



## ELORA CATARACT TRAILWAY ASSOCIATION

## History

The Elora Cataract Trailway has its origins in a branch line of the Credit Valley Railway linking Elora and Cataract in the 1880's. These lines were leased to the Canadian Pacific Railway and ultimately abandoned in 1988. Thanks to the foresight and efforts of many dedicated individuals, these lands were acquired by the Grand River and Credit Valley Conservation Authorities in 1993.



Station Square, Elora  
Wellington County Archives (ph. 10903)



CPR Cataract Train Station  
Steve Headford

Their purchase and subsequent conversion to public use was made possible funding from:

- Numerous corporate and private donors, service clubs, user groups, and local volunteers
- Province of Ontario
- Ontario Trillium Foundation
- Grand River Conservation Foundation
- Credit Valley Conservation Foundation
- Trans Canada Trail Foundation

A group of these citizens joined to form the Elora Cataract Trailway Association. In cooperation with the Conservation Authorities, they have helped to develop the Trailway to its present state.



## A Link Between Two Watersheds

The Trailway links the Credit River and the Grand River watersheds as it passes through the urban and rural communities, woodlots and meadows, and three major parks, The Elora Gorge, Belwood Lake and The Forks of the Credit. From end to end it traverses 47 kilometres allowing users to commute or explore on foot, bike, horesback, ski, snowshoe or snowmobile. It shares some of its path with the Grand Valley Trail and the Bruce Trail which can be accessed at the Forks of the Credit Provincial Park.

## Attractions

Plan to visit Elora and Fergus with their dramatic river gorges and beautiful limestone buildings. En route to Belwood, the Trailway skirts the lake and crosses the Shand Dam. It passes through Orton (once known as 'Little Chicago for its busy railways) then Hillsburgh, Erin and lastly Cataract. Like the communities already noted, they offer a variety of appealing boutiques, galleries and restaurants.



## Support The Trailway

The Trailway is maintained and developed with the hard work of many volunteers and organizations. There is no single and stable source of funding to protect this valuable resource. Please support the Elora Cataract Trailway by donating to the Elora Cataract Trailway Association, the Grand River Conservation Foundation or the Credit Valley Conservation Foundation. Visit our website for more information. [www.trailway.org](http://www.trailway.org)



## User's Code

- This is a multi-use trail
- Respect other users of the trail
- Pass on the left with caution and alert others to your presence
- Sound a bell or warning before passing
- Stay on the trail surface and do not climb fences or take shortcuts
- Follow instructions provided on trailway signs
- Keep pets on a leash and under control
- Respect the privacy of landowners along the trail
- Leave wildlife and plants for others to enjoy



[www.trailway.org](http://www.trailway.org)

## Map & User's Guide [www.trailway.org](http://www.trailway.org)

