

Warbler Woods forms part of a natural corridor extending north to Kains Woods ESA. The rolling hills and steep ravines of Warbler Woods create a scenic area for hiking, bird watching, and nature appreciation.

Trails

The map on the reverse side shows the 12 access points and trail system on the public lands. The main access is on Commissioners Road near the Oxford Street extension.

There are 5.4 kms of trails in the ESA. The main trail is 1.8 km long and extends the length of the site from access points 1 to 8. The trails are somewhat challenging with several steep sections. The land is well-drained so rarely muddy. The managed trails are identified by yellow trail markers on trees or posts. The Thames Valley Trail follows the trail from access points 1 to 5, with white trail markers.

Please stay on the marked trails on City property to protect yourself and your pets, and to protect wildlife habitats from disturbance.

History

London is located in the traditional territory of the Attawandaron, Anishinaabeg, Haudenosaunee, and Lunaapeewak peoples. An archaeological excavation uncovered the remains of a pre-seventeenth century Neutral Indian summer camp in the ESA. The artifacts

indicate the woods were used for hunting, and that fishing took place in former ponds.

Warbler Woods, named for the uncommon Golden-winged Warbler that once nested in the area, has been a favourite birding spot over the last one hundred years. The City of London purchased the land in the 1970s and 80s, and acquired additional land in 2017.

Plant Communities and Restoration

This ESA is an upland deciduous forest that contains over 250 species of trees and flowering plants. North and south-facing slopes produce a diverse flora with both northern elements and more southern, or Carolinian, affinities.

In the spring the higher ground is covered with Bloodroot, White and Red Trillium, Mayapple, violets, Wild Geranium, Columbine and False Solomon's Seal.

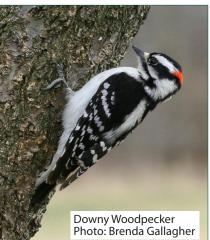


Mature trees of many species can be found. On drier ground, look for White and Red Oaks, Sugar Maple, Butternut, Black Cherry, and White Pine. In the moist ravines there are many species of ferns growing underneath Red Maple, Basswood, and White Birch.

Invasive species management and ecological restoration, funded by the City and enhanced by Adopt An ESA groups and volunteers, protects the ecological integrity of the ESA.

Wildlife

Warbler Woods is a good birding area, especially during spring and fall migrations. Nesting species



have included Indigo Bunting, Great Crested Flycatcher, Wood Thrush, Red-eyed Vireo, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, and Downy and Hairy Woodpeckers. The animal life is typical of the London area. Species

observed include Grey Squirrel, Eastern Chipmunk, Eastern Cottontail, White-tailed Deer, Meadow Jumping Mouse, Raccoon, Woodchuck, and Red Fox.

Eastern Gartersnake, Dekay's Brownsnake, Gray Treefrog, and American Toad have been seen.

For More Information

For more information on London's ESAs, contact: **Upper Thames River Conservation Authority** 519-451-2800, <u>infoline@thamesriver.on.ca</u>, <u>www.thamesriver.on.ca</u>

City of London, Planning and Development Services

519-661-4980, www.london.ca

Published 2024





Warbler Woods Environmentally Significant Area (ESA) is located in west London between Commissioners Road and Byron Baseline Road. The publicly-owned lands cover 40 hectares.



