

## Your donation to the Upper Canada Heritage Trail is appreciated!

Amounts over \$25 will receive a charitable donation tax receipt from the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake. Contributions over the sum of \$1,000 will be recognized publicly

**Please make your cheque payable to the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake and add to the memo portion of the cheque "Heritage Trail".**

Mail with this completed form to:

Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake  
Attn: Heritage Trail Committee  
1593 Four Mile Creek Road  
PO Box 100, Virgil, ON L0S 1T0

Please print clearly.

Full name:

---

Mailing address:

---

Phone number:

---

I am contributing \$ \_\_\_\_\_ toward the rehabilitation of The Upper Canada Heritage Trail of Niagara-on-the-Lake.

## IMPROVEMENTS ARE NEEDED

Currently, the entire trail is a dirt path and **requires a more permanent and durable surface**, as well as proper delineation. **Numerous culverts require replacing**, and the trail has become inaccessible in places. **Substantial repair is required** in the section between Line 9 and York Road.

Some work has already been accomplished through volunteer efforts in clearing brush and undergrowth between Lines 9 and 8.



In September 2017, 120 trees were planted with the help of the **TD (Bank) Friends of the Environment Foundation**, and supported by the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake.

**New signs** indicating the Upper Canada Heritage Trail have been installed at John Street and East and West Line entrances. **More will be needed as trail improvement progresses.**

## MISSION OF THE HERITAGE TRAIL COMMITTEE

- Raise community awareness of the trail and the need for its repair and rehabilitation.
- Engage with Town Council and staff to continue funding and provide support for the repairs.
- Pursue funding opportunities and sponsorships.
- Provide signage to inform and direct users of the trail.
- Plan clean-up and minor maintenance events to engage community volunteers.



New signs have been installed in the following locations:

- John St entrance (near King St)
- Paffard street near Charlotte
- Charlotte St entrance at the continuation of the trail
- East-West Line where trail enters/exits

## The Upper Canada Heritage Trail of the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake



Visit [heritagetrail.ca](http://heritagetrail.ca)

**Niagara**  
-on-the-**Lake**  
EST. 1781

## UPPER CANADA HERITAGE TRAIL

Trails that connect communities are important to residents and visitors alike. They encourage an active, healthy lifestyle for people of all ages.

The **Upper Canada Heritage Trail**, like many trails across Ontario, is largely supported by volunteers. In 2017, the **Niagara-on-the-Lake Sesquicentennial Committee**, brought forward the idea of establishing a safe, all-season trail along the old **Erie and Ontario Railway Line** as a legacy project. Commemorative pins were sold during the 2017 celebrations, with funds raised going to trail improvements.

Realizing that this project would span several years, **The Heritage Trail Committee of the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake** was formed in 2019.

The **Upper Canada Heritage Trail** is adjacent to vineyards and orchards on some of the finest farmland in the province. This 20-meter by 10-kilometer trail corridor has been affected by erosion and washout, notably between Line 9 and York Road, impeding its full use. The project goal is to improve trail visibility in both the physical sense and in the overall consciousness of the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake.

For more information, history of the trail and to join our email list to hear about events, visit: [heritagetrail.ca](http://heritagetrail.ca)



## HISTORY OF THE RAILROAD

The **Erie and Ontario Railway Line**, constructed in 1854, ended at the docks by the present-day marina.

It was one of the first in the province to use steam locomotives, and in the early years provided a service to Niagara Falls and Buffalo once a day.

This later increased to 5 times a day during the busy tourist season.

During the First World War, a spur line serviced Camp Niagara where troops were trained before embarking for the battlefields of Europe.

Passenger service was discontinued in 1929, and the last train left the town in 1959. The rail line was abandoned and the tracks eventually removed.

One of the goals of **The Heritage Trail Committee** is to preserve and increase awareness of the history and importance of the railroad to Niagara-on-the-Lake.

