

The Chippewa Bay Preserve Located in the A2A - Algonquin to Adirondack Corridor

Chippewa Bay Preserve and Nature Trail Brochure
 © 2023 Thousand Islands Land Trust
 Front cover photo
 © Photography by Chris Murray
 All Illustrations by Robert McNamara of The Art of Wilderness



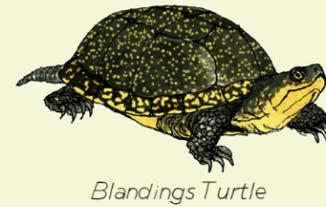
The Frontenac Arch

The Thousand Islands region lies on ancient rock that is part of the Canadian Shield, some of the oldest rock on Earth. Uplift has brought some of this rock to the surface in a ridge known as the Frontenac Arch. This Arch extends from the Grenville Province region of Canada to the Adirondack Mountains in New York. Significant erosion of the overlying rocks has occurred and you can see outcrops at the surface throughout the region. The geological events that formed the Frontenac Arch created a unique migratory corridor across the Eastern Great Lakes system, allowing for animals to safely pass along a binational critical wildlife highway.



Species Variety

The Frontenac Arch is home to an extraordinary amount of wildlife, making conservation of this unique region a priority. Many species found here are rare and either threatened or endangered, making the A2A Collaborative an important regional initiative.



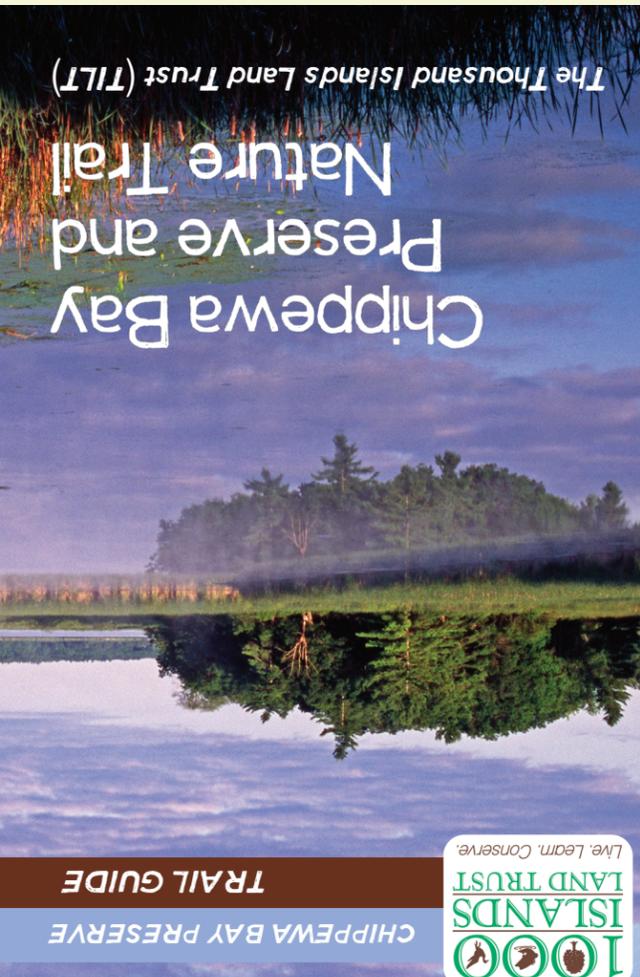
Glacial Activity

Once covered by ice over a mile thick, the Thousand Islands region was formed as glaciers receded and the hard rock of the Canadian Shield resisted erosion. The entire region was covered by the Champlain Sea. Freed from the weight of the glacier, landforms began to rise and the Champlain Sea began to recede, leaving behind the waterways we know today. The Frontenac Arch formed a natural dam that retains the water of Lake Ontario, resulting in the Lawrence River and its beautiful 1,864 Islands.

Directions to the Preserve: At the end of New Road, in Chippewa Bay, beyond River Bay Adventure Inn (97 New Rd). Go straight ahead, up a small rise into the woods. There is a small parking area 1/4 mile ahead on the left.



PO Box 238 Clayton, NY 13624 P: 315.686.545
 info@TILandTrust.org TILandTrust.org



A2A Trail - "A Pilgrimage for Nature"
 Alice the Moose made headlines when she was tracked travelling from the Adirondack Park, where she had been fitted with a radio collar, to Algonquin Provincial Park.
 Following in her footsteps, a hiking trail over the Frontenac Arch is in development to create another physical connection between the two parks. A map of the proposed route is online at A2ACollaborative.org/a2a-trail.html.

The Thousand Islands Land Trust (TILT) is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization created in 1985 to conserve the natural beauty, diverse wildlife habitats, water quality and outdoor recreation opportunities of the Thousand Islands region, for present and future generations!

TILT is supported by donations from people who care about the Thousand Islands region of the St. Lawrence River. Our conservation work is only possible through the generosity of our supporters.

Donations of land, conservation easements, and financial resources to TILT are tax deductible under provisions of the Internal Revenue code. To find out more about donating land, creating a conservation easement, or including TILT in your will, please call us at 315-686-5345.



Donate today!



NORTH

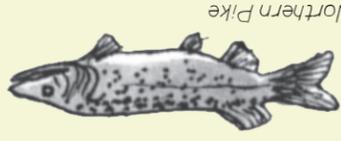


Red-winged Blackbird

The wetlands along the St. Lawrence River are diverse communities with a wide variety of plant and animal life. Dense cattail marshes are being opened up with management and restoration that mimics more natural water levels and increases flow. This creates better habitat for fish to spawn, for birds to nest, and other wildlife to feed. Wetlands are essential to clean water as they filter pollutants and debris out of the water column. They also act as sponges and help to combat erosion and flooding.



American Bittern



Northern Pike



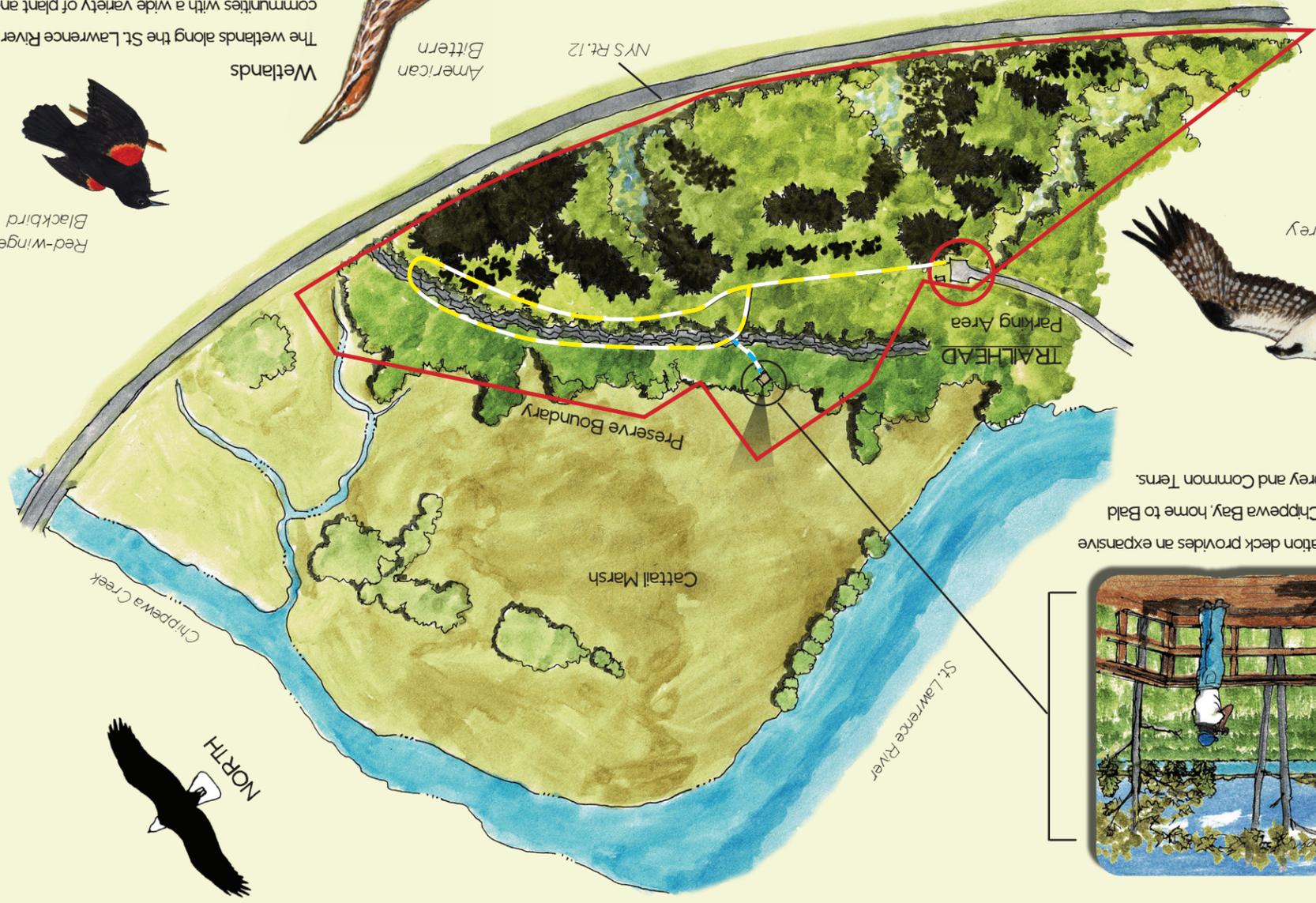
Cattails



Preserve Rules: Preserve open sunrise to sunset • Stay on trail • No motorized vehicles • No camping, dumping, fires, or collecting flora & fauna • Keep pets on a leash • No trapping or hunting

is a shallow embayment at the downstream extent of the Thousand Islands. It has a muck bottom punctuated with many shoals and islands, making it ideal habitat for wildlife of all types. It is bounded by two Class 1 wetland complexes. Crooked Creek at the upstream end and Chippewa Creek at the downstream end, which both contribute to its incomparable fishing and birding opportunities.

Chippewa Bay



An observation deck provides an expansive view over Chippewa Bay, home to Bald Eagles, Osprey and Common Terns.



Osprey



Returning Forest

Hardwoods mix with conifers in this upland terrain as the natural succession transforms farmland back to woodland. Sugar Maples and Red Oak are interspersed with Red Cedar along the ridge, and White Pine towers over the lowland adjacent to the marsh. Keep an eye out for Shagbark Hickory which looks like it sounds and for Eastern Hophornbeam, commonly called from wood its fruit looks like hops.



Shagbark Hickory



All Illustrations by Robert McNamara of The Art of Wilderness

The Thousand Islands Land Trust (TILT) is...

Working to conserve the natural beauty, diverse wildlife habitats, water quality and outdoor recreation opportunities of the Thousand Islands region, for present and future generations!

The Chippewa Bay Trail meanders for one mile along an old road through a mixed forest. An observation deck overlooking a marsh at the mouth of Chippewa Creek provides plenty of opportunity to see birds of prey, colonial waterbirds, and the iconic Great Blue Heron.

Geocaching... an outdoor treasure hunt

Using a GPS device like your smart phone, navigate to specific coordinates and see if you can find the geocache. Once you do, sign the log book in the container and return it to its original location for someone else to find. TILT has geocaches on several preserves, including the Chippewa Bay Preserve.

Learn more at geocaching.com.

Historic Farmland

Once part of a larger farm, the preserve is located along a ridge that defines the northern boundary of the Hammond Plain. Settled by Scottish immigrants, the Town of Hammond included sheep farms in addition to dairy, in its agricultural heyday. Chippewa Bay was an early port. All produce from the town, including iron ore from mines here for transportation to market in Rossie was loaded onto barges. Now, recreation and the seasonal tourism trade are the primary commercial activities.

