

# Lynde Shores Conservation Area



Established in 1972, the 272-hectare Lynde Shores Conservation Area, together with the adjacent Cranberry West Tract (40 hectares) is well known for its wildlife viewing opportunities. Including both Lynde Creek Marsh and Cranberry Marsh, the Lynde Shores Conservation Area provides excellent habitat for nesting birds and acts as an important stopover point for waterfowl and shorebirds migrating along the north shore of Lake Ontario.

In addition to their importance to wildlife, both Lynde Creek Marsh and Cranberry Marsh provide many other important functions that are typical of the few remaining coastal wetlands found along this northern section of the Lake Ontario shoreline. As result, these two marshes are designated as provincially significant wetlands and are part of a long-term study, the Durham Region Coastal Wetland Monitoring Project.

To help you get a closer look at this important area, Lynde Shores Conservation Area has a number of looping trails (5 km including the 1 km looping trail within the Cranberry West Tract). These trails are just the right length for little ones and are generally stroller and wheelchair friendly. Or, take a walk along the boardwalk to get a sense of what it feels like to be out in the middle of the Lynde Creek Marsh. Bring a camera, because you just never know what you might see!



# Lynde Shores C.A. Trail Map

Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority



Lynde Shores C.A. is an environmentally sensitive area.  
DOGS ARE PROHIBITED



\* Facility used each year for the Cranberry Marsh Raptor Watch (Mid August - Nov. 30)  
Visitors Welcome

## Historical Facts

### Archaeological Finds

Thousands of archaeological artifacts have been discovered along the north shore of Lake Ontario. Many of the artifacts found near the Lynde & Cranberry Marshes indicate the importance of the water sources to prehistoric culture.

A stone tool called a gouge was found just east of Lynde Marsh. Gouges date to the Archaic Period (7000BC - 1000BC) and it is believed that the scoop-like tools were used to make dugout canoes. Other artifacts such as chert (flint) projectile points and blades illustrate the role of Lynde Shores as a native hunting ground.

### 1600s and 1700s

French records indicate that members of the Iroquoian language family occupied the north shore of Lake Ontario in the 1600s. While the Iroquois tended to live in settled farming villages, they still visited Lynde Shores on occasion. Iroquoian pottery fragments (sherds) have been found in the area.

### 1900 - Present Day

A cannonball was found by Tom Henstock on the east side of the mouth of Lynde Creek. This lends authenticity to legends of minor naval skirmishes during the War of 1812.

According to Mrs. Hope Muckle, Cranberry Marsh was sometimes used for rum-running activities during the prohibition in the 1920s.