

GLORY HILLS CONSERVATION LANDS SELF-GUIDED TOUR



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ABOUT EALT

Edmonton and Area Land Trust (EALT) is a non-profit organization dedicated to conserving natural areas in and around Edmonton to protect biodiversity, wildlife habitat, and allow individuals to connect with nature, not only today, but for generations to come.



EALT acknowledges that Canada's Indigenous peoples were the original stewards of the land. Learn more at www.ealt.ca/indigenous-connections

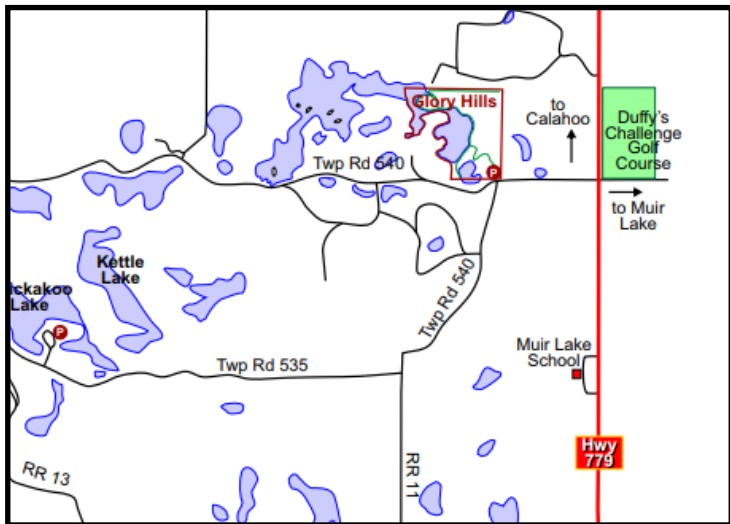
GLORY HILLS

Glory Hills is located within the Glory Hills Environmentally Significant Area. Wetlands on the property are part of a chain of wetlands that help filter and protect our water supply. This natural area is located in the transition zone between the Boreal Forest and Aspen Parkland regions, and therefore contains a wide variety of plant and animal life. The surrounding areas are under pressure for country residential development.



Photo by Norm Legault

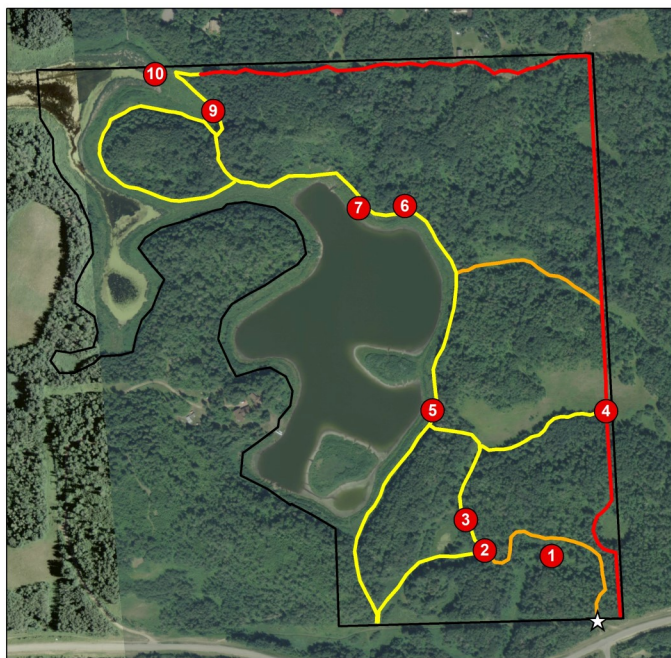
DIRECTIONS



FROM WEST EDMONTON:

Head West on Yellowhead Trail (Highway 16), North on Highway 779 (Exit 355 toward Calahoo), West on Township Road 540 for approximately 1 km. Access point to property is on the north (right) side of the road. This is the southeast corner of the property.

SELF-GUIDED TOUR TRAIL MAP



Legend

☆ Public Access Point

□ Boundary

Trails

— Easy

— Moderate

— Difficult



0 50 100 200 Meters

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1

GEOCACHING

E 697340 N 5946429 UTM Zone 11

Geocaching is an exciting outdoor treasure hunt. Using a GPS or the Geocaching Smartphone App, you follow coordinates and find hidden containers - in parks, behind trees, under logs, and more! There's a logbook to sign and cool swag to trade inside. Let's try it: you're at ground zero of a geocache now, meaning it could be anywhere, within a few meters of this point. Helpful hint: *knee height*



2

WATERFOWL BOX

E 697246 N 5946437 UTM Zone 11

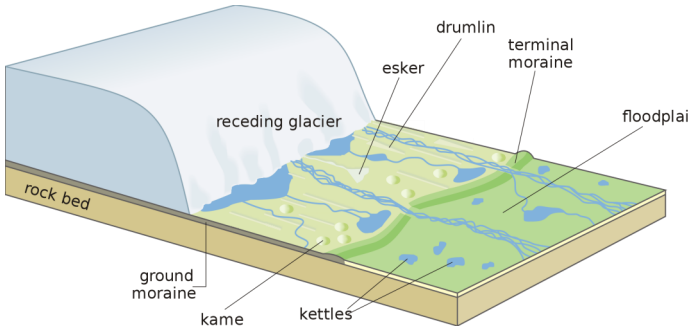
You may have seen bird nest boxes before, but this particular one is very unique. It is a box designed for waterfowl, including Bufflehead! Take a look at the shape of the opening - rather than being circular, it is oblong so the duck's square-shaped body is able to fit through.



3

GLACIAL TERRAIN

E 697219 N 5946480 UTM Zone 11



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During the ice age, Glory Hills was covered by a glacier. As the glacier retreated, it created unique landforms called knob and kettle terrain. “Knob” refers to hummocky mounds that were formed, and “kettle” refers to water-filled depressions or potholes created by the outwash. This wetland is an example of a kettle lake created by the retreating glacier.

4

FENCE REFLECTIONS

E 697417 N 5946633 UTM Zone 11

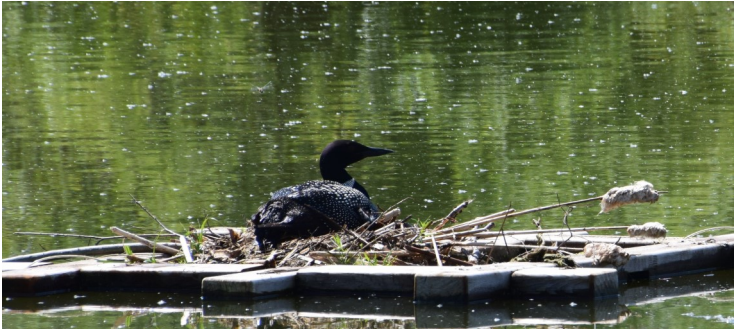


Barbed wire fencing is hazardous for many species of wildlife, big or small. One of the ways you can make these fences safer for wildlife is to install reflectors like the one you see along this fence. This simple act will make the fence more visible to wildlife, preventing possible collisions. There's another geocache nearby! Find it to add your own reflector to this fence.

5

LOON PLATFORM

E 697172 N 5946634 UTM Zone 11



A floating loon platform was installed on the lake by EALT staff and volunteers in 2015 to accommodate a breeding pair of Common Loons. This platform is designed to increase the nesting success of loons by preventing disturbance due to changing water levels. Common Loons breed in late May to early June. They lay 1-3 eggs per year and incubation takes 26-29 days.

6

BAT BOXES

E 697133 N 5946922 UTM Zone 11

Installing bat boxes is a great way to help local bat populations! These boxes can accommodate hundreds of bats at once. Boxes with multiple chambers offer a variety of roosting conditions. Bats will move from chamber to chamber to cool off or warm up. These bat boxes were installed by EALT volunteers in 2017.



7

BEAVER EVIDENCE

E 697068 N 5946919 UTM Zone 11

Take a look around and notice all of the tree stumps. If you look closely, you will see that the trees have been chewed down. This is evidence that there are beavers around! You may also notice narrow trails leading down to the lake. Beavers use these paths to drag felled trees down to their dam or lodge to be eaten or used as building materials.





STIRLING LAKE

E 697020 N 5946951 UTM Zone 11

Stirling Lake is one of many amazing features of this natural area. This water body is a part of a larger chain of wetlands called Cameron Lakes that helps to filter and protect the local water supply. These wetlands extend to the west and are connected by streams weaving through forested landscapes. There is a diversity of wildlife that live in and around Stirling Lake, including moose, deer, beavers, ducks, and more!



Photo by Norm Legault

9

INVASIVE PLANTS

E 696863 N 5947056 UTM Zone 11

Along the shoreline of the lake, there are a few species of invasive plants, including Common Tansy and Canada Thistle. Through EALT's significant efforts to control invasive plants, the lake shoreline is experiencing recovery and a surge in native plant species.



Common Tansy



Canada Thistle

10 HERON COLONY

E 696781 N 5947108 UTM Zone 11

Grab your binoculars! From this point, if you look to the West across the water, you will see a group of many nests in the trees far off in the distance. This is a Great Blue Heron colony. These large, fish-eating birds will establish in groups, making their nests in trees about 15 metres off the ground with twigs, pine needles, & grass.



HOW YOU CAN HELP

Donate! Every donation helps conserve nature for the future www.ealt.ca/donate

Volunteer! Volunteer at our conservation lands or at outreach events www.ealt.ca/volunteer

Visit! Visit our conservation lands to experience nature www.ealt.ca/conservation-lands

Advocate! Spread awareness about EALT and local conservation [@EdAreaLandTrust](https://twitter.com/EdAreaLandTrust)

Partner! Conservation is a community effort www.ealt.ca/partnerships

Bequest! Leave a legacy in your Will www.ealt.ca/legacy



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You can visit more of EALT's natural areas!

Directions and trail maps are available at:

www.ealt.ca/conservation-lands