



Land Use Agreement with Owners

1. Landowners

- a. The landowner agrees to allow scheduled hikes of the Avon Trail and other recognized Ontario hiking club members to cross his/her land along the designated trail as marked by blazes.
- b. The landowner retains the right at any time to withdraw permission to hikers on his/her land
- c. The landowner recognizes his/her obligations under the Occupiers' Liability Act, RSO, 1190 of the province of Ontario
- d. Landowners will be issued a courtesy membership card each year as a gesture of the Trail's appreciation
- e. The landowner will be sent an Annual Newsletter in October by mail or email.
- f. The Avon Trail carries liability insurance for its directors, hikers and volunteers.

2. The Avon Trail Board of Directors

- a. The Avon Trail is diligent to make use of Release of Liability Waiver forms for all club activities, both hikes and trail maintenance activities.
- b. Avon Trail directors are always accessible by emailing info@avontrail.ca or by writing: Avon Trail, P.O. Box 21148, Stratford, ON N5A 7V4
- c. Landowners are asked to share their concerns at any time with the directors of the Avon Trail

3. Trail Maintenance Volunteers (Trail Monitors, Maintenance Crew)

- a. The Trail will be marked by 6" by 2" white rectangular blazes painted at regular intervals on trees & posts; saplings will not be used for blazing.
- b. Trail maintenance workers will consult landowners before installing permanent structures such as bridges or boardwalks.
- c. Where posts are inserted for blazing purposes, care will be taken to ensure they are out of the path of farm machinery.
- d. Brush cutters will be used to keep down weeds along the trail.
- e. The Trail Coordinator will relay particular landowner requests regarding trail maintenance to the Trail Monitor for that section. Landowners with such requests should email info@avontrail.ca or write to Avon Trail post office box
- f. Large fallen trees obstructing the Trail may require chain saw work. The Avon Trail will consult with the landowner before any action is taken.
- g. Trail Maintenance workers will not cut down trees along the Trail. Small trees will be transplanted. The trail will be routed around to avoid larger trees.
- h. Young coniferous trees will not be used for blazing, nor their branches cut.

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4. Hikers on the Trail

- a. Hikers will be careful to walk along the edge of cropped fields and will avoid walking on crops .
- b. Fences will be crossed by means of sturdily constructed stiles.
- c. Wherever the Trail passes through closed gates, hikers will be diligent in assuring gates are closed after passage.
- d. Hikers agree to walk only on the designated trail and will not stray from it.
- e. Authorized Avon Trail activities include hikes, snow shoeing, and skiing
- f. Camping and campfires are not permitted on the trail.
- g. Motorized vehicles are not permitted on the trail unless authorized by the land owner.
- h. The Trail is open for hiking between dawn and dusk.
- i. Hikers will protect wildlife, will not pick flowers or plants, and will carry out all litter.
- j. We leave only our thanks – and take only photographs