

Crothers Woods Trails

CUHK Alumni Association (Ontario) Hiking Group



“Crothers Woods is a 52-hectare mature maple-beech-oak woodland located in the Don River valley. Many trees in Crothers Woods are more than a century old, with parts of the forest remaining in much the same condition as it was before European settlement. In 1995, the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) designated this site as an Environmentally Significant Area due to its diverse, mature and relatively undisturbed forest and the presence of herbaceous plants and tree species that are rare in the Toronto region. The forest includes beaked hazel, bitternut hickory, black walnut, blue beech, butternut (a Provincially endangered tree species), eastern hemlock and sugar maple trees and herbaceous species such as bloodroot, jack-in-the-pulpit, mayapple, trillium and trout lily. This unique forest also attracts diverse bird species. A recent TRCA study identified 26 birds that might nest and breed in the area, including eastern wood-pewee, great crested flycatcher and red-tailed hawk.

As such, Crothers Woods offers a unique opportunity to escape into nature and is a popular destination for trail enthusiasts, with approximately 10 kilometres of natural surface trails.”

Text quoted from:

<https://www1.toronto.ca/wps/portal/contentonly?vgnextoid=6ebfdada600f0410VgnVCM10000071d60f89RCRD&vgnextchannel=4afd1d90f2fac410VgnVCM10000071d60f89RCRD>

Some sections of Crothers Woods Trails are quite rugged and are rated as moderately difficult. After rain, it could be muddy and slippery. The trails are also frequented by mountain bikers. However, whenever possible, we will try to avoid the more difficult terrain, and the degree of difficulty for this hike should be similar to the hike at Jefferson Forest.

Date: 21st October 2017 (Saturday)

Starting time: 9:30 am

Duration of hike: approximately 2.5 to 3.0 h

Assembly point: Thomas Hauser Memorial Trailhead, Crothers Woods Trails
(Loblaws parking lot, 11 Redway Rd, East York, ON M4H 1P6)

Registration: Please e-mail Peter Li (李斌) at cuaaohiking@gmail.com and provide him with the names, e-mail address, and cell phone number of the participant(s).

If you had not done so in previous years, please also submit, electronically, a completed and signed waiver form for each participant.

What to wear: hiking boots, hat, comfortable clothes, long pants, rain gears (if necessary).

What to bring: sun screen, water, energy bar and snacks, sunglasses, insect repellent, walking stick (recommended)

The hike will begin promptly at 9:30 a.m. Please arrive at the assembly point 15 minutes before start time.

Updates or Trip cancellation

The hike will take place rain or shine. If high winds or thunderstorms are in the forecast, the hiking trip will be cancelled. Please check your email or the CUHKAAO website for any announcement regarding potential hiking trip cancellation or postponement. <https://cuhkaao.wordpress.com/>

Directions to Thomas Hauser Memorial Trailhead, Crothers Woods Trails at Loblaws Parking Lot

The Thomas Hauser Memorial trailhead of Crothers Woods Trails is located at the Southwest corner of the Loblaws Parking Lot. The address of the Loblaws store is: **11 Redway Rd, East York, ON M4H 1P6.**

Please park your car close to the trailhead as shown in the following pictures. It is important to avoid parking in area close to the Loblaws store entrance, and DO NOT occupy the prime parking spots of the store



These pictures show where the trail head is relative to Loblaws. Please park in the area close to the trail head if spaces are available.

Via Don Valley Parkway and Don Mills Road

(a) Exiting at Don Mills Road South

Take Don Valley Parkway and exit at the Don Mills Road South; turn right onto O'Connor Drive and then turn right onto Donland Avenue, which turns slightly right and becomes Millwood Road. After passing Overlea Boulevard, turn left onto Redway Road. The trailhead is located at the Southwest corner of the Loblaws parking lot at the front of the store.

(b) Exiting at Don Mills Road North

Alternately, one can exit at Don Mills Road North and turn left at Overlea Boulevard. At the end of Overlea Boulevard, turn right onto Millwood Road and then immediately turn left onto Redway Road. The trailhead is located at the Southwest corner of the Loblaws parking lot at the front of the store.

Note: The speed limit on Donland Avenue and a few other roads in the Crothers Woods area is 40 km/h. Please watch your speed. Speed traps are common.

Road map

The following link has a road map to the Loblaws store at Redway Road. Please zoom out to see connecting roads.

<https://www.google.ca/maps/dir//11+Redway+Rd,+Toronto,+ON+M4H1P6/@43.696498,-79.3606357,16.17z/data=!4m8!4m7!1m0!1m5!1m1!1s0x89d4ccc261d1a027:0x7f288906b5fb87be!2m2!1d-79.3597036!2d43.6991703>



Thomas Hauser Memorial Trailhead plaque



Trailhead



Trail map at trailhead