

# Conservation in Action: New Protected Areas

## Together we've made Bruce Trail conservation history!

Thanks to outstanding support from our donor community, the Bruce Trail Conservancy has created three new protected natural areas in recent months, including our largest ever solo acquisition – Cape Chin Nature Reserve.

### Cape Chin Nature Reserve – Peninsula section

Map 39, near km 105.9

533 acres

1.8 km of Bruce Trail Optimum Route

No Trail currently on property. No public access.

Our Bruce Trail Conservancy donors have made it possible to protect one of the last remaining large tracts of land on the Bruce Peninsula and secure 1.8 km of the Bruce Trail's Optimum Route. Cape Chin Nature Reserve is a 533 acre conservation gem and a wonderful example of the important work our Bruce Trail Conservancy community makes possible.

**Over 1,400 donors contributed \$4 million to ensure that Cape Chin Nature Reserve would be forever protected, restored, and made available to explore.**

We're so grateful to our many long-standing supporters and new donors alike for their incredibly generosity. A special thank you to those who provided early foundational funding and helped accelerate our Cape Chin Nature Reserve fundraising efforts, including several anonymous donors and MapleCross. Thank you all for sharing in our vision and supporting our mission to preserve a ribbon of wilderness, for everyone, forever.



### ECOLOGY OF CAPE CHIN NATURE RESERVE

Cape Chin Nature Reserve is one of the most spectacular properties the Bruce Trail Conservancy has had the chance to preserve. Cape Chin's impressive landscape boasts classic natural features of the Niagara Escarpment, rich habitats and rare species. Iconic cliffs support Eastern White Cedar and a unique cliffside ecosystem. Vital wetlands act as wildlife nurseries and water purifiers in the watershed. And large stretches of forest provide habitat for creatures who depend on uninterrupted habitat for survival.

### STEWARDSHIP AND RESTORING CAPE CHIN

Maintaining the ecological health of Cape Chin Nature Reserve will require careful stewarding and in some cases, active restoration. Plans are in place for:

- Extensive native tree plantings to increase interior forest habitat for wildlife.
- Rehabilitation of pasture lands with local native wildflower and grass species to increase habitat for pollinators and grass-nesting birds.
- Species at Risk inventory.
- Wetland monitoring, with specific attention to turtle populations.
- Removal and control of invasive species.

### TRAIL AT CAPE CHIN NATURE RESERVE

Trail Development and Maintenance volunteers from our Peninsula Bruce Trail Club will be busy on Cape Chin Nature Reserve soon. No trail is yet on the property. A decision regarding the large house on the property, and careful review by BTC ecologists are needed first. When planning is complete, the Bruce Trail will be rerouted to lay lightly the land through Cape Chin, providing a fantastic hiking experience and connecting generations to come to this unique protected landscape. •



# Thank You!

WE'VE MADE HISTORY TOGETHER AT CAPE CHIN NATURE RESERVE.

A special thank you to all the new friends and loyal donors who supported the Bruce Trail Conservancy's largest solo land conservation effort in our history – Cape Chin Nature Reserve.

Because of you, **533 acres** of forest, wetland, pasture and Georgian Bay shoreline has been protected and **1.8 km** of Bruce Trail has been secured.

Learn more about this remarkable addition to our conservation corridor on page 8.



Bruce Trail  
CONSERVANCY