

TOTAL AREA OF LAND SECURED

3,111 Acres

Lands Protected in 2008

Doug Groombridge 49.9 acres

Earl & Margaret Groombridge 49.0 acres

The Groombridge family are a dedicated bunch who are betting the future will be brighter environmentally. They've opted to protect their beautiful King

Township properties with the Oak Ridges Moraine Land Trust forever. Doug Groombridge his brother Earl & wife Margaret Groombridge have donated conservation easements totalling nearly 100 acres between their two adjoined properties. Doug at 49.9 acres and Earl & Margaret with 49.0 acres. The Groombridge name has been in King Township for 4 generations and they would like to see many more enjoy the properties as they have. Although the property has sustained farming as a living for past generations it now serves mostly as a hobby farm. The Groombridge's know their beautiful rolling hills with dense forest that nourishes wildlife is much more than beauty, the properties are home to life giving headwaters that flow through many towns and villages on its way to Lake Simcoe. "We knew it was the right thing to do, it was just a matter of how." Says Doug. The Groombridges' already had a handshake agreement with the Oak Ridges Trail Association (ORTA) to allow for the Oak Ridges Trail to meander through their backwoods. "A friend who I respect deeply, told me the Oak Ridges Moraine Land Trust could help protect the land". Now I feel the property will continue to be what it always has been".

A recognition and appreciation ceremony was held at their property October 25th, 2008 to commemorate their very generous donations.

Property Details;

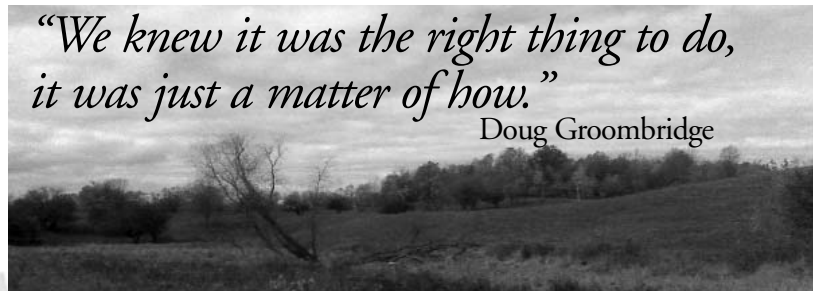
Located immediately north of the top of the Oak Ridges Moraine, headwater streams of the Schomberg River flow through or start on the properties. For the most part, they are along the watershed divide between the Schomberg River, running northward to Lake Simcoe and the Humber River, running southward to Lake Ontario. The wetlands on site are classified as Provincially Significant Wetlands, as part of the Hall Lake - Kennifick Wetland Complex. The properties contain a very diverse, regenerating and mature mixed forest with sugar maple, white ash, American beech, red oak, American elm, paper birch, black cherry and ironwood mixed with white pine, eastern hemlock and white cedar.

The Oak Ridges Trail enters this property from the neighboring property to the south and passes through the property to its eastern boundary.

Know somebody who'd like to protect their property forever? Give us a call at the land trust. Don Prince our land securement officer would be happy to go over your options. 647 295 7470 or djprince1@rogers.com

*"We knew it was the right thing to do,
it was just a matter of how."*

Doug Groombridge





MORAINES WILDLIFE: MEET THE NEIGHBOURS

This issue of The Oak Ridges Moraine Land Trust Newsletter introduces a new feature, Meet the Neighbours. Each issue will highlight one wildlife species living on the moraine, describing its appearance, its habits and the challenges it faces.

BLUE SUEDE SHOES GO GREEN...AGAIN!

Last Spring The Oak Ridges Moraine Land Trust held a fantastic fund raising event! It went so well that we're announcing the second annual Elvis Dinner & Dance!

Imagine supporting a great cause while you re-live your Elvis years! Why not put on your blue suede shoes and rock on over?

You can dance with your hunk of burning love to the music of Elvis, performed by Elvis Priestly, York Region's multi-talented Elvis tribute artist.

Enjoy a buffet dinner that would have satisfied Elvis himself.

Be part of the chance to win door prizes and raffles.

It's now or never! Deadline for ticket purchase is May 25, 2008

Here's what you need to know!

Saturday, May 30, 2009

7:00 P.M to Midnight

\$50.00 per person,
\$25 tax receipt provided
Event Location:

Pavilion at Musselman's Lake



[Http://www.cedarbeach.com/pavilion.html](http://www.cedarbeach.com/pavilion.html)

For Tickets call 905 833 3171

This issue's featured species is the Red-shouldered hawk. He is of medium size, 40 to 61 centimeters long, and his wingspan measures a full metre. His name describes his distinctive reddish-brown shoulder plumage.

The moraine is an ideal habitat for this magnificent bird. Its mature forests provide a perfect shelter for nesting, and its wetlands and streams provide him with the rodents and frogs that make up his diet. In October, Red-shouldered Hawks migrate to the Southern and Eastern United States, returning in Spring to breed. Their courtship rituals are dramatic and include loud calls and daring swoops and dives. They often mate with the same partner for years, and many pairs return to the same nest each year. Many of the creatures that make the moraine their home are sensitive to disturbance of their natural habitat. Some twenty years ago the Red-tailed Hawk was categorized as a "species of special concern" by Environment Canada. Its numbers have recently increased, however, and in April 2006 Environment Canada reclassified this species as "Not at Risk".

Efforts to conserve natural areas like the moraine play an important role in ensuring that species like the Red-tail Hawk are protected.

THE VILLAGE OF WHITE ROSE



Image courtesy of Google Earth

The name makes me think of a child's fairy tale. But White Rose was once a small village where Jared Lloyd produced the highly respected White Rose flour that many cooks depended on for years, and the village that grew up around the mill was named for the flour it produced.

To visualize where White Rose village used to be, imagine yourself at the intersection of Leslie and Vandorf. (ORTA map 4.). Then think of the steep slope on the south east corner. Until the late 1950s, this was a fast flowing stream which was the power source for the grist mill and sawmill.

The village developed in the mid-1800s. It had a general store, a schoolhouse, a church, and a few widely dispersed homes. In 1863 a post office opened on the south side of Vandorf, east of Leslie, where the Westview Golf Club now stands.

By the early 1900s, however, White Rose Flour Mills had closed, for reasons no longer remembered. The post office closed in 1914 and buildings destroyed by fire were not rebuilt. Other buildings fell into disuse and were demolished. The land again became primarily agricultural and today there is no trace of the village of White Rose.

Take the opportunity, when you're hiking the Oak Ridges Moraine Trail, to pause a moment and reflect on our history. Look south from the high ridge on Sarah Steven's property at the northwest corner of the intersection and see the landscape enjoyed by the original settlers of White Rose.

Readers: Can anyone help add to this little history of White Rose by telling us why the flour mill closed down?

MISSION STATEMENT

The Trust mission is to ensure that significant moraine properties, including lands for the Oak Ridges Trail, are protected in perpetuity through strategic land securement and related long term stewardship.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY!

The Land Trust can provide an opportunity to build new friendships, see new places, work with nature, help protect our biodiversity, create networking channels, mix with the movers and shakers, learn how things get done with committees, meet some very interesting people, and enhance your resume. The ranges of volunteer experiences include planting trees, trail building, and assisting with events. If you really want to enhance your resume or learn new skills, how about joining one of our committees to protect land, or help buy land, or help promote nature. We can even teach you to use a computer to record new members. Add a new dimension to your life and reward yourself with joining the corps of volunteers.

Just tell us about your interests - look for the on-line

Volunteer form under What You Can Do at the Land Trust website www.oakridgesmoraine.org.

A TRAIL OF HISTORY: THE WALKER WOODS AND GLEN MAJOR PROPERTIES

By Harold Sellers

Do you have your Oak Ridges Trail Association (ORTA) guidebook handy? On Map 5 you'll see a number of land parcels bordered in green. They are all part of the Oak Ridges and Trans Canada trails with most belonging to the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA). Two properties of interest to hikers are the Walker Woods property and the Glen Major property. You'll find them between concessions 6 and 7, south of Durham Road 21, in Uxbridge Township.

Walker Woods is named for James Walker, a Toronto Lawyer who, as a young man had visited the area to ski, and noticed the barren farm fields and blowing sands resulting from decades of poor farming practices on light, sandy soils, a situation worsened by periods of drought. Walker determined to reverse the destruction of the landscape and in the early 1930s made a modest start by buying his first farm for \$350.

Eventually he assembled a land package of 1,800 acres. He planted 2,500,000 trees between 1931 and 1986, 300,000 from his own nursery. Walker realized that not only were the trees important to heal the ravages of erosion, they around on the East and West Walker Loops. A word of advice: If you're unfamiliar with the area you should have your ORTA guidebook with you. You can easily lose yourself while you're enjoying walking, biking or skiing the trails because they go in all directions to every part of the forest. You will not encounter open water in this northern area of the moraine, however, there is certainly water under your feet as Duffins Creek has its headwaters here.

While you're enjoying the trails of the Walker Woods and Glen Major properties, you may want to take a minute to say a thank you to the Walkers, to Charles Sauriol, to TRCA and to all the others who had a vision for the future.

Sources: Green Footsteps, by Charles Sauriol;

Oak Ridges Moraine, by STORM Coalition

Notes of Peter A. Reid, 1993



The Alberta Dustbowl - Alberta Provincial Archives

LAND TRUST HAS NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The Land Trust is pleased to announce that Susan Walmer has been named our new Executive Director. Don Prince our former E.D is finally going to enjoy a little of the retired life. But won't be going too far as he has signed on as Chief Securement Officer

With several years experience as an ORMLT board member serving as treasurer, Sue is well versed with our business of protecting land. She brings a tremendous wealth of tools from which the trust will benefit. Her background as a Certified Management Accountant (CMA) has helped the trust emerge from our humble beginnings of financial management to a very professional fiscally balanced agency.

Apart from crunching numbers Sue's real attributes are an unrelenting passion to protect the environment. Sue has volunteered for a plethora of environmental groups over the years and spends most of her time towards that end. Susan, an Aurora resident for 12 years, is the town's 2008 Citizen of the Year. When presenting Susan with the award Aurora mayor Phyllis Morris said, "Our honouree's volunteerism for Aurora and beyond is well known. In many circles, she is known as the 'phenomenal organizer' because of her amazing ability to get events and groups organized and to mobilize others into action."

Don Prince brings to his new position a unique expertise in land securement attained during his 36 years with the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority. He's a founding member of ORMLT and has served the board in many capacities. He is a member of the Board of Directors of the Ontario Farmland Trust and is the chair of the Charles Sauriol Environmental Dinner Committee.

Thanks to Don and his lovely wife Bernice for all of the hard work over the years! We hope you'll enjoy a little more time off!



2008 MAGNA HOEDOWN



The Land Trust is very pleased to announce that it was selected again as a recipient for the Magna Hoedown.

It all started in 1987 as a backyard BBQ for friends and neighbours at a family farm in Aurora. Today, the annual Wild Wild West Hoedown, founded by Magna Chairman Frank Stronach, has become a favorite community event. The Hoedown marked its 21st Anniversary in 2008 and the party just keeps getting better. Featuring great country talent such as Beverley Mahood, Aaron Lines, Amber Leigh and Tonya Kennedy the 2008 hoedown attracted another sold out crowd!



The Hoedown has raised millions of dollars for numerous community groups and non-profit organizations, while becoming the largest fundraising event in York Region. As the community has grown so has the Hoedown. The funds raised by the Hoedown have assisted these groups to meet the many challenges faced as more and more families make York Region their home.

Each year the Hoedown is attended by thousands of local residents who come out to enjoy great entertainment while supporting great causes. The event, hosted by Frank and Belinda Stronach, is a memorable night featuring a Texas-style BBQ dinner, country dancers, performances by some of Canada's greatest country music talent, a silent auction and the Prospector's Raffle, which offers such prizes as a luxury vehicle and a cruise.

The Hoedown takes place under the big tent on Magna's campus in Aurora, and all proceeds from the evening benefit the fourteen chosen charities and community groups.

Thanks to Land Trust volunteers who worked hard preparing for and at the event, The Oak Ridges Moraine Land Trust received more than \$ 26,0000 as its share of the proceeds from the 2008 Magna Hoedown! We would like to thank everyone who helped us make this event successful for the ORMLT by buying event tickets, raffle tickets making a silent auction donation or volunteering at the event. And of course Magna for inviting us to participate
Thank You!



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING & DONOR RECOGNITION CEREMONY

The ORMLT's AGM will be held at Uxbridge Township's Council chambers located at 51 Toronto St. S. Uxbridge, Saturday, May 9, 2009 starting at 9:30 a.m. Allan McGillivray Local Historian and the Retired Curator for the Uxbridge Museum is our Guest Speaker at the AGM. Allan has a Historical Prospective of the Oak Ridges Moraine. We'll then proceed to the property of Alan and Anne Wells for a celebration of their conservation easement with the ORMLT. A light lunch will be served followed by a hike of the property. For more details, including directions, please contact the trust office at 905 833 3171 or visit our website

GET YOUR TICKETS NOW!

The 16th Annual

Charles Sauriol Environmental Dinner

Presents an Evening with

Gord Downie

November 5, 2009

Pearson Convention Center
2638 Steeles Ave E. Brampton, On

Dont miss this rare chance to see and hear
Canadian legend, Tragically Hip front man Gord Downie
with his other passion....The Environment.

For event tickets, more information or
sponsorship opportunities
visit www.CharlesSauriol.ca
or call 416 661 6600 Ext 5276

To make a donation for the silent auction call 905 833 3171

Hosted By:
The Oak Ridges Moraine Land Trust
The Conservation Foundation of Greater Toronto



2008

CHARLES SAURIOL

ENVIRONMENTAL DINNER



Charles Sauriol

Highlights!

Ray Anderson's message to the crowd at the 15th annual event was undeniable, that being green and still being in the green is feasible. The founder and chairman of Interface, the largest modular carpet manufacturer in the world proves that meeting both objectives is not only possible, but profitable and necessary for today's businesses.

Last years annual event which raises awareness, support and funds for The Oak Ridges Moraine Land Trust and the Conservation Foundation of Greater Toronto.

A yearly event held in celebration of the lifetime conservation efforts of the "Protector of the Don" Charles Sauriol C.M. An ordinary man who fought to protect the extraordinary beauty that is our wilderness. Charles was awarded the Order of Canada for a lifetime of protecting our country's beauty and resources.

Both organizations would sincerely like to thank everyone who support the annual event,
**it can't have happened without
*you!***

GIVE A GIFT, THAT LASTS FOREVER!

MAJOR DONORS

Many individuals, as part of their financial planning, choose to make a substantial gift to the Oak Ridges Moraine Land Trust. Sometimes donors want to remember a loved one who dedicated his or her life to preservation and sometimes the gift comes from the donor's own passion for our natural preservation heritage.

HAVE YOU THOUGHT ABOUT MAKING A GIFT TO THE LAND TRUST?

The Land Trust is honoured to receive major donations from donors whether it is a gift of cash or a gift in kind. Do you own stocks? There are certain tax advantages to donating shares to the Land Trust. We are available to speak with you and your financial adviser about gifts to the Land Trust.

GIFTS OF CASH

Cash contributions are the most common type of donation made to the Oak Ridges Moraine Land Trust. Cash gifts can be made at any time during a donor's life or through a bequest in a donor's will. If you would like more information on making a current gift, please contact us and we would be pleased to assist you. A cash gift will be directed to your area of choice, such as a restoration project, youth education program or specific field of research such as moraine history. We look forward to discussing this option with you and your financial adviser.

HOW TO MAKE A GIFT OF STOCK

Thank you for considering a gift to the Oak Ridges Moraine Land Trust. If you own stocks, you can transfer stock to the Land Trust as a gift-in-kind. In Canada, if you were to sell the stock you would have to pay 50% capital gains. By transferring ownership of some stocks to the Land Trust no part of the capital gain is included in the donor's income. We look forward to discussing this option with you and your financial adviser.

GIFTS OF LAND

Gifts of ecologically sensitive lands including interests in land such as conservation easements may be eligible for certification as Canadian eco-gift property.

When certification is granted a charitable receipt will be issued for the value of the gift and no part of the capital gain when the gift is made will be included in the donor's income.

HERE IS HOW YOU CAN MAKE YOUR GIFT TODAY!

Contact Information

By telephone 905 833 3171

By fax 905 833 6619

By mail Donor Relations; Oak Ridges Moraine Land Trust
Gate House, 13990 Dufferin St. N.
King City ON L7B 1B3 CANADA

By e-mail landtrust@bellnet.ca

On-line Fill out the donations form housed on our website

TRAGICALLY HIP'S GORD DOWNIE 2009 CHARLES SAURIOL KEYNOTE



Lead singer/song-writer of Canadian band The Tragically Hip, Gord Downie is now confirmed as the Keynote for the 2009 Charles Sauriol Environmental Dinner for The Living City.

Downie and his fellow bandmates started their career in the bars and pubs of hometown Kingston, On. It wasn't long before they were Canada's most popular band. Writing and performing songs so fully completely Canadian it is difficult to imagine the Canadian musical landscape without their influence.

The Hip's song "50 Mission Cap" (From their album Fully Completely) touches on the legend of Bill Barilko, a Leafs player who scored the Stanley Cup-winning goal in 1951 and disappeared on a fishing trip later that year. Another chart topping Hip song "Wheat Kings" makes reference to David Milgaard, who spent 22 years in a Canadian prison for a 1969 murder he was eventually found not to have committed.

When not writing, recording and touring tirelessly with The Tragically Hip, Downie gets involved in the protection of waterways with one of the most exciting young environmental groups in the country, Lake Ontario Waterkeeper. Appointed as a trustee with the waterkeeper group, Downie's pledged his support to the Waterkeeper movement and works tirelessly to help win back Lake Ontario. Lake Ontario Waterkeeper has drawn local, regional, and national attention for clean water initiatives. *"I can see communities a hundred years from now - our children's children's children - standing on the banks of their sparkling heritage, beholding the masterpieces Waterkeepers helped them win back."* Gord Downie

Launched in February 2001, Lake Ontario Waterkeeper trains other individuals and volunteer groups to be local water guardians and to report pollution concerns. Every Waterkeeper advocates compliance with environmental laws, responds to citizen complaints, identifies problems and devises remedies to clean the water.

Their dedication to water protection at the grassroots has won the support of The Tragically Hip. They've invited Waterkeeper Alliance on their latest tour that kicked off in Vancouver last November. The "In Between Evolution" tour introduced their aggressive, grassroots approach to environmental protection to fans across the country. Robert F. Kennedy Jr, president of Waterkeeper Alliance and twice a former speaker at the Sauriol Dinner, is encouraged by the partnership: *"This is an important time in the fight for clean water,"* says Kennedy. *"It is thrilling to have The Tragically Hip in our corner."*

"It excites me to know that people will come to our show, talk to their local Waterkeeper, and walk out knowing that the pollution of our national treasures is not only unacceptable, it is reversible," says Downie.

