

Greenbelt Walks

Glen Major Forest

A slice of wilderness just one hour from the city, Glen Major showcases several headwater types, gigantic trees and a regenerated gravel pit.



- P Parking Lot
- Watercourse
- Greenbelt
- Headwater Hike
- Conservation Area
- Meadows
- Road

Hike Itinerary:

- 1** Follow Trail 40 through a naturalized gravel pit.
- 2** Turn right to follow Trail 31.
- 3** Turn left to follow Trail 30.
- 4/5** Cross two streams emerging from the Oak Ridges Moraine.
- 6** Turn left to follow Trail 25.
- 7** After a brief climb, enjoy the view from the lookout.
- 8** Continue straight, following Trail 24.
- 9** Continue on the main trail, turn left to follow Trail 32.
- 10** Bear right onto Trail 40 to go back to the parking lot.



Hike Ecology & Overview:

Rainwater falling on Glen Major filters through the sand and gravel of the Oak Ridges Moraine, replenishing groundwater reserves and feeding wetlands and streams. Duffins Creek flows from here through the Greenbelt to Lake Ontario, and is one of the healthiest watersheds in the region. While hiking, look out for signs of past uses such as foundations of old farm buildings and the rehabilitated gravel pit.

- Hike Type** Extremely rugged, narrow and hilly trails. Dense foliage can be disorienting, so be sure to bring a map.
- Hike Distance** 120 minutes.



Possibility grows here.

Greenbelt Walks: Headwater Hikes

Ontario's Greenbelt is the solution for fresh air, clean water, healthy local food, recreational activity, and a thriving economy with good jobs. At nearly 2 million acres, it's the world's largest permanently protected greenbelt, keeping our farmlands, forests, and wetlands safe and sustainable.

Legend

- Headwater Hikes location
- Greenbelt Walks location
- Bruce Trail
- Oak Ridges Moraine Trail
- Greenbelt
- Urban Area

Ontario's Greenbelt protects the headwaters of more than 70 rivers and streams, many of which flow from the Oak Ridges Moraine and Niagara Escarpment.

Headwaters comprise a variety of permanent and temporary streams, springs and wetlands. Although often hidden, they make up the majority of streams in the Greenbelt. Headwaters play critical ecological roles: filtering and supplying clean drinking water to thousands of Ontarians; providing habitat for rare flora and fauna; and regulating water flow to reduce downstream flooding and erosion.

Greenbelt Walks: Headwater Hikes is a series of self-guided walks through some of the Greenbelt's most scenic and important headwater areas. The hikes showcase a diversity of headwater types, habitats, and landscapes, and were created to encourage exploration and deeper understanding of headwaters and the Greenbelt. To find out more about Headwater Hikes visit greenbelt.ca/walks.

Did you love this hike? Let us know by sharing your photos and stories on social media using **#ONGreenbelt!**

Getting to this hike:

Glen Major is located northeast of Claremont, at Concession Rd 6 north of Uxbridge-Pickering Townline. The hike is a one hour drive from Toronto.

Nearby transit hubs Lincolnville GO Station (13.8 km),
Stouffville GO Station (14.1 km).

For those traveling by bike, the **Greenbelt Route** travels past the entrance to Glen Major Forest, along Concession Rd. 6.

Photos Front: (1 & 2) This area is characterized by its large forest complexes and rolling topography, typical features of the Oak Ridges Moraine; (3) The trails are well marked. Back: (1 & 2): the site contains habitat for 120 different vegetation communities and 573 vascular plant species. *Photos courtesy of Toronto and Region Conservation Authority.*



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