

2009 Take a Walk in the Forest!

There are over 2200 hectares (5500 acres) of York Regional Forest in 20 different tracts. Forestry Staff and the Regional Forest Advisory Team host Forest events monthly. Come out, enjoy & learn.

1. **Pre-register for Feb and Nov events – otherwise just come out at the start time indicated!**
2. *These events are free. Children under 16 years old must be accompanied by an adult.*
3. *Terrain varies from sandy dirt paths to woody debris covered forest floor. Poison Ivy is common along trail edges. Closed-toed footwear, long sleeved shirts and pants are recommended.*
4. *Please stay on the trails; forest tracts are used at your own risk.*

January 17 – Winter Night Wander

6 pm-8 pm, Hollidge Tract, 16389 Hwy 48

Join a naturalist for an evening saunter through the winter woods. Look for signs of wildlife by night. Enjoy the stars!

February 21-Snowshoe Stroll (additional dates available)

10 am-Noon, Hollidge Tract, 16389 Hwy 48

Register for a 2 km snowshoe stroll along forest pathways. Snowshoes, instruction, and a guided walk are included.

Pre-registration is required for this event:

Telephone: 905-830-4444 Ext: 5256.

March 21 – Wild in the Forest and City!

10 am-Noon, Hollidge Tract, 16389 Hwy 48

Learn about wildlife that live in and pass through the Forest and our urban areas. Touch the furs of our local wildlife species. Learn about a day in the life of a licensed wildlife trapper. Hike along wooded trails and discover animal survival skills.

April 18 - Spring Forest Festival - Celebrate Spring!

10 am-2 pm, Eldred King Tract, 16232 Hwy 48

Celebrate spring and the Forest legacy by planting trees. Listen to awesome amphibians and look for slinky salamanders and snakes on hikes through the Regional Forest at 11:00 am and 1:00 pm. Enjoy a horse-drawn wagon ride through the Forest. Take home a tree seedling to plant. Don't forget to bring your work gloves and shovel to really dig this 2009 Earth Week celebration!

May 30 - Get Up With the Birds!

7 am-9 am, Eldred King Tract, 16232 Hwy 48

Join us on a bird-watching hike. Learn the call of the ovenbird and other forest birds with an expert birder on a hike through the Forest.

June 20 – Trim-a-Limb Tree Pruning Demo

10 am-Noon, Hollidge Tract, 16389 Hwy 48

Learn how to keep your trees healthy! A Forester will show you how to plant, prune and maintain your trees and then lead you on a tree identification hike in the forest.

July 18 – Happy Valley Forest Hike

10 am-Noon, King Township, from King Road turn North onto 7th Conc., follow signs, park at dead end

Join biologists with the Nature Conservancy of Canada and York Region on a hike through one of the largest remaining hardwood forests on the Oak Ridges Moraine. Go back in time and visit ancient landforms created by glacial ice deposits. (map to site available on request)

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August 15 - The Dirt On Bugs

10 am-Noon, Bendor & Graves Tract, 17689 Kennedy Road (north of Davis Drive)

Look for bugs on a hike with a Forester and talk about Honey Bees, Monarch Butterflies, the Asian Long Horned Beetle and the Emerald Ash Borer. We will also explore the area's history and why the York Regional Forest was originally planted with red pine.

September 19- Fall Forest Festival "From the Forest"

10 am-2 pm, Hollidge Tract, 16389 Hwy 48

Come out and see all the things made from the forest. Local artisans and wood crafters will demonstrate their art; lovely, local, hand-crafted wood products. Take a horse-drawn wagon ride through the Regional Forest or walk the trails on a guided hike at 11:00 am and 1:00pm.

October 17 - Forest Fishes and Fungi

10 am-Noon, Hollidge Tract, 16389 Hwy 48

Enjoy an educational walk with ecologists to a Forest stream and learn how and why we protect aquatic forest resources that provide habitat for brook trout. Learn about the mushrooms in the Forest with our "fun-gal".

November 21 - It's For the Birds!

10 am-Noon, Hollidge Tract, 16389 Hwy 48

Learn how natural plantings can provide backyard shelter and food for winter birds. Discover different birds that visit or live in the Regional Forest. Build a birdhouse to take home (birdhouse kits supplied).

Pre-registration is required for this event:

Telephone: 905 830-4444 Ext: 5256.

December 19 - Forest Jingle Bell Walk

10 am-Noon, Hollidge Tract, 16389 Hwy 48

Join other merry walkers along a 2 km forest path. Learn about the holiday tradition of bells, Christmas trees and the benefits of evergreens. Bells are provided. A donation of non-perishable food for a local food bank would be appreciated.



These events, brought to you by the Natural Heritage and Forestry Services Section of the Regional Municipality of York, are a product of the **York Region Greening Strategy**. Greening initiatives include: land securement, community education, naturalization and on-the-ground actions related to natural heritage protection and enhancement.

Copies of this schedule & more info can be found at www.york.ca or www.yorktourism.com or call 1(877)464-YORK or 905 830-4444, Ext 5256