

50 years of outdoor education to be marked at Albion Hills

Toronto and Region Conservation (TRCA) celebrates 50 years of outdoor education at Albion Hills Field Centre, at Albion Hills Conservation Area, today (Thursday).

The field centre was the first overnight outdoor education centre in an expanding conservation education program operated by TRCA. Since then, schools, Scouts, Guides and a wide variety of other community groups have enjoyed the experience of a lifetime while connecting with nature. Approximately 2,000 visitors walk through the doors of the centre each year, making it one of the top outdoor education sites in the area.

Since 1963, approximately 100,000 students have stayed at Albion Field Centre, learning to connect with nature, foster leadership skills and become environmental stewards in their schools and communities. Over the course of their visits (ranging from three to five days), students are encouraged to live and learn together in a wide range of programs designed to provide groups with hands-on experiences in a safe and supportive outdoor setting.

There will be a formal celebration this morning, featuring greetings from TRCA Chair Gerri Lynn O'Connor, Mississauga of the New Credit Elder Garry Sault, Mayor Marolyn Morrison, Peel Region Chair Emil Kolb, Dufferin-Caledon MPP Sylvia Jones and MP David Tilson, and former TRCA general manager Ken Higgs, who will speak about the history of the field centre.

There will be a public open house from 3 to 6 p.m., including tours of the facility and the chance to speak to education staff.

For more information, call 416-661-6600 or visit www.trca.on.ca