



Trail Name

North Simcoe Rail Trail

Location

Springwater Twp.

Trail Locator

Flos Rd. 10 W. and Hwy. 27; or Pinegrove Rd. N. of Hwy. 90

Nearest Towns

Barrie or Elmvale

TRAIL DETAILS

Length

31.7 Km.

Difficulty

Easy

Surface

Crushed Stone

Terrain

Level

Suitability

Walking, Skiing, Snowshoeing, Biking, Horseback Riding, Snowmobiling

Parking

Pinegrove Rd., Fort Willow, George Johnson Rd., Minesing Station Park, Hendrie Station, Phelpsston Roadside Parking, Heritage Park

Washrooms

Minesing Stn. Park, Fort Willow & Elmvale

Refreshments

Elmvale, Anten Mills

Map

NTS 31 D/05 & /12

Trails in Area

Ganaraska Trail
Tiny Trail
Nine Mile Portage
Heritage Trail

Bordering Swamp, Marsh, and Fort



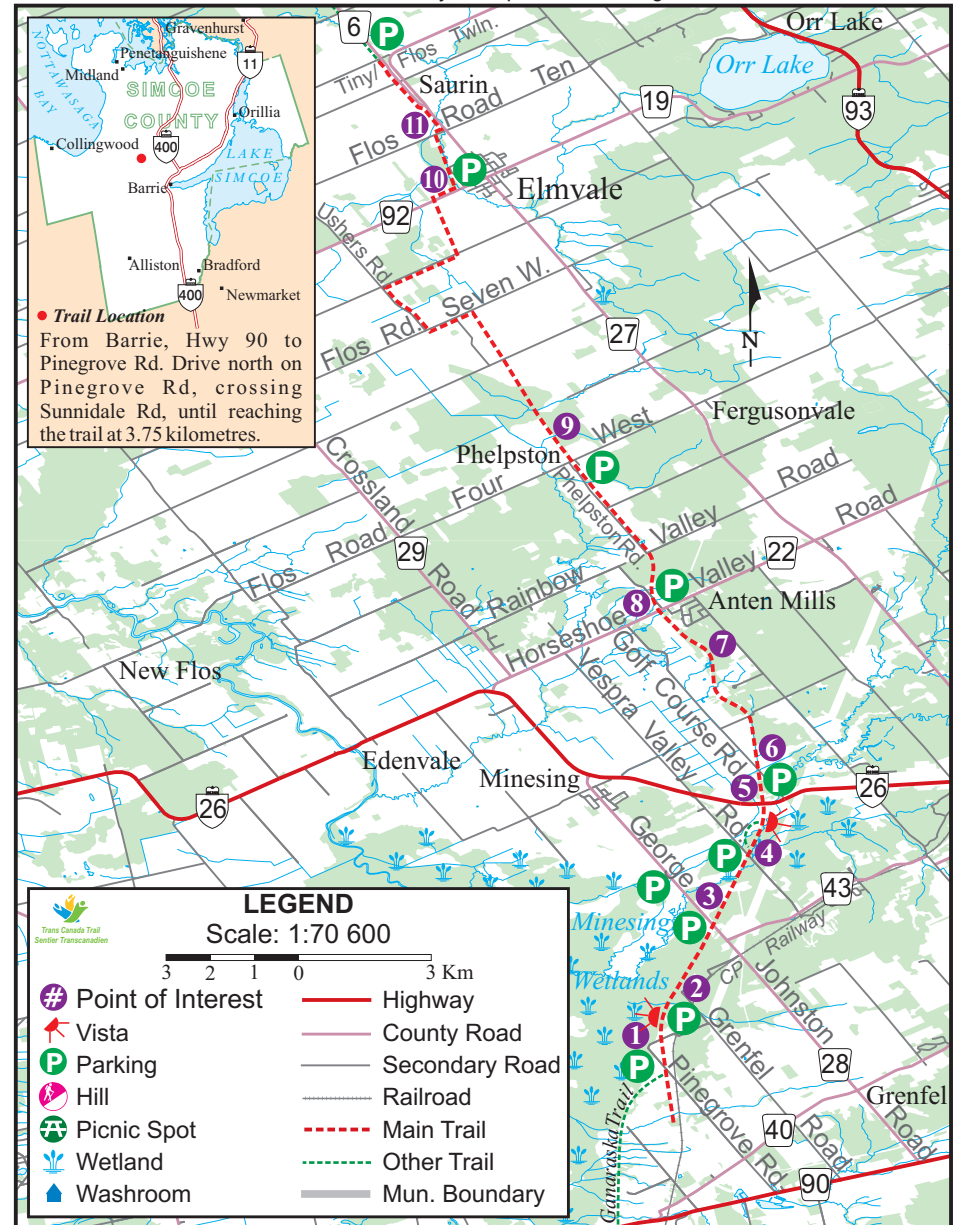
Trail Walker

The North Simcoe Railtrail follows the route of the North Simcoe Railway, which was built in 1878 and primarily served the lumber business on Georgian Bay. The trail now offers stunning views over the Minesing Swamp and the Mayer's Marsh, both excellent birding spots or check historic Fort Willow, and its Nine Mile Portage Heritage Festival every September. The trail connects to the Tiny Trail in the north, and with the Ganaraska Hiking Trail and the Nine Mile Portage Heritage Trail in the south.

POINTS OF INTEREST

- 1. Minesing Wetlands:** Take a rest on one of the 4 benches, and enjoy the view, overlooking one of Ontario's largest remaining wetlands. It is an internationally significant complex of swamps, marshes, bogs, and fens.
 - 2. Fort Willow:** Walk up and explore this historic site (part of Nine Mile Portage) where hundreds of tons of military supplies and trade goods were stored during the War of 1812.
 - 3. Josephine:** Ruins of an old rail town settlement.
 - 4. Mayer's Marsh:** viewing platform. A small side trail, for pedestrian use only, follows the embankment of the Willow Creek from the Harry Adams Bridge to Vespra Valley Road. Excellent birding spot!
 - 5. Minesing Station Park:** Pavilion provides shelter and picnic spot. Ample parking for snowmobile and horse trailers. Memorial to Paul Gleason, founding member of the North Simcoe Rail Trail.
 - 6. Dairy Farm:** Holstein Dairy Cattle.
 - 7. Springwater Golf Course:** Golf carts cross the trail. Do not trespass onto the course. Watch for stray golf balls!
 - 8. Hendrie Station:** just off Coughlin, was the site of an old railway station, now provides storage for snowmobile groomer and parking.
 - 9. Dense Hardwood Forest:** The trail is particularly scenic as it passes through forest and swampland - an excellent birding spot!
 - 10. Heritage Park, Elmvale:** a beautifully landscaped greenspace, an amphitheatre, parking and washrooms. Explore the many quaint stores, tearooms and restaurants, a hardware store, gas stations and a grocery store in downtown Elmvale.
 - 11. Flos Road 10:** detour east, then north on Cty. Rd. 27 to Cty. Rd. 6 where you pick up the trail again for another 2 concessions to the Tiny/Flos Townline.
- Note:** Horses are allowed on NSRT from May 15 - Nov. 15, but must walk beside trail. In Mayer's Marsh, walk in centre to protect turtle nests.
- Note:** ATVs and motorcycles are allowed on the NSRT from Flos Road. 3 to Rainbow Valley Road ONLY.

Non-Motorized Use Only, Except Snowmobiling where Permitted with Permit



With Permission from Township of Springwater.

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