



Oak Ridges Moraine Land Trust: Our Impact in 2025

25 years of Protecting Nature on and near the Oak Ridges Moraine.

In 2025, the Oak Ridges Moraine Land Trust celebrated 25 years of protecting more than 5,300 acres of ecologically significant land while advancing major restoration, education, and community engagement initiatives. With over 560 volunteer hours, thousands of native plants restored, and digital outreach reaching hundreds of thousands, the Trust strengthened habitats, expanded conservation awareness, and deepened community connection to the Moraine.

Your Land Trust



The Oak Ridges Moraine Land Trust is a registered charity dedicated to protecting ecologically significant land on and near the Oak Ridges Moraine through land donations, conservation easements, and strategic land purchases.

As your local Land Trust, we work in partnership with landowners who understand the importance of safeguarding these natural areas for future generations.

One of Ontario's most vital landforms, the Oak Ridges Moraine stretches 160 km from the Niagara Escarpment in the west to the Trent River system in the east. Protecting land on the Moraine is essential to ensuring that its cherished natural areas are not lost forever.

By working with committed landowners, we have secured lasting protection for more than 5,300 acres of greenspace over the past 25 years—an achievement we are proud of, and one we are determined to build upon.

Our Vision:

The natural environment on and near the Oak Ridges Moraine is sustained forever.

Our Mission:

The Oak Ridges Moraine Land Trust is a registered charity that secures, preserves and restores ecologically significant or at-risk lands on and near the Oak Ridges Moraine for the benefit of nature and Canadians.

Our Team

Our dedicated staff manage day-to-day operations, coordinate programs and fundraising, and work alongside partners and the community to bring our strategic vision and board policies to life.



Susan Walmer
Chief Executive
Officer



Aileen Barclay
Director, Conservation &
Operations



David Tuley
Manager, Corporate
Services



Molina Danh
Stewardship
Coordinator

Board of Directors

With an intimate knowledge of land conservation, our directors provide valuable governance and direction to the ORMLT. Key skills and areas of expertise include governance, legal, communication, fund development, and more.



Mike Charles
Chair



Patricia Short-Galle
Vice Chair



Boni Griffith
Treasurer



Ashiqul Amin Khan
Secretary



Isobel Ralston
Director



Emmanuel Ronchin
Director



Deb Thompson
Director



Catherine Wakelin
Director



Lynn Wizniak
Director

Impact

25 Years of Protecting Nature on the Moraine

The Oak Ridges Moraine Land Trust

Together with the Niagara Escarpment, the Oak Ridges Moraine forms Southern Ontario's "Greenbelt" - an ecologically important landform that provides drinking water and clean air to residents, habitat for wildlife, vital space for farmland, and much more.

Since inception, we have protected over 5,300 acres of land on the Moraine - forever.

51

Species at risk protected across mammals, plants, reptiles, amphibians, birds, and insects on our properties.

24

Provincially significant wetlands, one of the fastest shrinking habitat types in the world, protected.

\$9.7M

Of yearly economic value from flood attenuation, water filtration, and other ecosystem services provided.

Core activity

Creation of private nature reserves

Partnerships with local landowners

Conservation work

Impact

Through outright purchase or donation, we have created 15 nature reserves that serve as a refuge to species at risk as well as common but disappearing species in Southern Ontario.

Our work includes developing conservation easement agreements with dedicated landowners to secure permanent, forever protection of ecologically and culturally significant lands. To date, this has resulted in 48 protected properties across our region.

At our nature reserves, we do direct species conservation work. Our Kirtland's Warbler project, for example, is working to protect this endangered bird, and many others, by actively creating specialized habitat that has largely disappeared from the Moraine.

Celebrating 25 Years



2025 Highlights

Connecting people to nature through events and engagement. In 2025, ORMLT made significant strides in building community connections through volunteer programs, educational initiatives, and celebratory events.

Our events brought together nature enthusiasts, volunteers, and supporters to learn, celebrate, and contribute to conservation efforts across the region.

Key Highlights:

01

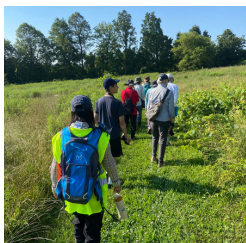
Restoration: Restored 89 acres (29 ha) were planted with native seeds, shrubs, acorns or trees as part of the Kirtland's Warbler Restoration Project.

02

Education Programs Delivered 8 webinars and 9 in-person events, engaging 375 participants, and reaching an additional 578 post-webinar, on-demand viewers.

03

25th Anniversary Celebration: Celebrated our 25th Anniversary with a sold out crowd to commemorate a quarter century of impact and growth on an near the Oak Ridges Moraine.



Community Impact

Through our volunteer programs and events, community members engaged with nature and made tangible contributions to conservation across the Moraine.



Education & Outreach

Our educational programs continue to broaden community access to conservation knowledge, covering key topics such as groundwater, Chorus Frog and Mottled Duskywing conservation, and identifying wildlife tracks.

Education, Volunteers and Restoration

In 2025, ORMLT strengthened our community connections through immersive nature experiences and hands-on conservation efforts. These programs brought people together to explore, learn, and actively protect our local ecosystems.



Educational Nature Walks

Our nine themed nature walks in 2025 brought 258 participants onto our protected nature reserves, fostering meaningful connections with nature and increasing awareness of local wildlife.



Conservation Volunteers

Our amazing volunteer community dedicated significant time to caring for and safeguarding our nature reserves. In total, our community contributed more than 560 volunteer hours through hands-on events, stewardship, and restoration across our reserves.



Ecological Restoration

With our amazing partners of the Ontario Kirtland's Warbler Working Group, over 11,600 trees, 400 shrubs and 37,500 acorns were planted on 43 acres (17 ha) at our MapleCross Featherstone Nature Reserve. Another 46 acres (12 ha) were seeded with over 70 plant species. Early monitoring shows that at-risk birds, mammals and butterflies have already taken advantage of the much needed habitat!



Community Outreach

Building connections between people and nature.

We attended eight public events across the Moraine, providing exposure to our work and mission to more than 48,000 people and raising awareness about the importance of protecting land on and near the Oak Ridges Moraine.

Digital Outreach

Digital Engagement Highlights

In 2025, our digital channels performed well above industry standards, with Instagram leading the way. When measured against follower-based benchmarks, our reach-based results demonstrate remarkable audience connection and strong content impact.

- 01 **204** Instagram posts with **84,041** views and **41,186** interactions
Instagram Engagement Rate 49% (industry average 3.4%)
- 02 **200** Facebook posts with **222,716** views and **5,175** interactions
Facebook Engagement Rate 2.32% (industry benchmark 1.7%)
- 03 **78** LinkedIn posts with **4,733** interactions and **198** reactions
LinkedIn Engagement Rate 4.2% (industry average 3.7%)
- 04 **3,345** Mailchimp subscribers
Mailchimp open rate 21.5% (industry average 21.3%)

**Interactions include likes, comments and shares.*

YouTube Statistics

523

YouTube Subscribers

868

New YouTube views in 2025

55,694

All-time YouTube viewers

19,000

Clicks on Nothing but Native with Doug Tallamy webinar

15,000

Clicks on How the Oak Ridges Moraine was Formed video

3,100

Clicks on Bird Names in Anishinaabemowin webinar

Partners in Conservation

The great work we do would not be possible without the generosity of our supporters.

We appreciate you!

The Catherine and Maxwell
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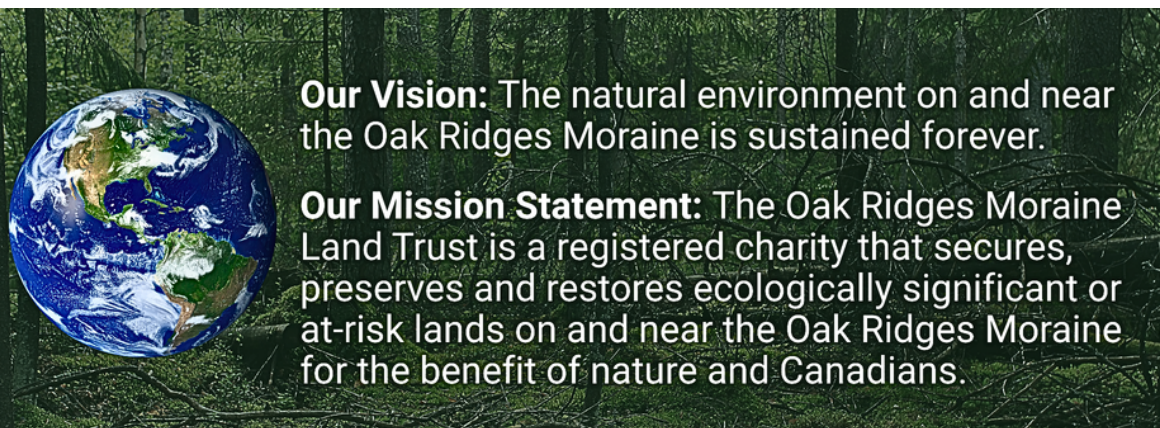
*Electrifying
life*



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Environment
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Join our community and stay informed about land conservation efforts, educational webinars, and ways to make a lasting impact.



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