



August 19, 2022 Update on the Ganaraska Forest Closure

The entire Ganaraska Forest will remain closed until September 30, 2022.

Forest Health Update:

Salvage and regular harvest operations are well underway across the West and Central Forests. These operations are responsible for the harvest of blowdown areas and regular plantation thinning.

Harvesting is an important restoration tool within the Ganaraska Forest. If the blowdown areas were left to decompose there would be a significant risk for fire and the introduction of pests that would threaten the entire Forest.

Annual harvesting and storm salvaging follow provincial "Good Forest Management" practices and specific needs of the Ganaraska Forest. Only trees and areas that need to be harvested are taken.

Trail Restoration Update:

In addition to GRCA staff continuing to clear trails across the entire Ganaraska Forest, one of the harvest operations is traveling along certain trail sections to clear challenging and hazardous conditions.

The operational goal for September 30th is to open:

- Forest Roads for continuous travel in the West Forest, with parking available at P2 off Boundary Road.
- The Yellow, Orange Trail, A, B and C loops in the Central Forest, with parking at the Ganaraska Forest Centre.
- The East Forest west of Woodvale School Road to passive use only with the exception of the trail system associated with parking lot P5, which will allow motorized use.
- The recovery of single track across the Forest is challenging and will occur by GRCA staff and through partnerships

Trail and Forest area closures will remain throughout the Ganaraska Forest after September 30th due to continual trail work and harvesting operations.

The GRCA is committed to offering multi-use recreational trails and are working hard to recover as many trails as possible. Thank you for everyone's continued cooperation and patience.