

Thanks to Our Donors Who Helped Build the Trails

The trails are provided free for public use, but the cost to acquire the land and build the four trails approached \$1.5 million. The funds were provided by generous donations from the following corporations, individuals and like-minded foundations.

Station Masters Honour Roll

- SC Johnson and Son, Limited
- Canadian General-Tower
- Trans Canada Trail Foundation
- The Jean Rich Foundation
- Reiland Quarries
- TCG Materials
- Brant Waterways Foundation
- Province of Ontario

Kilometer Club

- Brantford Jaycees
- CAA South Central Ontario
- Canada Trust - Friends of the Environment Foundation
- Ciba-Geigy
- Dofasco Inc.
- Electrohome Ltd.
- Green Life Proteins
- The McLean Foundation
- Ken & Helen Murray
- Peter & Harvey Sims
- Waterfront Regeneration Trust
- The W. Garfield Weston Foundation



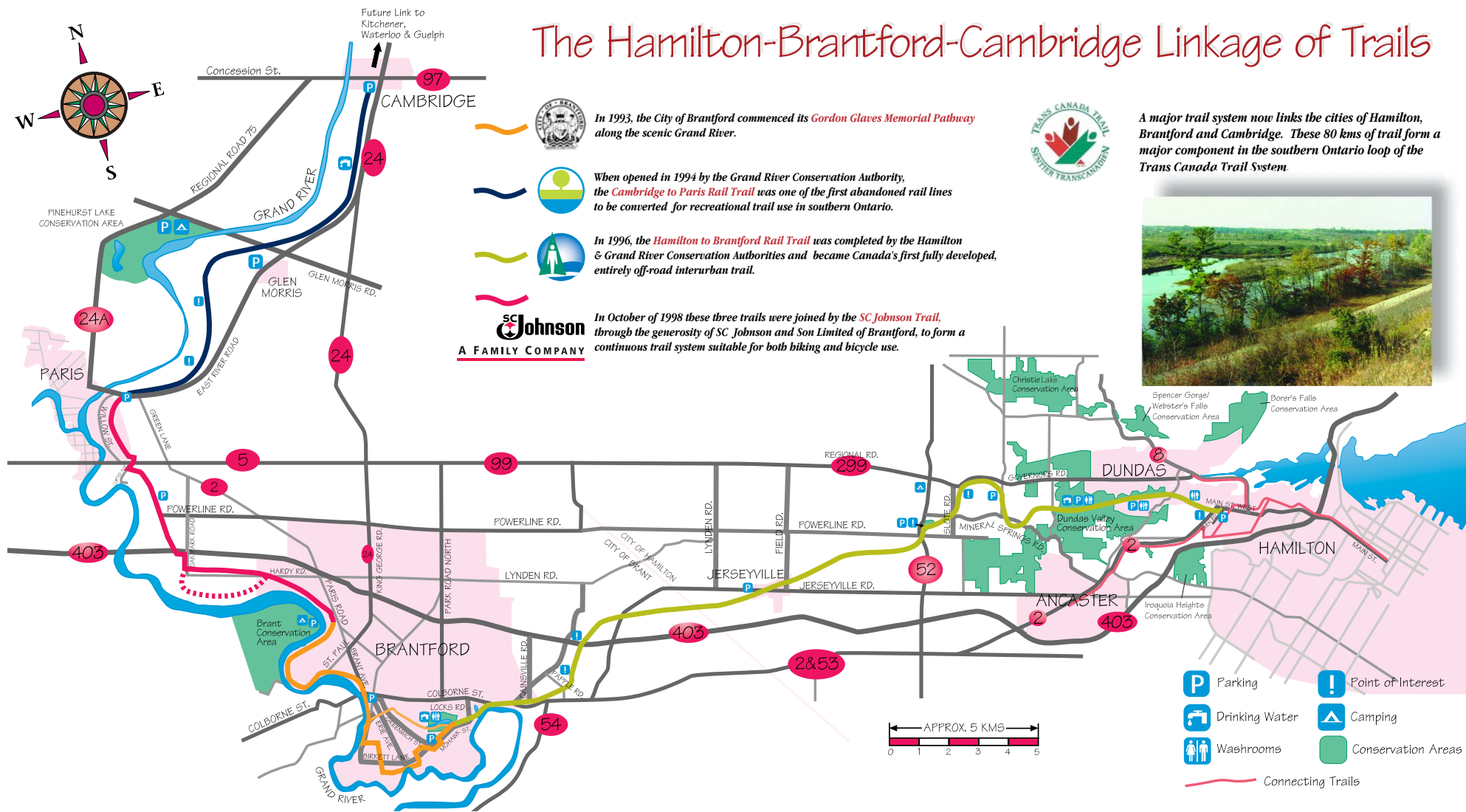
Trail Supporters

- Ancaster High & Vocational School
- CKCO-TV - Kitchener
- Cambridge & Kitchener Rotary
- Ron Clark
- Carl Dare
- Freeman Foundation
- Ned Lauder
- The R. Samuel McLaughlin Foundation
- George C. Metcalf Charitable Foundation
- William Nelson
- Ontario Heritage Foundation
- Polymer Technologies
- Fred & Jane Schneider
- Samuel W. Stedman Foundation
- TransCanada Pipeline
- H.G. Bertram Foundation
- Cloverleaf Charitable Foundation
- CIBC (Halton/Wentworth District)
- Alf & Mary Hales
- Gordon Cockshutt Foundation
- Kitchener and Waterloo Community Foundation
- Malloch Foundation
- Hamilton Naturalists Club
- Grand Valley Trails Association
- Bank of Nova Scotia
- Page Foundation
- Royal Bank of Canada Charitable Foundation
- Peter Eiril Snyder Galleries
- Toronto Dominion Bank
- Union Gas

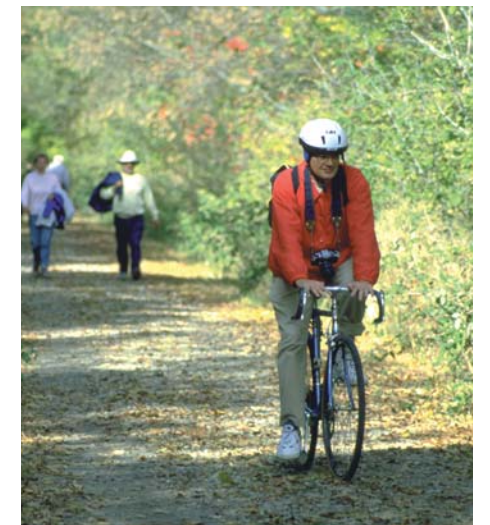
and...many others who helped make the projects a success

If you would like to support continued upgrades and maintenance of our trails, tax deductible donations can be made to:

- The Grand River Conservation Foundation
Box 729, Cambridge, Ontario N1R 5W6
- Brant Waterways Foundation
38 Darling St., Suite 104,
Brantford, Ontario N3T 6A8
- Conservation Foundation of the Hamilton Region
Box 70993, Ancaster, Ontario L9G 3L3



Explore the Hamilton-Brantford-Cambridge Trails



SC Johnson
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The Hamilton-Brantford-Cambridge Linkage of Trails

The trails between Hamilton and Cambridge form Canada's first fully developed, multi-use interurban trail system. Passing through Brantford and Paris, the trails extend approximately 80 km and have been formally included as a major component of the Trans Canada Trail system.

The trails offer some of the best bicycling and hiking opportunities in southern Ontario. The route is exceptionally scenic and almost entirely off-road, and many convenient parking areas have been provided. The trails are accessible by wheelchairs in most sections and are suitable for cross-country skiing in the winter months - but no motorized vehicles are allowed without special permission.



How The Trails Came To Be

It wasn't originally planned to build a continuous trail from Hamilton to Cambridge. Rather, the trail system came about through the linking of four separate trail project initiatives.

Brantford's trail system began almost 20 years ago. Most of the pathways were constructed as part of the City's riverside flood control works and in 1993, the trail system was named the **Gordon Glaves Memorial Pathway**. That same year, Environment Canada, Grand Valley Trails Association, Brant Waterways Foundation, Grand River Conservation Authority and the City of Brantford formed **BEEP** - the Brantford Environmental Education Project - to improve and expand the pathways we now enjoy. The trails are owned and maintained by the City of Brantford, and are continually expanding with the help of community volunteers, generous sponsors and new partnerships.

The **Cambridge to Paris Rail-Trail** was opened in 1994, and follows the abandoned roadbed of the old Lake Erie & Northern Railway. Running right through the unique Carolinian Grand River Forest, the 18 km trail is owned and operated by the Grand River Conservation Authority. The trail contains spectacular river overlooks, and was made possible through funding supplied by generous donors to The Grand River Conservation Foundation.

The third portion of the trail was completed in 1996. Known as the **Hamilton to Brantford Rail Trail**, it joins its namesake cities over the 32 km route of the abandoned Toronto, Hamilton & Buffalo Railway. This trail is jointly owned and operated by the Hamilton and Grand River Conservation Authorities. Its purchase and development were made possible through donations to The Grand River Conservation Foundation and The Conservation Foundation of the Hamilton Region.

With these trails up and running, there was just a 10 km gap needed to complete the route all the way from Hamilton to Cambridge. This "missing link" was undertaken in 1998 through a generous donation to The Grand River Conservation Foundation, from SC Johnson and Son Limited in Brantford. Known as the **SC Johnson Trail**, it links Paris with Brantford over the abandoned Lake Erie & Northern Railway roadbed. Respective portions of the trail are owned by the City of Brantford, Grand River Conservation Authority and County of Brant.



Trans Canada Trail

The trail system from Hamilton to Cambridge has become a formal component of the Trans Canada Trail system. Plans are underway to extend the trail north of Cambridge, through Kitchener, Waterloo, Elmira and Guelph, all the way to Elora. There, the trail will link with the existing Elora Cataract Trailway, which runs from Elora/Fergus through to the Bruce Trail at Cataract.



Come and Explore The Hamilton to Cambridge Trails

With this bit of "trail building" history, here are some of the sights and features that walkers and cyclists will see along the way.

Kilometer distances are marked at most locations along each of the trails, and trailhead parking areas contain more detailed maps of the trail sections you are about to travel. The following description begins in Hamilton and travels consecutively through Brantford to Cambridge.

Hamilton to Brantford Rail-Trail

0 km	Hamilton Trailhead & Parking Area
3.3 km	Sanctuary Park (rest area & washroom in season)
5.5 km	Dundas Valley Visitor Centre Trailhead & Parking Area (washrooms, interpretive hikes and programs in season - historic train displays)
12.3 km	Steam engines used to fight the steep grade from Hamilton westbound to Summit - Observation deck overlooking Summit Muskeg Preserve
12.7 km	Copetown Parking Area and crossing of former Hwy. 52 - watch for traffic
18.5 km	Jerseyville - Redland Quarries and TCG Materials Trailhead & Parking Area
25.5 km	"Duck Under" Hwy 403 beside Fairchild Creek Thanks again to the Ministry of Transportation for permission to use this bridge and scenic trail diversion to cross their highway. (steep grade for wheelchairs)
26.7 km	Bridge crossing of Fairchild Creek
30 km	Site of the 1986 Brantford Landslide, which caused abandonment of the railway line on which the trail runs.
32 km	Brantford - Brantford Jaycees Trailhead & Parking Area



Gordon Glaves Memorial Pathway

32 km	Brantford Jaycees Trailhead & Parking Area (nearby restaurants & lodging)
32.6 km	Kanata Iroquois Village
33.2 km	Mohawk Chapel - Six Nations historic site
38.9 km	Brant's Crossing and Earl Haig Park (parking, washrooms in season, access to downtown) (alternate route access to additional 8 km of Trails & Bell Homestead across the river)
42.5 km	Waterworks Park Parking Area
44.1 km	Wilkes Dam
44.1 km	SC Johnson Trail (Paris To Brantford)
44.1 km	Wilkes Dam - where Brantford gets its water (limited parking only)
44.8 km	River Vista of Brant Conservation Area and rare Prairie Grass habitat (Glenhyrst Art Gallery is just up the hill)
47 km	Bicycle lanes provided on Hardy Rd. - watch for traffic. (alternate route on the scenic but hilly Blue Circle Loop - this adds 1.5 km of distance.)
50.1 km	Masters Lane at Hardy Rd.
52.9 km	Bridge over Hwy 403 (Thanks to the Ontario Ministry of Transportation for permission to use this former railway bridge to cross their highway.)
54 km	SC Johnson Parking Area (Powerline Road)
56.3 km	Crossing of former Hwy. 2 at Curtis Ave.
57.5 km	Views of Paris at Hamilton Technical Ceramics Overlook
58 km	CN Railway underpass



Cambridge to Paris Rail-Trail

58.3 km	Paris - Jean Rich Foundation Trailhead & Parking Area (nearby lodging, restaurants & supplies)
61.1 km	The Murray Overlook (short but steep grade on trail for wheelchairs - steps to overlook)
65 km	Spectacular River Vista
68 km	Glen Morris Old Railway Station Site & Parking Area
73.5 km	Riverside Lookout
77 km	Cambridge: Canadian General Tower Trailhead & Parking Area (adjacent food, washrooms & canoe launching)



While On The Trails

The trails are **surfaced with stone dust or finer gravel**, and are suitable for street bikes as well as mountain bikes. Some Brantford sections are paved.

Most of the route is suitable for wheelchairs, except in a couple of instances where trail diversions have necessitated steep grades. **Assistance for wheelchair users may be required** in these sections.

Except for inspection and maintenance purposes, **no motorized vehicles are permitted on the trails**, and we do our best to police this unauthorized activity.

Of necessity, some sections of the trails utilize roadways within the City of Brantford, or cross busy roads and private laneways, so **always be aware of vehicular traffic**.

Remember that adjacent land is usually privately owned. **Respect the rights of our neighbours by staying on the trail, and parking only in designated areas**.

The beauty of the trails is that they venture through scenic country, but remember that they often travel through relatively remote areas. In order that everyone can enjoy these remarkable trails, please follow these common sense guidelines.

- u Keep to the right when using the trails
- u Announce your intention to pass - and allow faster users to pass safely
- u Never hike or bike alone, always bring a "buddy"
- u Trail use closes nightly at dusk
- u No open fires or camping are permitted along the trails
- u You won't see the abundant wildlife if you don't keep dogs on their leash
- u Except where noted, no washrooms are provided along the trails
- u Park only in designated trailhead parking areas - many have been provided
- u To avoid temptation, safely secure valuables in your vehicle, or take them with you.
- u Trail use is at the users' risk, and local trail conditions may change over time



To report vandalism, unauthorized use or trail maintenance concerns, contact:

Cambridge to Paris Rail-trail & S.C. Johnson Trail
- Grand River Conservation Authority (519) 621-2761

Gordon Glaves Memorial Pathway
- City of Brantford Parks & Recreation Dept., (519) 756-1500

Hamilton to Brantford Rail Trail (between Brantford & Jerseyville)
- Grand River Conservation Authority (519) 621-2761

Hamilton to Brantford Rail Trail (between Jerseyville and Hamilton)
- Hamilton Conservation Authority (905) 525-2181

Photos courtesy of Grand River Conservation Authority, Brantford Parks & Recreation, Daria Rubanetz, Garth Gourlay, Alan Ernst and the Hamilton Conservation Authority

Brochure Courtesy of **Johnson**
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