

Meeting tonight ? TRCA?presents master plan for Nashville tract

Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) has finalized the management plan process for the Nashville Resource Management Tract (NRMT).

The NRMT Management Plan provides specific instructions on how to protect the natural heritage system of NRMT ? while also providing visitors with nature-based recreation opportunities.

NRMT is a large TRCA owned property between Bolton and Kleinburg. The land mass is approximately 820 hectares and is found within Humber River watershed. NRMT is a diverse site containing many different habitat types such as upland forests, bottomland forests, meadows, former agricultural fields, wetlands and small tributaries that feed in to the main stem of the upper Humber River. The property supports a variety of wildlife, provides significant deer wintering yards and is an important migratory corridor. Because of its large size, and current and future ecological value, NRMT is an integral part of TRCA's natural heritage system. The population in the surrounding area is projected to rise significantly over the next 20 years and will put increased environmental stress on the lands, including demand for access and recreation. Additionally, development plans currently under way to the east and west of NRMT have the potential to impact the hydrology of the site, which many natural systems depend on.

These future impacts underscore the need for careful planning, responsible management, and above all, restoration of the disturbed lands. Only through careful planning and an increase of natural cover can environmental impacts be mitigated and the integrity of natural systems improved and protected.

The Nashville Resource Management Tract Management Plan has been developed through extensive consultation with partners, community groups, stakeholders, and the public, and has been greatly strengthened by their input and expertise. NRMT has remained mostly untouched for the past 50 years and is anticipated to become a destination for those wanting to experience the best of the Humber River Watershed.

TRCA looks forward to implementing the goals and objectives of the management plan and work towards the shared goal of the successful stewardship of this valuable greenspace.

TRCA will be hosting two public meetings to update the community on the management plan, trail plan and other news related to NRMT. The local meeting will be held Thursday, May 29 at 7 p.m. at the Nobleton arena on Old King Road.

For more information, contact Adam Dembe, Planner at 416-661-6600, ext. 5939 or adembe@trca.on.ca