#### KEN REID CONSERVATION AREA

## Kawartha Quest

## YOUR PASSPORT TO EXPLORATION AND ADVENTURE





TD Friends of the Environment Foundation

# Introduction

Welcome to the Kawartha Quest. Join your friends and family in exploring Ken Reid Conservation Area as you search for clues to help you complete your quest to become a Kawartha Conservation Junior Ecologist. As you complete the activities in your passport, you will uncover the letters to a secret code word. Letters are hidden in stars throughout the passport - like the one below. Once you've completed all the activities, head over to KawarthaConservation.com/Quest where you can unscramble the secret code word and redeem your Jr. Ecologist certificate!

Remember Explorers, safety first! These tips will help ensure you have a great time on your quest.

- Bring water, sunscreen and a hat
- Be sure to have a pen or pencil to fill in your passport
- Bring along a camera or smartphone to take pictures of your adventure
- Always stay on the trails and watch out for poison ivy

When identifying poison ivy look for:

- Compound leaves with 3 leaflets
- The stalk of the middle leaflet is much longer than the stalks of the side leaflets

## This passport belongs to:



Meet Flynn the Fox! Flynn will be travelling around Ken Reid Conservation Area with you as your adventure guide to give you tips, tricks and clues to help you complete your passport. Keep an eye out for Flynn and their clue envelope!



# Rules

- Ensure you have all of your supplies to complete your passport: pen or pencil, a camera or smartphone to take pictures, and spare paper
- Remember to take only what you need from the Conservation Area to finish your passport. Practicing sustainable harvesting ensures there is enough left for nature
- Please abide by the rules of the Conservation Area
- To submit your passport, go to the Kawartha Conservation website at www.KawarthaConservation.com/Quest

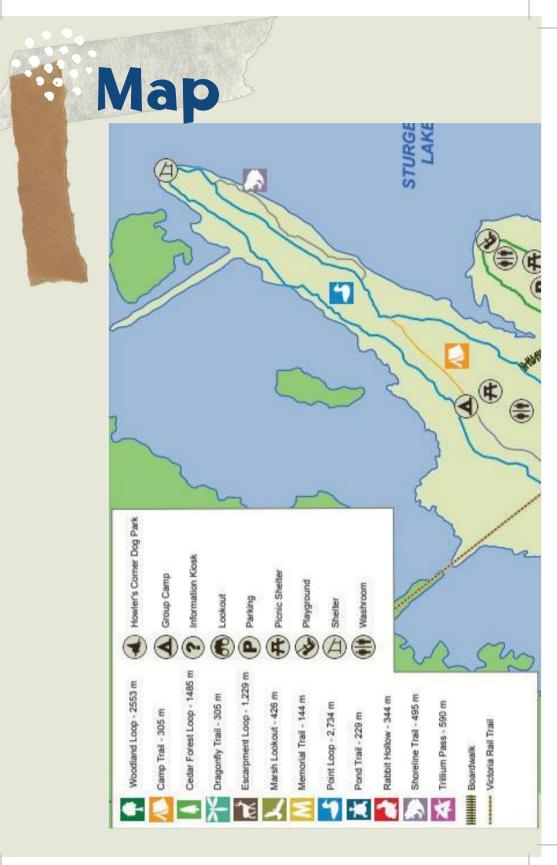


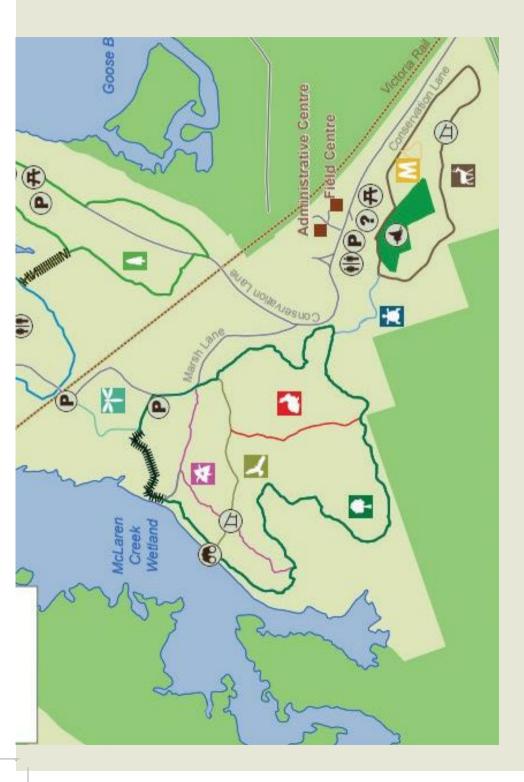
#### This passport entitles you to one (1) pinecone from Ken Reid Conservation Area to complete a future activity.

Please do not take more than one. This will let everyone complete the activity and allows for pinecones to be left for the animals at Ken Reid Conservation



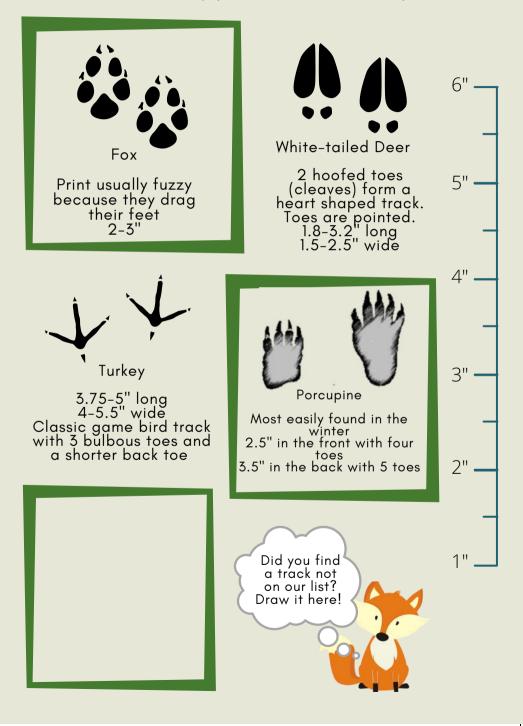
From time to time Kawartha Conservation projects, programs and services are featured in the media, either through the initiative of in-house communications staff or through interest by watershed media. We want to ensure that you are aware of this possibility, as your participation may be sought on these occasions. When submitting your passport on the Kawartha Conservation Website, please review the waiver and sign where appropriate to indicate your position on being included in such media coverage.





## Winter Tracking on Escarpment Loop

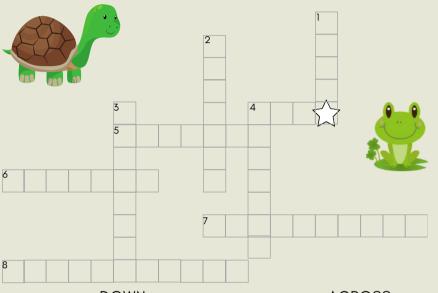
All of these animals call Ken Reid Conservation Area their home. Do you think you can find all of their tracks? Use the ruler on the side to help you measure the tracks you find.



#### **Memorial Trail Pollinator Bingo** Using the Celebration Trail and help from the sign at the trail entrance, can you see all of the items below to fill out the bingo card? Grass-White Honey Mulch Apples Bee hopper Flower Yellow Humming Mud Ladybug Pollen -bird Flower Red Free Butterfly Rocks Nuts Flower Flower Tall Mush-Dragon with a Water fly grass room smell Old Bumble Purple Cater-Berry hollow Flower Patch Bee pillar log

### Pond Trail Crossword Puzzle

Complete the crossword below by using information on the sign at the pond, as well as by walking the trail finding the answers along your walk.



DOWN

1 - Type of fruit tree at the beginning of the Pond Trail

2 - Type of red shrub that grows along the pond

3 - A bottom dwelling creature that lives in water with good water quality

4 - This term refers to anything occurring or associated with the bottom of a water body, like the pond.

#### ACROSS

4 - What colour is the Pond Trail on the map of Ken

Reid Conservation Area?

5 - The second life stage of a frog

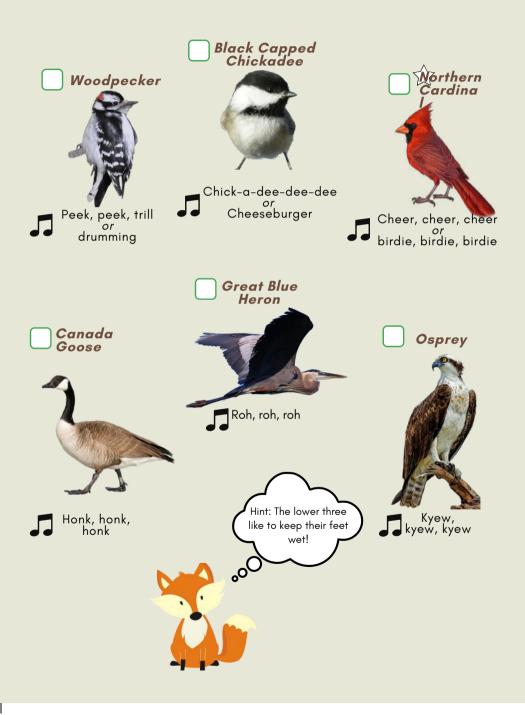
6 - What activity are you not allowed to do at the pond.

7 - A bottom dwelling creature that lives in water with poor water quality

8 - The number of boards on the puncheon. (A puncheon, or plank road, is the wooden crossing that covers the wet section)

## **Birding along Woodland Loop**

The Woodland Loop is home to many different birds-keep your eyes open and listen carefully. Can you spot or hear the ones below? Check off the boxes when you find them!



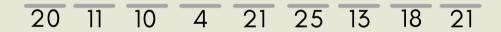
### **Rabbit Hollow Word Scramble**

Welcome to Rabbit Hollow! While you are walking along the trail, keep an eye out for wood cookies with letters and numbers on them, like the one with Flynn. Keep an eye out on standing trees and fallen down trees for the clues. You will always find them from the trail and not behind the trees





Write in the letters you find at each location:



Unscrambled word:



A specialized scientist who surveys ecosystems and evaluates their diversity.



#### Wayfinding with cairns on the Marsh Lookout

#### What is a cairn?

Cairns are man-made rock formations that are generally built to mark significant areas. They can be used to signify important features, or direct people towards them. Cairns have been used since prehistoric times!

#### How do cairns work?

Cairns are directional guides to keep visitors on the right trail, much like some of the coloured markers you would see here around Ken Reid Conservation Area. They are made when rocks are stacked on top of each other by other Conservation Technicians, just like the ones from Kawartha Conservation.



Can you help us build cairns along the Marsh Lookout trail to help you and your family navigate the way?

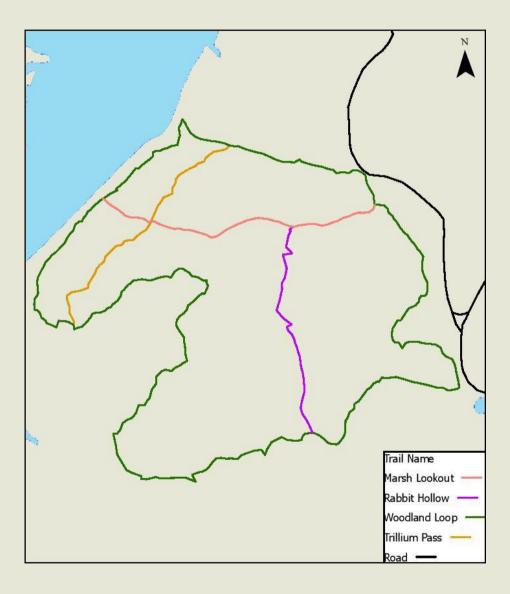


Please disassemble your cairn after marking it on the map. This way, everyone can try their hand at wayfinding with cairns!

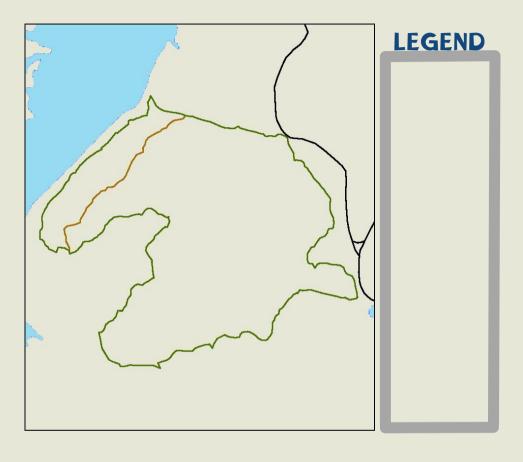
#### **Things to consider:** Does your cairn indicate a significant feature on the trail? Do you have a landmark in mind? Take a photo of your creation,

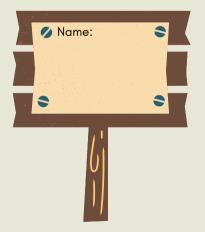
and mark it on the map!

### Wayfinding with Cairns on the Marsh Lookout



### **Trillium Pass Make-a-Map**





We've provided the trail system for Woodland Loop (Green) and Trillium Pass (Brown)... the rest is up to you!

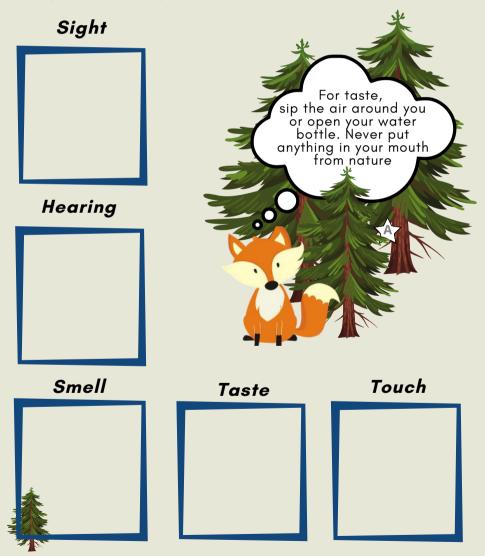
Choose interesting features along the trail that you'd like to include, draw icons for your features on the map, and create a legend in the provided space.

### Forest Bathing on the Dragonfly Trail

Despite its name, forest bathing isn't something you do before bed in the bathtub. Forest bathing is about being in the trees and forests and outdoors all around us. It can help us to feel better, improve our mood and our overall health. By slowing down, immersing ourselves in nature, and exploring our senses, we take our relationship with nature to a new level.

Try it and see. Stand or sit next to a tree. Shh, don't make a sound. Close your eyes. What does the tree feel like? What can you hear? What can you smell?

Using each of the boxes below, write down what you felt while sitting in nature with your 5 different senses.



## Feeding the Birds along Point Loop

The Point Loop and Cedar Boardwalk are home to many Black-capped Chickadees. Come out to try to feed the birds or make a natural bird feeder and feed the Chickadees at home.

- The best seeds to feed are black oil sunflower seeds.
- Cup the seeds in your hand and stand very still while you wait. The closer you stand to trees and shrubs, the safer the birds will feel visiting you.
- Please take excess bird seed or sunflower seeds home.







- 2. Tie a string to the top of the pinecone.
- 3. Coat the pinecone in peanut butter or lard.
- 4.Roll the coated pinecone in black oil sunflower seeds.
- 5. Hang in your yard and wait for the birds to come.

## **Shoreline Trail Worm Charming**

#### What is Worm Charming?

Worm charming, also known as worm grunting or fiddling, are ways to talk to the worms and get them to move to the surface of the earth. Animals that feed on worms use their own worm charming methods – it's all about vibrations.

#### Why does it work?



Worm charming works by mimicking two threats to the worms:

**Digging moles** feed on earthworms, however these rodents can't stand the sun, so worms travel to the surface to escape them.

**Rainfall** is dangerous to worms because they can easily drown underground. Heading to the surface when they "feel" the vibrations of rain keeps this from happening.

#### Worm charming at Ken Reid Conservation Area

#### Steps:

- 1. Look for stations with yellow stakes on the Shoreline trail. Once you've found one, ensure the tip of the stake is firmly pushed down into the earth.
- 2. Find a stick and gently tap or rub it against the notches of the stake, creating vibrations.
- 3. Inspect the soil as you create vibrations

Were you able to talk to any worms? How many did you find?

#### Take home activity

Try this at home using garden tools with metal prongs, such as garden forks. The metal prongs help to increase the vibrations sent into the earth.

For best results, choose a moist location with rich soils.

## Natural shelters along the Cedar Loop

The Cedar Loop is home to a wide range of animals. Can you match the different animals to their homes?

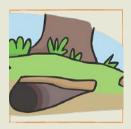




















## **Congratulations!**



You are now one of Kawartha Conservation's *Junior Ecologists!* 

To redeem your certificate, go to www.KawarthaConservation.com/Quest to submit the secret code word and upload any photos you would like to share!



## **Bonus Activities**

If you had fun completing the Kawartha Quest, try some of these activities at any of our Conservation Areas.

- ABC's of the Forest
- Photo scavenger hunts
- Kawartha Conservation's orienteering courses
- The Talking ForestVisit www.KawarthaConservation.com for other fun activities.

## **Kawartha Conservation's Conservation Areas**

Durham East Cross Forest Conservation Area 4560 Devitts Road, Nestleton Station

Windy Ridge Conservation Area 998 Mount Horeb Road, Omemee

Fleetwood Creek Natural Area 902 Ballyduff Road, Pontypool

Pigeon River Headwaters Conservation Area 445 Gray Road, Janetville





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