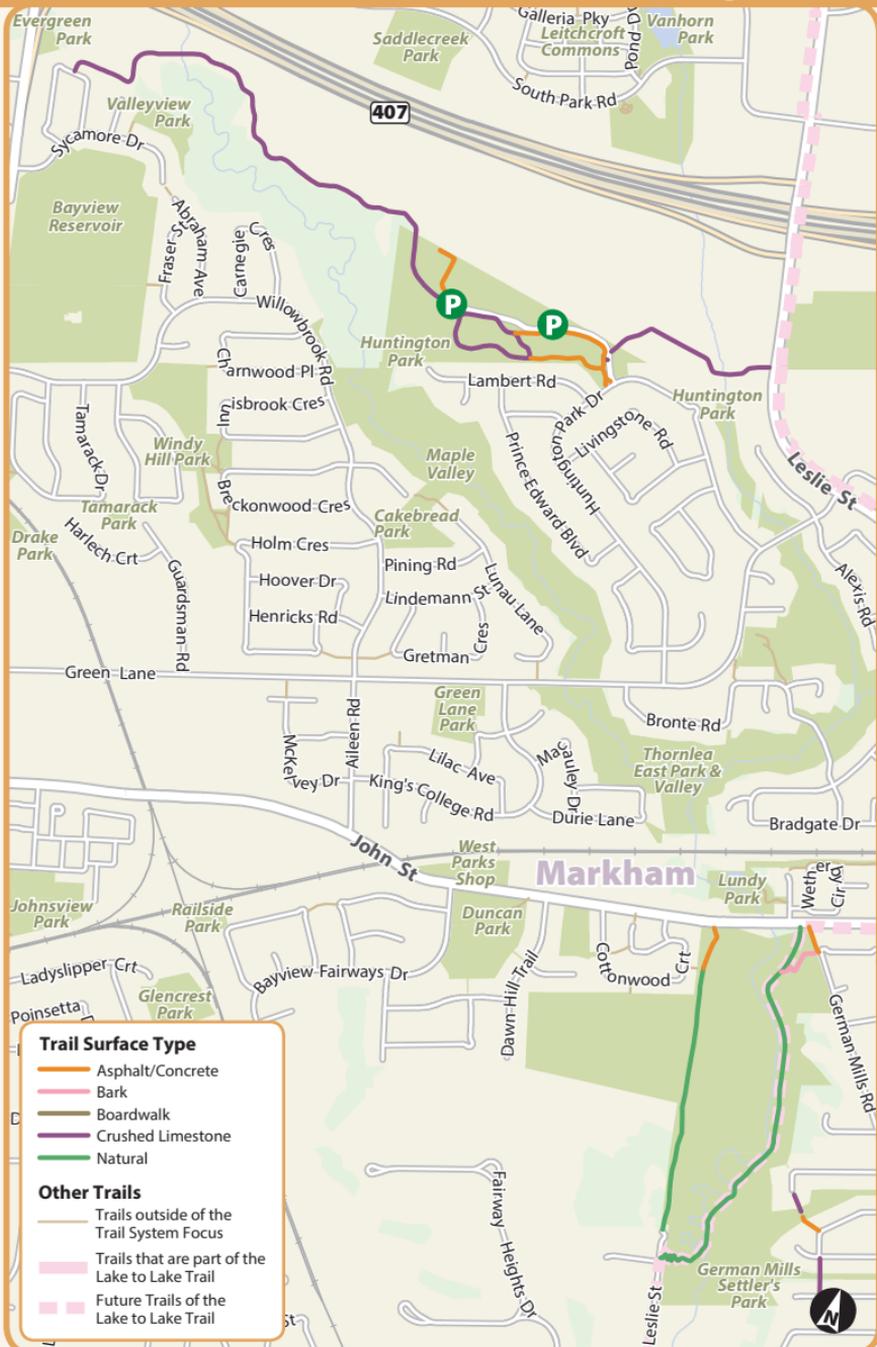


Trail difficulty: Easy-Moderate

Distance: 2.5 km

Access points: From Huntington Park north of Huntington Park Drive, Leslie Street, across from St. Robert Catholic High School, 81801 Leslie Street, Evergreen Crescent, John Street at Rockingham Court, 7051 Leslie Street

For more information: City of Markham
905-477-5530 markham.ca



0 500 m - Average walking time 8 minutes



Part of the Rouge Valley Trail goes through the **Milne Dam Conservation Park**, located on Milne Reservoir.

Milne Dam Conservation Park was named after Peter and Alexander Milne who operated a mill, located near the present dam structure in the 1820s. By 1845, the business expanded to include a general store, fuelling and wool mill ashery. In 1911, Archie Milne, grandson of Peter Milne, built the first concrete and steel arc dam in Canada and Markham sprang from the advent of the mill and dam. In the 1950s, the Toronto and Region Conservation

Authority acquired the property as the Milne Park Conservation Area.

There are wonderful opportunities for bird watching in this area as the significant wetlands, forests and open space provide a stop-off for migratory birds. Blue jays, chickadees, woodpeckers, blue herons and a nesting pair of Baltimore orioles have been observed in the park. At dusk during "bug season", come to the park for bat watching and perhaps catch a glimpse of a deer. The park is well used for large group picnics with new modern shelters to accommodate 100 people. Fishing is also allowed with an Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry fishing permit.

Monday through Friday, admission to the park is free. On weekends and statutory holidays parking is \$5. The park is also accessible via public transit.



Trail difficulty: Easy-Moderate

Distance: 2.3 km

Access points: Off McCowan Road south of Highway 7;
along Drakefield Road

Parking: At Milne Outdoor Education Centre, off Drakefield Road at Roy Crosby School. Pay to park on site, parking free on weekends from Victoria Day to Thanksgiving weekend

For more information: City of Markham
905-477-5530 markham.ca



The **Rouge Valley Trail** follows the Rouge River along Toogood Pond located in the heart of Unionville. Toogood Pond was named after Arthur Toogood who owned the pond prior to the City's acquisition in 1980. The shady four kilometre trail around the pond was constructed in the early 1980s. It has since been a popular spot for leisure walks with a partially naturalized pond and marsh. The pond has recently undergone a number of improvements: shoreline restoration, community planting and cascading pools to accommodate migrating fish.

The Rouge Valley Trail continues south through Austin Drive Park. Austin Drive Park has two storm water ponds that collect the local run off of rainwater, which slowly

flows into the river. This reduces erosion and the amount of sediment flowing into the river during storm events. The park is also the site of a forest regeneration area and famous for bird watching. Songbirds, such as gold finch, cardinals and sparrows, can be commonly seen here with the occasional red tailed hawk

The Rouge Valley Trail also diverges and connects west to the Mildred Temple Park located at Highway 7 and Unionville Main Street. 10,000 Trees for the Rouge Valley and the community have played a role in vegetating Mildred Temple and Austin Drive Parks with the planting of native trees and shrubs in the 1990s.

The Rouge Valley Trail and City of Markham plans to connect the multi-use pathway from Toogood Pond to Bob Hunter Memorial Park. Upon completion, this 15 kilometre trail will be a significant cycling and walking route providing connections through many communities, key destinations and parks.



Trail difficulty: Easy-Moderate

Distance: 7 km

Access points: Main Street Unionville

Parking: Available along Main Street Unionville

For more information: City of Markham

905-477-5530 markham.ca

