

Welcome

..... to Mount Nemo

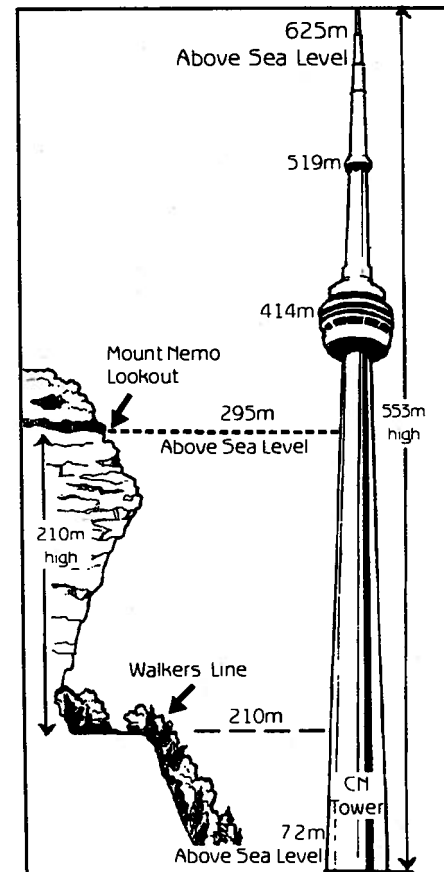
Mount Nemo Conservation Area is a natural environment park that is protected and managed by Conservation Halton. The park includes unique geological features and one of the best examples of a cliff edge ecosystem in Ontario.

When you explore the natural beauty of Mount Nemo, you will see rare ferns, poison ivy, chipmunks, warblers, soaring turkey vultures and ancient cedars, a few of the many species that are indigenous to the area.

A Rocky Ridge of the Niagara Escarpment

The limestone cliff at Mount Nemo, with its crevice caves, rock fissures and talus slopes, is a well-known landmark in Halton.

As part of the Niagara Escarpment, Mount Nemo was formed 450 million years ago along the shore of the shallow tropical sea that covered a vast area of Ontario and Michigan. Skeletons of primitive sea creatures and debris from ancient mountains were compressed into massive layers of reef and sedimentary rock. These ancient coral reefs formed a layer of amabel dolostone to create the cap of the cliff at Mount Nemo. Beneath this layer are soft, easily eroded shales. Over succeeding millions of years, erosion, glaciers, ancient rivers and lakes, and the elements, shaped the escarpment into its distinctive craggy cliffs and rugged slopes that can be seen today. At Mount Nemo, the escarpment height varies from 30 metres at the north end to 10 metres at the south end.



Warning: The cliffs of the Niagara Escarpment can be hazardous and quite slippery when wet. Please be careful when hiking the trails at Mount Nemo. Do not venture too close to the cliff or climb over the lookout walls.

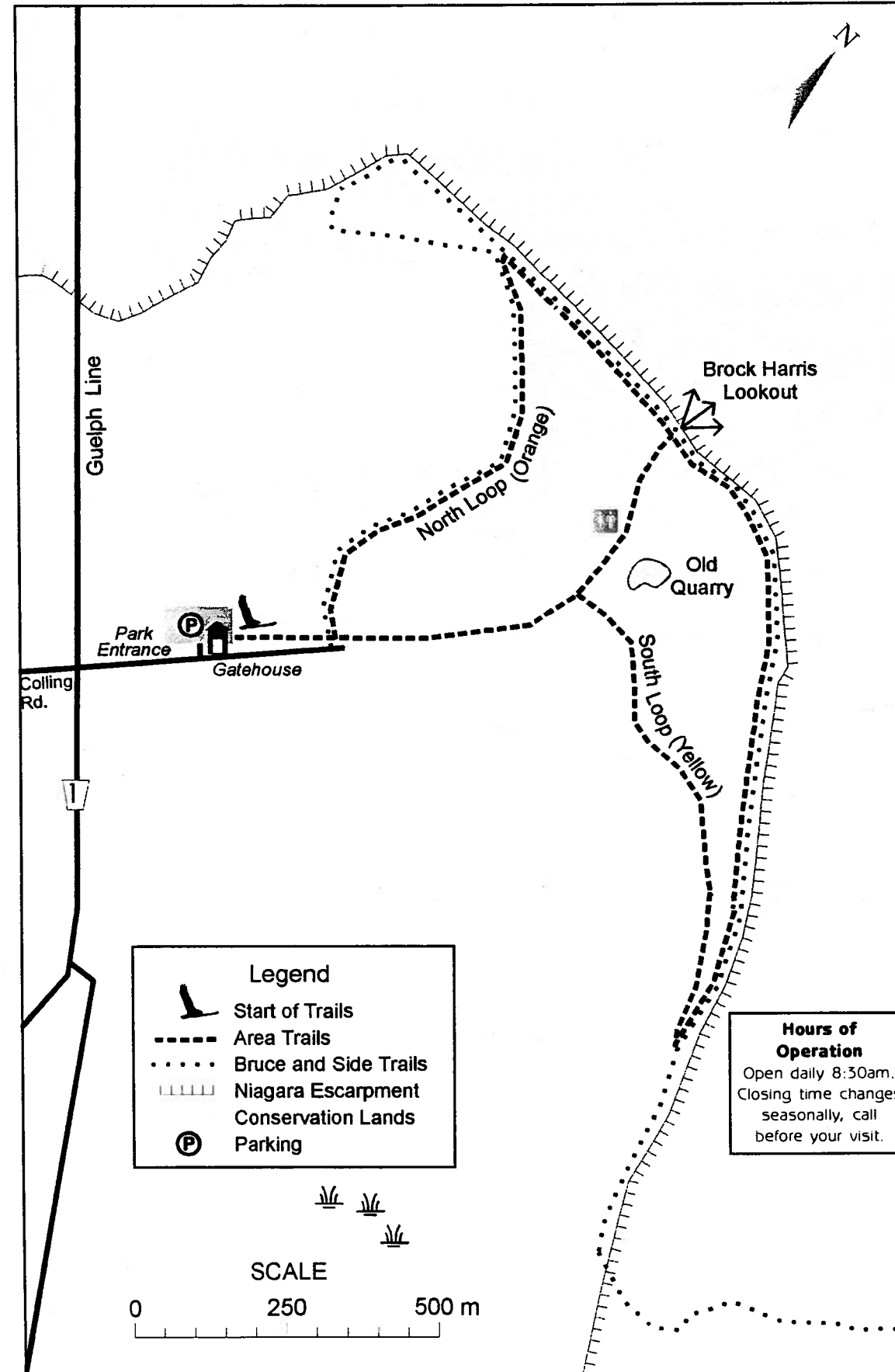


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Conservation Halton is a community based environmental agency that protects local ecosystems and contributes to the quality of life in communities throughout its area of jurisdiction known as the watershed. The Mount Nemo Conservation Area is part of more than 9000 acres of conservation lands that are being protected and are available for recreational and educational experiences.

Mount Nemo Trails

Mount Nemo has 4.9 km of colour coded trails consisting of two overlapping loops. The trails join at the Brock Harris Lookout where several interpretive signs and resting benches are located.



Note: Trail distances are measured from the start of trails located near the gatehouse and parking area.

North Loop Trail 2.3 km (one hour)

ORANGE This trail follows the old quarry road to the Brock Harris Lookout before turning north through the forest along the edge of the escarpment cliffs.

From the Brock Harris Lookout, 295 metres (968 feet) above sea level, 50 kilometres (31 miles) of countryside come into view. The communities of Milton, Brampton and Toronto, and the Massagaweya Canyon and Rattlesnake Point are spread out across the horizon. On a clear day, you can even spot Toronto's CN Tower.

From the gnarled, eastern white cedars on the cliff edge to the escarpment forest below, the trail follows the escarpment rim, with spectacular lookouts along the way. The pathway passes crevice caves, rock fissures and talus slopes. Moss-covered boulders with ferns and small trees growing from cracks soften the rugged landscape. The trail returns on the old quarry road back to the start of trails.

South Loop Trail 2.6 km (one hour and 10 minutes)

YELLOW This trail follows the old quarry road to the Brock Harris Lookout where spectacular views of the countryside can be seen. Look for turkey vultures gliding in the thermal updrafts near the cliffs. Standing at a higher vantage point offers a unique perspective to see the birds flying in the valley below. From the Lookout, the trail turns south on an earthen path that follows the edge of the escarpment cliff. Over millions of years, erosion, glaciers, ancient rivers and the elements shaped the escarpment into distinctive craggy cliffs and rugged slopes. The return on the south loop turns away from the limestone bluffs, and continues through open meadows, a narrow forest corridor and a former quarry site. The trail comes back to the quarry road that returns to the start of trails.

Bruce Trail 725 km

This well-known Ontario hiking trail follows the Niagara Escarpment from Georgian Bay to the Niagara River. It passes through Mount Nemo Conservation Area where the main trail is marked by white blazes painted on trees.

Please help protect this sensitive area by following our trail regulations.

Trail Regulations

- No camping or overnight parking.
- Pets must be kept on a maximum 2 metre lead.
- No alcohol or fires allowed.
- No bicycles or motorized vehicles on the trails.
- You should "pack out" everything you take. There is a large waste bin in the parking area.
- Please stay on the marked trails.

Thank you.