

# Gould Lake Conservation Area



## **Gould Lake**

Gould Lake Conservation Area is 589 hectares of wilderness located in the Canadian Shield. it is the headwaters of the Millhaven Creek system. Gould Lake and the surrounding lands are not only important for water management, they also provide excellent wildlife habitat, and offer many opportunities for nature appreciation and recreation in all season. Gould Lake is a day-use area.

Gould Lake played a major role as a mica mining centre between 1870 and 1910 - catch a glimpse of local mining history. Remains of many small mines can be found in several locations on the north west trails. Mica minerals can still be seen sparkling in the rock faces or along the trails edge.

## **Activities & Facilities**

**Hiking & Snowshoeing:** 20 km of wilderness trails cross rolling and rugged terrain. The Rideau Trail crosses the property, orange triangles mark the main trail, blue triangles mark the side loops.

**Picnicking**: picnic tables, change rooms, and privies are available in the day use area adjacent to the beach. Camping stoves (such as Coleman propane stoves) are permitted. Permits are required for group events and can be obtained by calling Cataraqui Conservation at 613-546-4228 x 222.

**Fishing**: Fishing is permitted in accordance with current MNRF regulations.

**Canoeing & Kayaking**: Canoes, kayaks, and car top boats can be launched at the beach area; boat ramp facilities are not available.

**Swimming**: The beach provides an excellent unsupervised swimming area.

**Wildlife Viewing & Nature Appreciation**: the wetlands, woods, and shoreline areas provide many opportunities for wildlife viewing and nature appreciation.



#### Education

Gould Lake Conservation Area is home to a number of educational programs. The Limestone District School Board runs their outdoor education programs on the property during the school year and also runs outdoor camping and educational programs in the summer. The portables near the gatehouse are used as their head quarters. Cataraqui Conservation uses Gould Lake as a field trip location during the Nature Explorers Summer Camp. Campers are able to explore the forest and marsh areas, pond dip for wetland organisms, and see if they can catch a glimpse of Porcunia, Gould Lake's famous resident porcupine. Visit www.crca. ca/summer-camp for details.

### The Rideau Trail

The main Rideau Trail and several side loops are located within the conservation area. The Rideau Trail Association does most of the trail maintenance and trail development at Gould Lake.

#### To help protect Gould Lake and to make sure all visitors have an enjoyable experience, please:

- No camping or overnight parking.
- Keeps dogs on a leash (2 m length) at all times. Don't forget to stoop and scoop. Dogs are not permitted in the beach area.
- Stay on the marked trails. This helps prevent damage to sensitive areas and soil erosion. Do not walk off trail, we are trying to encourage natural regeneration of the forest.
- Do not litter. If you find litter, please pick it up and deposit it in the garbage can. pack it in and pack it out - leave only footprints, take only photos.
- Do not damage, disturb, or remove any structure, rock, plan, animal, or other property, living or dead. Picking or digging up wildflowers or other plants is prohibited.
- No fires, hunting or alcohol.
- No ATVs or motorized vehicles.

Cataraqui Conservation owns and maintains over 4,000 hectares of land for resource management, environmental protection, and recreation purposes. One of 36 watershed-based agencies within Ontario, we are dedicated to the conservation and protection of the natural environment.

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