

## **Philosophy of the Natural Heritage Education Program**

To provide an opportunity for teachers and students to have direct learning experiences in both an outdoor and heritage museum setting which will enhance several aspects of the classroom curriculum.

### **Bronte Creek Provincial Park Provides**

- o Planning assistance
- o Program materials
- o One staff member per program (not dedicated to group per day)
- o Special needs consideration
- o Sheltered (not heated) areas for lunch
- o Ample bus parking
- o Three education facilities
- o **Free** pre-trip tours for teachers

### **Program Development**

Please note: Programs at Bronte Creek Provincial Park are meant to compliment the on-going classroom curriculum. The following list has been prepared to aid teachers in planning their yearly progression of themes and units already begun in the classroom.

All programs have been designed for:

- o Curriculum enrichment
- o Language development
- o Appreciation of nature or heritage
- o Experiential education
- o Social and group development
- o Critical thinking and problem solving
- o Co-operative skills
- o Responsible behaviour

Some programs involve these themes:

- o Ecological or Heritage understanding
- o Physical Activity
- o Environmental ethics
- o Safety in the out-of-doors

All programs are offered rain or shine. Modifications are made in the event of severe weather.

**Bronte Creek Provincial Park  
1219 Burloak Drive  
Oakville, Ontario  
L6M 4J7**

**Phone (905) 827-6911  
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[www.OntarioParks.com](http://www.OntarioParks.com)  
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[www.campsite24.ca](http://www.campsite24.ca)**

## **Bronte Creek Provincial Park - Education Programs**

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### **Our Education Facilities**

#### **Spruce Lane Farmhouse - Heritage Building serviced by parking Lot F.**

Built in 1899, this restored farmhouse has been decorated to reflect the lifestyle of the Victorian era. Situated amongst century old farm buildings, Spruce Lane Farmhouse is a step back in time. Your class will feel like they have become a part of history when they participate in authentic Victorian period chores and amusements or holiday traditions. A trip to Spruce Lane will bring early settlement history to life. The Maple Syrup program takes place in this heritage area.

#### **Nature Centre - serviced by parking lot C.**

Discover local flora, fauna and environmental wonders. Students will marvel at the world inside a live honey beehive! Take a closer look at fish, turtles, snakes and toads. Start your nature adventure with a trip to the Nature Centre---then explore one of five trails to see for yourself. A Park Naturalist will guide your class on a pond study or nocturnal creatures hike.

#### **Playbarn - serviced by Parking Lot C**

This century old barn has been converted to an indoor playground where children can jump, climb and slide while enjoying physical fitness in a refreshing atmosphere. It is available year round (closed Christmas Day) to children under 10 years of age. The playbarn is unsupervised so teachers and parent supervisors are encouraged to keep an attentive eye on children. In most cases a staff member will meet your group and explain the rules with the students. Please note that the public can enjoy the playbarn concurrently with your class. The playbarn tends to be busiest during the last 2 weeks of June. Please keep this in mind when planning your school trip. Choose to visit during a traditionally quieter time like April or May.

**Children's Farm** is located under the playbarn loft and in the surrounding barns (no booking required). Available year round (closed Christmas Day) for self-guided tours of animal barns that could include sheep, rabbits, pigs, goats, and chickens. You will find interpretive panels posted in each barn that describes interesting facts about each animal. NEW for 2007 guided farm tours for JK/SK!

Groups can use this area for self-guided tours while waiting for their time in the Nature Centre or Playbarn. Allow on half hour to see all barns.

#### **Recreation Complex - serviced by parking lot C or D.**

##### *Winter Activities*

Bronte Creek Provincial Park is open year round for your enjoyment. During the winter months (weather permitting) your class can enjoy ice skating on an outdoor rink. The rink is open daily mid-December - the end of February. There are heated change rooms and washrooms available.

##### *Spring, Summer and Fall Activities*

Our Recreation Complex offers a variety of recreational activities including basketball, rollerblading and in the summer a huge outdoor swimming pool (July to Labour Day). The park store is at the heart of the recreation complex and operates during the skating and pool seasons.

#### **Campground - Accessible off Bronte Road and Upper Middle Road.**

You'll find a variety of campsites including 4 large group camping areas. An overnight stay is a great way to introduce kids to camping and the outdoors. Open year-round. Inquire about equipment rental program.

