



2023

PADDLING PLAN

CITY OF LONDON



LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We acknowledge that we are on the traditional lands of the Anishinaabek (Uh-nish-in-ah-bek), Haudenosaunee (Ho-den-no-show-nee), Lūnaapéewak (Len-ah-pay-wuk) and Attawandaron (Add-a-won-da-run).

We acknowledge all the treaties that are specific to this area: the Two Row Wampum Belt Treaty of the Haudenosaunee Confederacy/Silver Covenant Chain; the Beaver Hunting Grounds of the Haudenosaunee NANFAN Treaty of 1701; the McKee Treaty of 1790, the London Township Treaty of 1796, the Huron Tract Treaty of 1827, with the Anishinaabeg, and the Dish with One Spoon Covenant Wampum of the Anishnaabek and Haudenosaunee.

This land continues to be home to diverse Indigenous peoples (First Nations, Métis and Inuit) whom we recognize as contemporary stewards of the land and vital contributors to society. We hold all that is in the natural world in our highest esteem and give honor to the wonderment of all things within Creation. We bring our minds together as one to share good words, thoughts, feelings and sincerely send them out to each other and to all parts of creation. We are grateful for the natural gifts in our world, and we encourage everyone to be faithful to the natural laws of Creation.

The three Indigenous Nations that are neighbours to London are the Chippewas of the Thames First Nation; Oneida Nation of the Thames; and the Munsee-Delaware Nation who all continue to live as sovereign Nations with individual and unique languages, cultures and customs.

This Land Acknowledgement is a first step towards reconciliation. It is the work of all citizens to step towards decolonizing practices and bringing our awareness into action. We encourage everyone to be informed about the traditional lands, Treaties, history, and cultures of the Indigenous people local to their region.

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- Provincial Policy Statement (2020)
- London Plan (2016)
- Council's Strategic Plan (2019-2023)
- Thames Valley Corridor Plan (2011)
- Parks & Recreation Master Plan (2019)
- One River Environmental Assessment- River Management Plan (2019)

01. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Paddling Plan focuses on protecting and enhancing the river corridor over the long term by directing use to safe and sustainable paddling accesses and enhancing amenities, signage, mapping, invasive species management, and increasing awareness for a healthy aquatic environment. The Paddling Plan aligns with the London Plan (2016), Thames Valley Corridor Plan (2011), One River Environmental Assessment - River Management Plan (2019), Parks and Recreation Master Plan (2019), Council's Strategic Plan (2019-2023), and the Provincial Policy Statement (2020).

Consistent with those plans and best management practices, any enhancements to existing paddling accesses will carefully integrate with the natural setting. The City anticipates two types of sustainable accesses in parks in order to protect the river corridor while continuing to provide paddling access away from sensitive habitats. Most will continue as existing natural surface accesses with minor enhancements and some will be designed to be fully accessible and meet the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA). To improve the paddling experience and enhance ecosystem health, priority invasive species including Buckthorn, Japanese Knotweed, and Phragmites are being managed in the river corridor, consistent with the London Invasive Plant Management Strategy (2017).

Existing accesses were identified through a review of the City of London Fish and Paddle Map, the One River EA River Management Plan, and other paddle maps. Local paddling groups, tourism agencies, and the UTRCA continue to update various paddle maps, routes, and lists of accesses in London. The use of the accesses are expected to increase with population growth and hotter temperatures related to climate change and however, most of these accesses are informal and unsigned. Existing accesses were reviewed for sensitive habitats, accessibility, location appropriateness, amenities, and complexity.

The Paddling Plan (and One River EA) includes updates and repairs for existing managed accesses including Springbank Park, Harris Park, Riverside Boat Launch, and improvements to the Charles Hunt Weir portage accesses. To minimize the need for construction and reduce complexity, existing launches were evaluated to find the best sustainable, natural accesses identified as “quick wins” for Phase 1 along with the accesses where detailed design and studies are underway, or require more complex, higher end, accessible accesses, as part of Phase 2.

Phase 1 included meetings with UTRCA, paddling groups, First Nations, a Get Involved page, and adding signage and minor improvements at a few sustainable, existing natural access locations in parks in 2023. In addition, unsafe and unsustainable accesses will be closed. Phase 2 will include detail design work and studies coordinated by Parks Design and Construction in advance of installing, or repairing fully accessible launches in future years in conjunction with projects led by other sections, through 2025.

02. MISSION STATEMENT



The Thames River is both our inheritance and our living legacy. The river is known by other names by First Nations who originate from the territory comprised of Southwestern Ontario. The Anishinaabeg and Lunaapewak call it Deshkan Ziibi (Antler River in Anishinaabemowin) and the Haudenosaunee call it Kahwy^hatati (river in ONYOTA:KA). It is our collective responsibility to protect and enhance its shared natural, cultural, recreational, and aesthetic resources.

The purpose of the Back to the River public engagement process and the One River Environmental Assessment was to improve the health of the river and allow people of all ages and abilities to enjoy and access this designated Canadian Heritage River. The Paddling plan focuses on protecting and enhancing the river corridor over the long term by directing use to safe and sustainable paddling accesses and enhancing amenities, signage, mapping, invasive species management, and increasing awareness for a healthy aquatic environment.

“The Thames Valley Corridor is London’s most important natural, cultural, recreational, and aesthetic resource.”

- The London Plan, 2016, Policy 122

03. SHORT-TERM GOALS



**PARKS PLANNING
+ DESIGN TEAM
CHARETTE MEETING
ON PADDLING PLAN**



**INSPECT + MAP
EXISTING SHORE
ACCESSES**



**EVALUATE
EXISTING SHORE
ACCESSES WITH
DESIGN CRITERIA &
OBJECTIVES**



**CITY OF LONDON
INTERNAL
MEETING(S)**



**EXTERNAL
MEETINGS- UTRCA/
PADDLING GROUPS
& FIRST NATIONS
COMMUNITIES**



**LAUNCH GET
INVOLVED PAGE-
PUBLIC FEEDBACK**



**MINOR
ENHANCEMENTS TO
EXISTING NATURAL
SHORE ACCESSES
(PHASE 1)**



**DETAIL DESIGN
+ STUDIES-
ENHANCED
ACCESSIBLE
ACCESSES
(PHASE 2
2023-2025+)**



04. EXISTING SHORE ACCESS INSPECTIONS

Existing shore accesses were identified through a review of the City of London Fish and Paddle Guide, recommendations in the One River Environmental Assessment River Management Plan, and other local paddle maps. Paddling groups, tourism agencies, the UTRCA, and others continue to update paddle maps, routes, and lists of river accesses in London. Most existing accesses are informal and unsigned. Inspections of many of the accesses identified in the resources below were completed to identify a series of safe and sustainable access sites in parks for consideration in the Paddling Plan.

- [City of London Fish and Paddle Guide](#)
- [One River Environmental Assessment River Management Plan](#)
- [North Thames River Canoe Routes \(UTRCA\)](#)
- [Thames River Paddling Routes Project](#)
- [Ontario’s Southwest - Thames Paddling Routes](#)

Main Branch

Address	Park Name	Location Specifics	Source of Referenced Existing Shore Access
1025 Springbank Gate	Springbank Park	West of Dam	Fish & Paddle Guide, One River EA, Thames River Paddling Routes, North Thames River Canoe Routes (UTRCA)
1025 Springbank Gate	Springbank Park	East of Dam	Fish & Paddle Guide, One River EA, Thames River Paddling Routes, North Thames River Canoe Routes (UTRCA)
1025 Springbank Gate	Storybook Gardens	North of Parking Lot	Thames River Paddling Routes
1085 Commissioners Rd. W	Springbank Park	West of Pumphouse	Thames River Paddling Routes
850 Sunninghill Ave.	Thames Valley Golf Course	East of Pedestrian Bridge	Fish & Paddle Guide
205 Wonderland Rd. S	Wonderland Gardens	Southwest Area	One River EA, Thames River Paddling Routes
205 Wonderland Rd. S	Wonderland Gardens	McManus Boathouse	Thames River Paddling Routes, North Thames River Canoe Routes (UTRCA)
50 Greenside Ave.	Greenway Park	North of Existing Dock	Thames River Paddling Routes
520 Riverside Dr.	Riverside Boat Launch	Intersection of Wonderland & Riverside	Fish & Paddle Guide, One River EA, Thames River Paddling Routes
200 Cavendish Cres.	Cavendish Park	South of Cavendish Cres.	City Staff

North Branch

Address	Park Name	Location Specifics	Source of Referenced Existing Shore Access
2a Grosvenor St.	Gibbons Park	Southwest Area of Park	Thames River Paddling Routes
1225 Adelaide St. N	North London Athletic Fields	North Area of Park	Fish & Paddle Guide, Thames River Paddling Routes
745 Windermere Rd.	Windermere Fields	South of Parking Lot	City Staff
Highbury Ave. N	N/A	East of Highbury Ave. N Bridge	Fish & Paddle Guide, Thames River Paddling Routes
1424 Clarke Rd.	Fanshawe Conservation Area	North & West of Dam	Fish & Paddle Guide, Thames River Paddling Routes, North Thames River Canoe Routes (UTRCA), Ontario's Southwest- Thames Paddling Routes

South Branch

Address	Park Name	Location Specifics	Source of Referenced Existing Shore Access
15 Ridout St. S	Thames Park	North of Tennis Courts	Thames River Paddling Routes
50 Carfrae St.	Charles Hunt Park	North End of Park	Fish & Paddle Guide, One River EA, Thames River Paddling Routes
1 Adelaide St. S	Chelsea Green Park	North of Playground	Thames River Paddling Routes
54 Price St.	Vauxhall Park	Southeast Area of Park	Thames River Paddling Routes
1139 Hamilton Rd.	Pottersburg Park	South End of Pottersburg Dog Park	Thames River Paddling Routes
2315 River Rd.	River Road SWM	South End of Park	City Staff
2355 River Rd.	Waubuno Creek - South / Open Space	East of Veterans Memorial Parkway Bridge	Fish & Paddle Guide, Thames River Paddling Routes

Forks of the Thames

Address	Park Name	Location Specifics	Source of Referenced Existing Shore Access
10 Riverside Dr.	Mitchell A. Baran Park	Southeast Area of Park	City Staff
331 Thames St.	Ivey Park	West Area of Park	Ontario's Southwest- Thames Paddling Routes
531 Ridout St.	Harris Park	South End of Park	Fish & Paddle Guide, One River EA, Thames River Paddling Routes, Ontario's Southwest- Thames Paddling Routes
2 Cummings Ave.	Blackfriars Park	East of Carrothers Ave.	City Staff
65 Ann St.	Ann Street Park	Southwest of Pedestrian Bridge Over Creek	Thames River Paddling Routes

EXISTING SHORE ACCESS INSPECTIONS MAP



Scale 1:40,000m

EXISTING SHORE ACCESS

RECOMMENDED FOR NATURAL SHORE ACCESS

RECOMMENDED FOR ENHANCED ACCESSIBILITY

NOT RECOMMENDED SHORE ACCESS/TO BE CLOSED

DAM/WEIR

CAUTION

PARKING

CITY-OWNED PARKS

ESAS*
*More accurate mapping of ESAs are identified on London Plan Map 5

THAMES RIVER FLOW

BRIDGES

ROADS

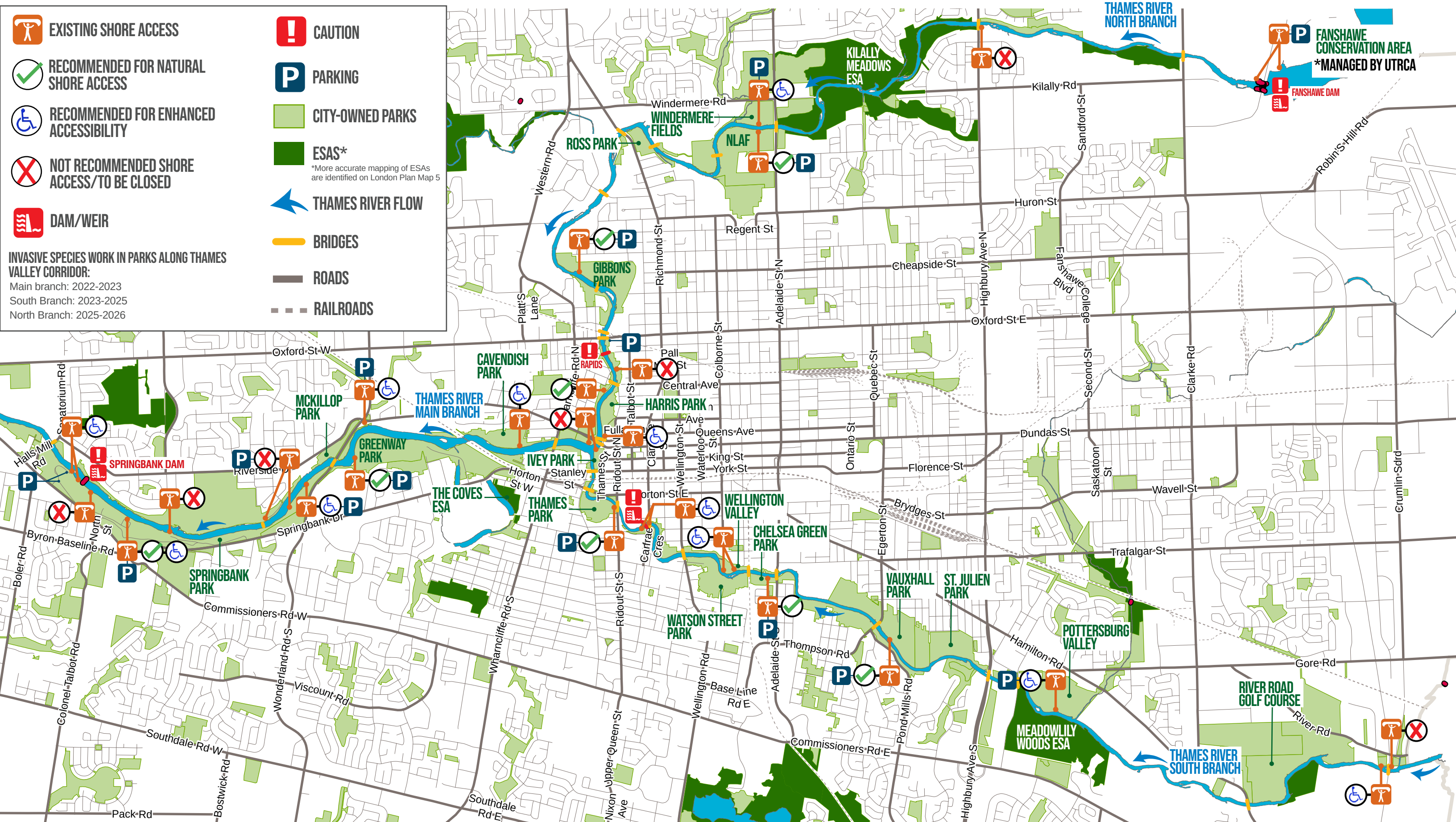
RAILROADS

INVASIVE SPECIES WORK IN PARKS ALONG THAMES VALLEY CORRIDOR:

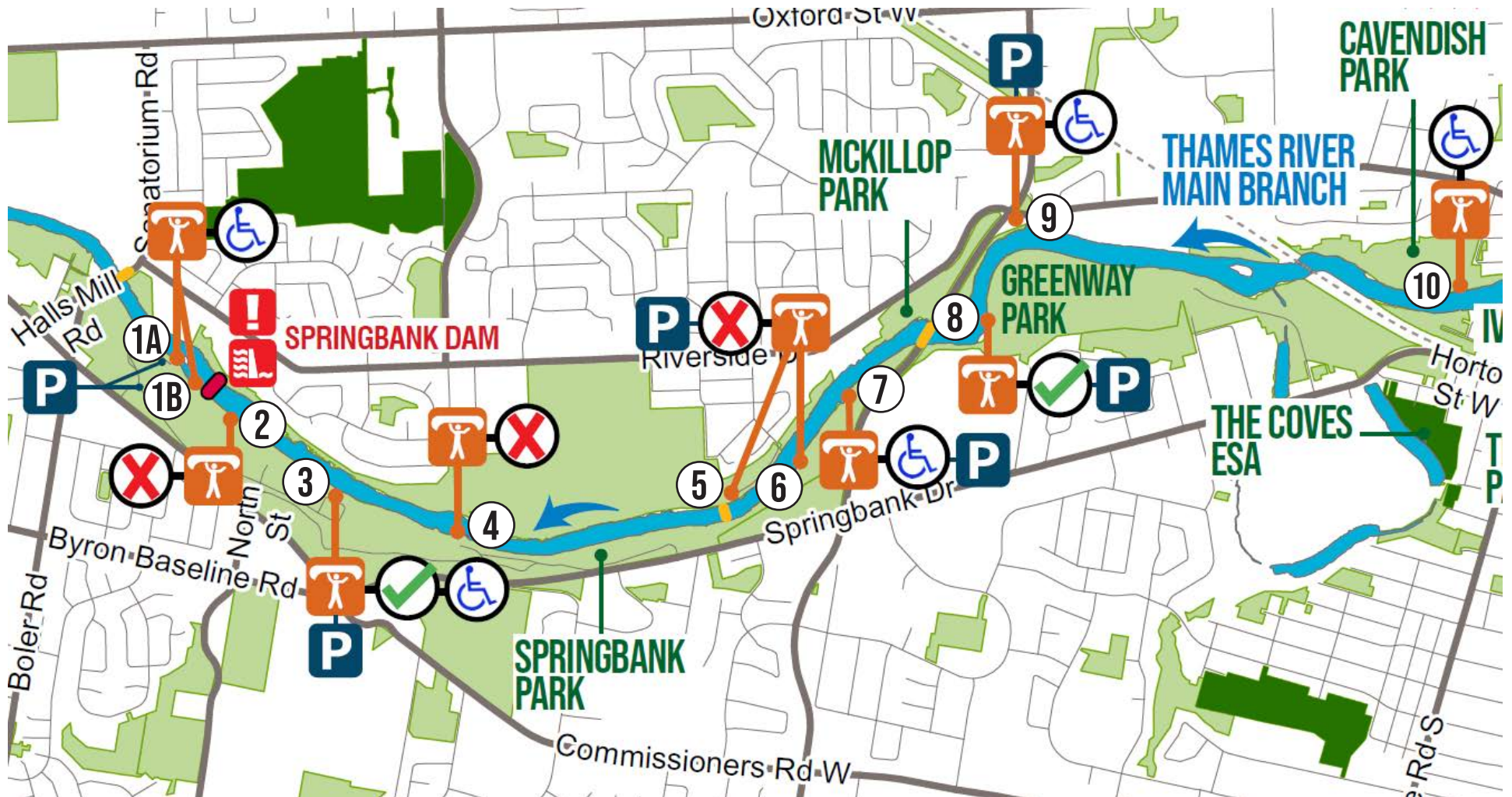
Main branch: 2022-2023

South Branch: 2023-2025

North Branch: 2025-2026



MAIN BRANCH INSPECTIONS- KEY MAP





Inspection Evaluation	Yes	No	Notes
Mapped on Fish & Paddling Map/One River Management Plan	✓		
Accessibility Route Nearby	✓		
Existing Foot Path	✓		
Invasive Management Required		✓	
Site Grading Required/Permits Required	✓		
Existing Signage		✓	
Washrooms Nearby		✓	
Recommended Launch	✓		

Condition of Shore Access:

☐ 1 ☒ 2 ☐ 3

1= Poor
2= Fair
3= Good

Ground Characteristics:

☐ Sandy ☐ Rocky ☐ Sandy & Rocky ☐ Geo-textile Mats
☒ Concrete Mats ☐ Mix of Ground Vegetation

Parking Type:

☒ Parking Lot
☐ Roadside

Shore Access Frontage: **20m**Distance from Multi-use Pathway: **6m**Parking Distance from Shore: **30m**

Notes: Needs better accessibility (ex. curb cut and minor grading required). Two groups used this access to enter the river. One group said they start here and paddle to Komoka.

Supporting Photos:



Figure 1: View of Shore Access- Concrete Mats

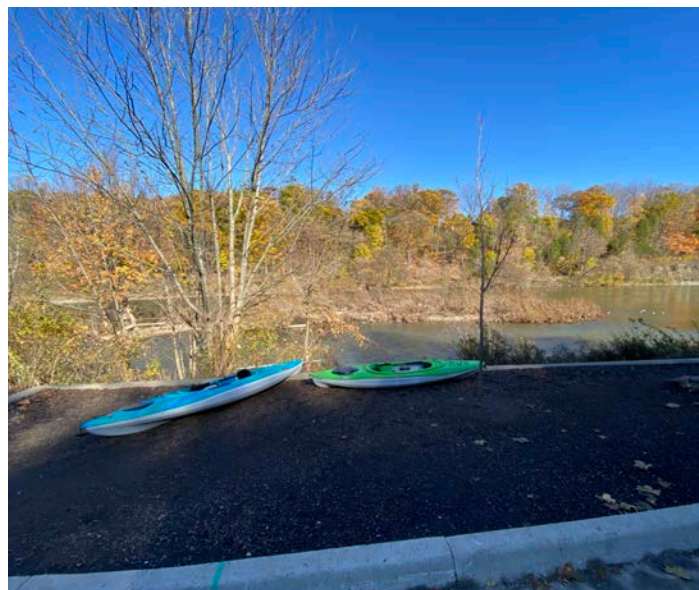


Figure 2: Poor Accessibility

LOCATION: Springbank Park (West of Dam)

ADDRESS: 1025 Springbank Gate



Inspection Evaluation	Yes	No	Notes
Mapped on Fish & Paddling Map/One River Management Plan	✓		
Accessibility Route Nearby	✓		
Existing Foot Path	✓		
Invasive Management Required	✓		Buckthorn
Site Grading Required/Permits Required	✓		
Existing Signage	✓		2 signs
Washrooms Nearby		✓	
Recommended Launch	✓		

Condition of Shore Access:

☒ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3

1= Poor
2= Fair
3= Good

Ground Characteristics:

☐ Sandy ☐ Rocky ☐ Sandy & Rocky ☐ Geo-textile Mats

☒ Concrete Mats ☐ Mix of Ground Vegetation

Parking Type:

☒ Parking Lot

☐ Roadside
Shore Access Frontage: **30m**Distance from Multi-use Pathway: **5m**Parking Distance from Shore: **145m**

Notes: Very minimal invasive management required. Very steep and slippery.

Supporting Photos:



Figure 3: View of Access from Multi-use Pathway



Figure 4: Individual Fishing



Figure 5: Concrete Mats/Existing Signage

2 LOCATION: Springbank Park (East of Dam)
ADDRESS: 1025 Springbank Gate



Inspection Evaluation	Yes	No	Notes
Mapped on Fish & Paddling Map/One River Management Plan	✓		
Accessibility Route Nearby	✓		
Existing Foot Path	✓		
Invasive Management Required	✓		Buckthorn
Site Grading Required/Permits Required	✓		
Existing Signage	✓		3 signs
Washrooms Nearby		✓	
Recommended Launch		✓	

Condition of Shore Access:

☒ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3

1= Poor
2= Fair
3= Good

Ground Characteristics:

☐ Sandy ☒ Rocky ☐ Sandy & Rocky ☐ Geo-textile Mats
☐ Concrete Mats ☐ Mix of Ground Vegetation

Parking Type:

☒ Parking Lot
☐ Roadside

Shore Access Frontage: **5m**

Distance from Multi-use Pathway: **4m**

Parking Distance from Shore: **365m**

Notes: Very steep, rocky, and slippery. 3 signs on site- 1 located on TVP and two attached to trees along the river. A lot of buckthorn. There is a poor condition concrete walkway leading to the launch.

Supporting Photos:



Figure 6: Existing Signage on TVP



Figure 7: Steep/Rocky Access to River

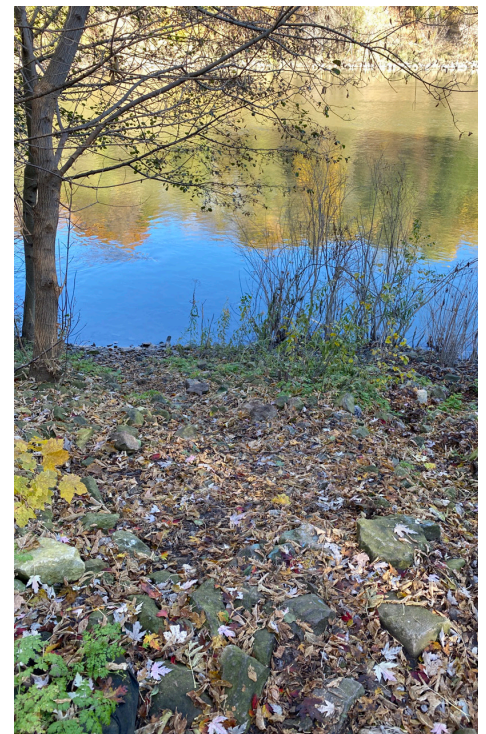


Figure 8: Existing Shore Frontage

3 LOCATION: Storybook Gardens (North of Parking Lot)
ADDRESS: 1025 Springbank Gate



Inspection Evaluation	Yes	No	Notes
Mapped on Fish & Paddling Map/One River Management Plan		✓	
Accessibility Route Nearby	✓		
Existing Foot Path	✓		
Invasive Management Required	✓		Buckthorn
Site Grading Required/Permits Required	✓		
Existing Signage		✓	
Washrooms Nearby	✓		
Recommended Launch	✓		

Condition of Shore Access:

☒ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3

1= Poor
2= Fair
3= Good

Ground Characteristics:

☐ Sandy ☒ Rocky ☐ Sandy & Rocky ☐ Geo-textile Mats

☐ Concrete Mats ☐ Mix of Ground Vegetation

Parking Type:

☒ Parking Lot

☐ Roadside

Shore Access Frontage: **10m**

Distance from Multi-use Pathway: **20m**

Parking Distance from Shore: **30m**

Notes: Very steep, rocky, and narrow. Good potential access and is very convenient, as it is close to parking and other amenities.

Supporting Photos:



Figure 9: View of Access from Foot Path

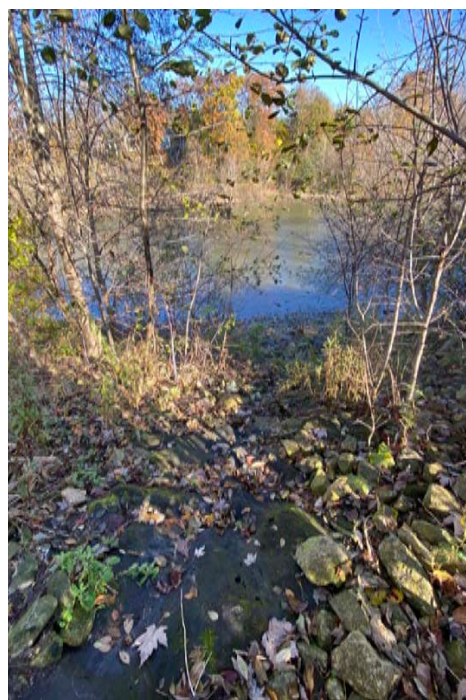


Figure 10: Existing Narrow Path to River



Figure 11: Close Proximity to Parking

4 LOCATION: Springbank Park (West of Pumphouse)
ADDRESS: 1085 Commissioners Rd W



Inspection Evaluation	Yes	No	Notes
Mapped on Fish & Paddling Map/One River Management Plan		✓	
Accessibility Route Nearby		✓	
Existing Foot Path	✓		
Invasive Management Required	✓		<i>Buckthorn, Black Alder</i>
Site Grading Required/Permits Required	✓		
Existing Signage		✓	
Washrooms Nearby	✓		
Recommended Launch		✓	

Condition of Shore Access:

☒ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3

1= Poor
2= Fair
3= Good

Ground Characteristics:

☐ Sandy ☐ Rocky ☐ Sandy & Rocky ☐ Geo-textile Mats
☐ Concrete Mats ☒ Mix of Ground Vegetation

Parking Type:

☐ Parking Lot
☐ Roadside
☒ N/A

Shore Access Frontage: **5m**

Distance from Multi-use Pathway: **70m**

Parking Distance from Shore: **N/A**

Notes: Slippery, but not as steep. White water is present at this location. Current shore frontage that isn't covered with vegetation is about 5m. Pipe sticks out of footpath (Figure 14).

Supporting Photos:



Figure 12: Footpath Leading to Shore



Figure 13: Muddy/Slippery Footpath



Figure 14: Existing Pipe Sticking out of Footpath



Figure 15: Shore Frontage



Figure 16: White Water Presence



Figure 17: Sandbar Feature Present

5 LOCATION: Thames Valley Golf Course
ADDRESS: 850 Sunninghill Ave



Inspection Evaluation	Yes	No	Notes
Mapped on Fish & Paddling Map/One River Management Plan	✓		
Accessibility Route Nearby	✓		
Existing Foot Path	✓		Very narrow
Invasive Management Required	✓		Buckthorn
Site Grading Required/Permits Required	✓		
Existing Signage		✓	
Washrooms Nearby	✓		
Recommended Launch		✓	

Condition of Shore Access:

☒ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3

1= Poor
2= Fair
3= Good

Ground Characteristics:

☐ Sandy ☐ Rocky ☐ Sandy & Rocky ☐ Geo-textile Mats
☐ Concrete Mats ☒ Mix of Ground Vegetation

Parking Type:

☒ Parking Lot
☐ Roadside
☐ N/A

Shore Access Frontage: **8m**

Distance from Multi-use Pathway: **25m**

Parking Distance from Shore: **80m**

Notes: Not recommended based on blind corner to TVP off bridge and limited parking for golf course.

Supporting Photos:



Figure 18: Narrow Footpath off TVP



Figure 19: Blind Corner

6 LOCATION: Wonderland Gardens
ADDRESS: 205 Wonderland Rd S



Inspection Evaluation	Yes	No	Notes
Mapped on Fish & Paddling Map/One River Management Plan	✓		
Accessibility Route Nearby	✓		
Existing Foot Path	✓		
Invasive Management Required	✓		Minor Phragmite, Buckthorn
Site Grading Required/Permits Required	✓		Minor
Existing Signage		✓	
Washrooms Nearby	✓		
Recommended Launch		✓	

Condition of Shore Access:

☒ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3

1= Poor
2= Fair
3= Good

Ground Characteristics:

☐ Sandy ☐ Rocky ☐ Sandy & Rocky ☐ Geo-textile Mats
☐ Concrete Mats ☒ Mix of Ground Vegetation

Parking Type:

☒ Parking Lot
☐ Roadside
☐ N/A

Shore Access Frontage: **25m**

Distance from Multi-use Pathway: **65m**

Parking Distance from Shore: **180m**

Notes: Entrance of access is narrow and rocky. Minor grading required and some vegetation removal. Calm flowing water at this shore access.

Supporting Photos:



Figure 20: Existing Dirt Path off of TVP



Figure 21: Steep, Rocky Path Leading to Shore



Figure 22: Narrow Footpath Along Shore

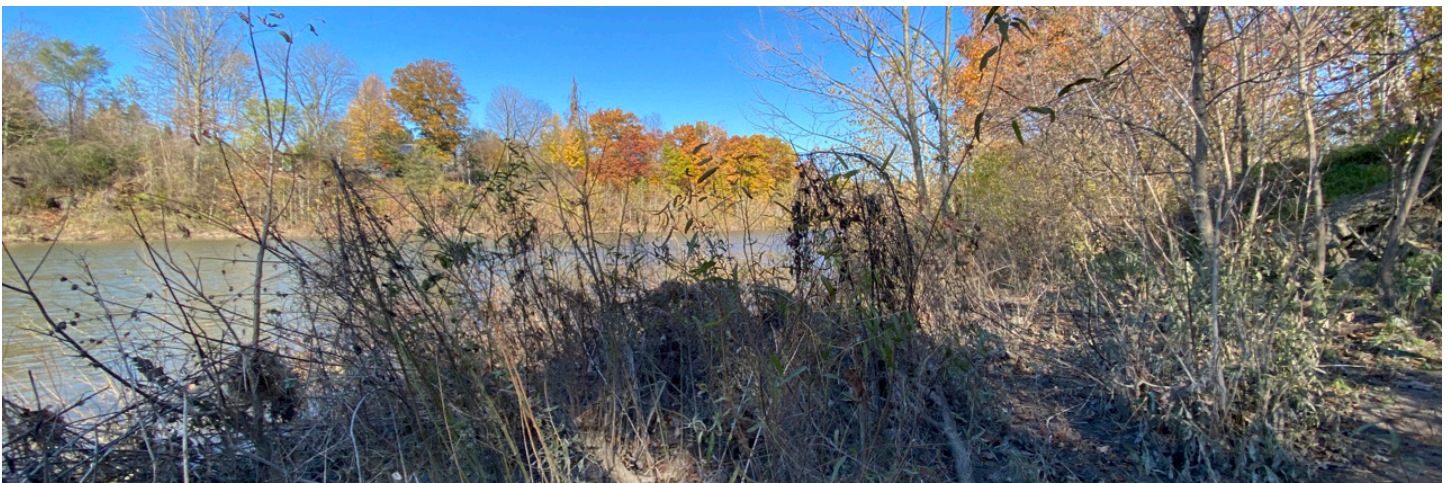


Figure 23: Existing Vegetation Along Shore



7 LOCATION: McManus Boathouse Access
ADDRESS: 205 Wonderland Rd S

Inspection Evaluation	Yes	No	Notes
Mapped on Fish & Paddling Map/One River Management Plan	✓		
Accessibility Route Nearby	✓		
Existing Foot Path		✓	
Invasive Management Required	✓		Buckthorn
Site Grading Required/Permits Required	✓		Minor
Existing Signage		✓	
Washrooms Nearby	✓		
Recommended Launch	✓		

Condition of Shore Access:

☒ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3

1= Poor
 2= Fair
 3= Good

Ground Characteristics:

☐ Sandy ☐ Rocky ☐ Sandy & Rocky ☐ Geo-textile Mats
☐ Concrete Mats ☒ Mix of Ground Vegetation

Parking Type:

☒ Parking Lot
☐ Roadside
☐ N/A

Shore Access Frontage: **25m**

Distance from Multi-use Pathway: **60m**

Parking Distance from Shore: **10m**

Notes: Grading required. Stairs leading to launch.

Supporting Photos:



Figure 24: Existing McManus Boathouse & Stairs Leading to Shore

8 LOCATION: Greenway Park
ADDRESS: 50 Greenside Ave



Inspection Evaluation	Yes	No	Notes
Mapped on Fish & Paddling Map/One River Management Plan		✓	
Accessibility Route Nearby	✓		
Existing Foot Path	✓		
Invasive Management Required	✓		Light Buckthorn
Site Grading Required/Permits Required		✓	
Existing Signage		✓	
Washrooms Nearby	✓		
Recommended Launch	✓		

Condition of Shore Access:

☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☒ 3

1= Poor
 2= Fair
 3= Good

Ground Characteristics:

☐ Sandy ☐ Rocky ☒ Sandy & Rocky ☐ Geo-textile Mats

☐ Concrete Mats ☐ Mix of Ground Vegetation

Parking Type:

☒ Parking Lot

☐ Roadside

☐ N/A

Shore Access Frontage: **10m**

Distance from Multi-use Pathway: **15m**

Parking Distance from Shore: **70m**

Notes: Ideal launch- easy access. Just needs a sign. Mainly sandy with some larger rocks.

Supporting Photos:



Figure 25: Existing Shore Frontage

9 LOCATION: Riverside Boat Launch
ADDRESS: 520 Riverside Dr.



Inspection Evaluation	Yes	No	Notes
Mapped on Fish & Paddling Map/One River Management Plan	✓		
Accessibility Route Nearby	✓		Heavy duty existing concrete/asphalt boat launch ramp- requires attention
Existing Foot Path		✓	
Invasive Management Required	✓		Light Buckthorn
Site Grading Required/Permits Required		✓	
Existing Signage	✓		
Washrooms Nearby	✓		Porta-potty on site
Recommended Launch	✓		

Condition of Shore Access:

☐ 1 ☒ 2 ☐ 3

1= Poor
 2= Fair
 3= Good

Ground Characteristics:

☐ Sandy ☐ Rocky ☒ Sandy & Rocky ☐ Geo-textile Mats

☐ Concrete Mats ☐ Mix of Ground Vegetation

Heavy duty concrete/asphalt driveway leading to shore

Parking Type:

☒ Parking Lot

☐ Roadside

☐ N/A

Shore Access Frontage: **15m**

Distance from Multi-use Pathway: **N/A**

Parking Distance from Shore: **can bring vehicle to shoreline. Parking spot about 35m from shore**

Notes: Well used launch. Lots of parking and there are food trucks at times. Heavy duty existing concrete/asphalt boat launch ramp is in need of repair.

Supporting Photos:



Figure 26: Gravel Parking Lot



Figure 27: Existing Signage



Figure 28: Existing Asphalt in Need of Repair



Figure 29: Existing Shore Access

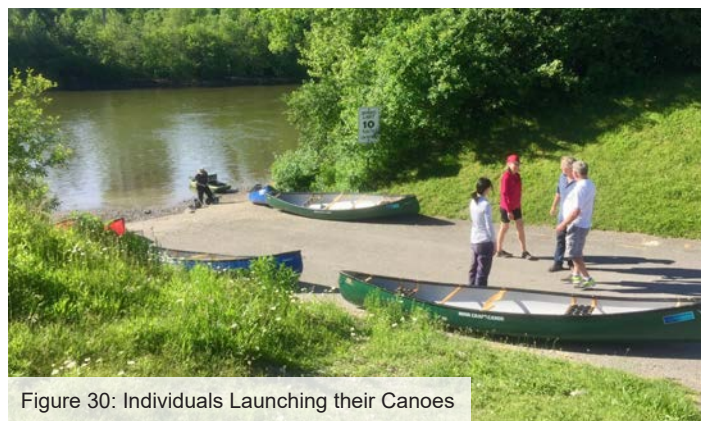


Figure 30: Individuals Launching their Canoes

10 **LOCATION:** Cavendish Park
ADDRESS: 200 Cavendish Cres.



Inspection Evaluation	Yes	No	Notes
Mapped on Fish & Paddling Map/One River Management Plan		✓	
Accessibility Route Nearby	✓		Gravel Pathway
Existing Foot Path	✓		
Invasive Management Required		✓	Invasives treated in 2021
Site Grading Required/Permits Required		✓	Enhancing existing trail down slope needed, but likely no grading required
Existing Signage		✓	
Washrooms Nearby		✓	
Recommended Launch	✓		

Condition of Shore Access:

☐ 1 ☒ 2 ☐ 3

1= Poor
2= Fair
3= Good

Ground Characteristics:

☐ Sandy ☐ Rocky ☐ Sandy & Rocky ☐ Geo-textile Mats
☐ Concrete Mats ☒ Mix of Ground Vegetation

Parking Type:

☐ Parking Lot
☒ Roadside
☐ N/A
Shore Access Frontage: **5m**Distance from Multi-use Pathway: **70m**Parking Distance from Shore: **160m**

Notes: This area is subject to future work by SWM group for the West London Dyke.

Supporting Photos:



Figure 31: Potential Access- East Edge of Existing Blocks from Storm Outlet

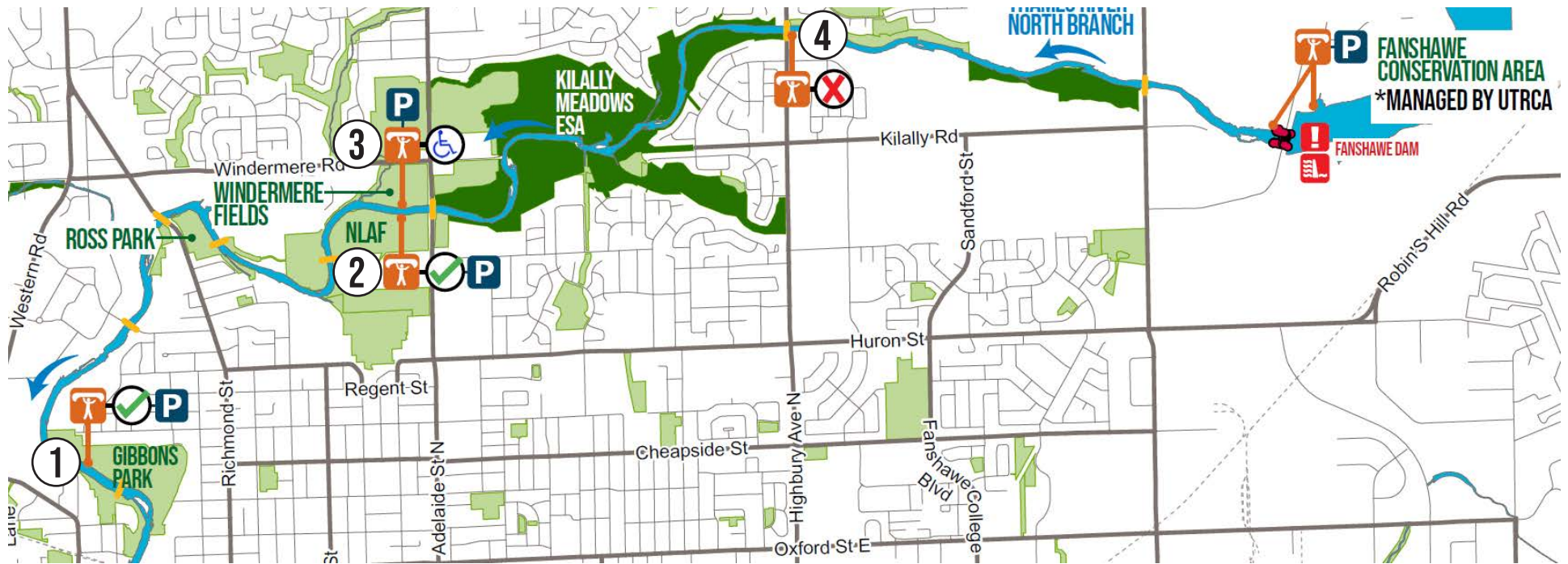


Figure 33: Potential Natural Launch- East of Storm Outlet & Blocks



Figure 32: Easy Transition to River

NORTH BRANCH INSPECTIONS- KEY MAP



1 LOCATION: Gibbons Park
ADDRESS: 2a Grosvenor St



Inspection Evaluation	Yes	No	Notes
Mapped on Fish & Paddling Map/One River Management Plan		✓	
Accessibility Route Nearby	✓		
Existing Foot Path	✓		
Invasive Management Required	✓		Buckthorn
Site Grading Required/Permits Required		✓	
Existing Signage		✓	
Washrooms Nearby	✓		
Recommended Launch	✓		

Condition of Shore Access:

☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☒ 3

1= Poor
 2= Fair
 3= Good

Ground Characteristics:

☒ Sandy ☐ Rocky ☐ Sandy & Rocky ☐ Geo-textile Mats

☐ Concrete Mats ☐ Mix of Ground Vegetation

Parking Type:

☒ Parking Lot

☐ Roadside

☐ N/A
Shore Access Frontage: **20m**Distance from Multi-use Pathway: **20m**Parking Distance from Shore: **150m**Notes: *Very ideal launch. Signs required.*

Supporting Photo:



Figure 34: Existing Launch Access

2 LOCATION: North London Athletic Fields
ADDRESS: 1225 Adelaide St N



Inspection Evaluation	Yes	No	Notes
Mapped on Fish & Paddling Map/One River Management Plan	✓		
Accessibility Route Nearby	✓		
Existing Foot Path	✓		
Invasive Management Required		✓	Invasives treated in 2021
Site Grading Required/Permits Required		✓	
Existing Signage		✓	
Washrooms Nearby	✓		
Recommended Launch	✓		

Condition of Shore Access:

☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☒ 3

1= Poor
 2= Fair
 3= Good

Ground Characteristics:

☒ Sandy ☐ Rocky ☐ Sandy & Rocky ☐ Geo-textile Mats

☐ Concrete Mats ☐ Mix of Ground Vegetation

Parking Type:

☒ Parking Lot

☐ Roadside

☐ N/A
Shore Access Frontage: **10m**Distance from Multi-use Pathway: **18m**Parking Distance from Shore: **340m**

Notes: Sandy with some tree roots.

Supporting Photos:



Figure 35: Existing Footpath to Shore



Figure 36: Existing Shore Frontage

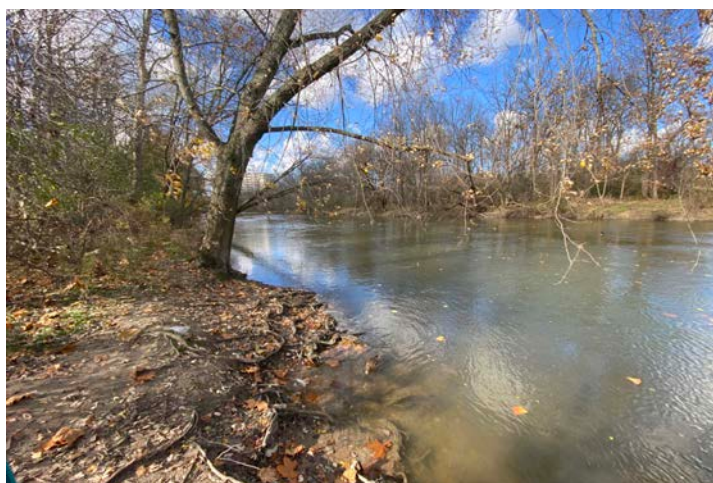


Figure 37: Easy Access to River and Calm Waters

3 LOCATION: Windermere Fields
ADDRESS: 745 Windermere Rd



Inspection Evaluation	Yes	No	Notes
Mapped on Fish & Paddling Map/One River Management Plan		✓	
Accessibility Route Nearby		✓	No multi-use pathway nearby
Existing Foot Path	✓		Manicured grass leading to shore
Invasive Management Required		✓	
Site Grading Required/Permits Required	✓		
Existing Signage		✓	
Washrooms Nearby		✓	
Recommended Launch	✓		

Condition of Shore Access:

☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☒ 3

1= Poor
 2= Fair
 3= Good

Ground Characteristics:

☐ Sandy ☐ Rocky ☐ Sandy & Rocky ☐ Geo-textile Mats
☐ Concrete Mats ☒ Mix of Ground Vegetation

Parking Type:

☒ Parking Lot
☐ Roadside
☐ N/A
Shore Access Frontage: **12m**Distance from Multi-use Pathway: **N/A**Parking Distance from Shore: **70m**

Notes: Signage needed. Add path leading to shore.

Supporting Photo:



Figure 38: Existing Shore Frontage

4 LOCATION: East of Highbury Ave N Bridge
ADDRESS: Highbury Ave N



Inspection Evaluation	Yes	No	Notes
Mapped on Fish & Paddling Map/One River Management Plan	✓		
Accessibility Route Nearby	✓		
Existing Foot Path	✓		
Invasive Management Required	✓		Buckthorn
Site Grading Required/Permits Required	✓		Minor grading for footpath
Existing Signage		✓	
Washrooms Nearby		✓	
Recommended Launch		✓	

Condition of Shore Access:

☐ 1 ☒ 2 ☐ 3

1= Poor
2= Fair
3= Good

Ground Characteristics:

☐ Sandy ☐ Rocky ☐ Sandy & Rocky ☐ Geo-textile Mats
☐ Concrete Mats ☒ Mix of Ground Vegetation

Parking Type:

☐ Parking Lot
☒ Roadside
☐ N/A

Shore Access Frontage: **10m**

Distance from Multi-use Pathway: **35m**

Parking Distance from Shore: **110m+/-**

Notes: Roadside parking occurs on Highbury Ave N. Parking can occur on Edgevalley Rd. Footpath is slippery leading to shore.

Supporting Photos:

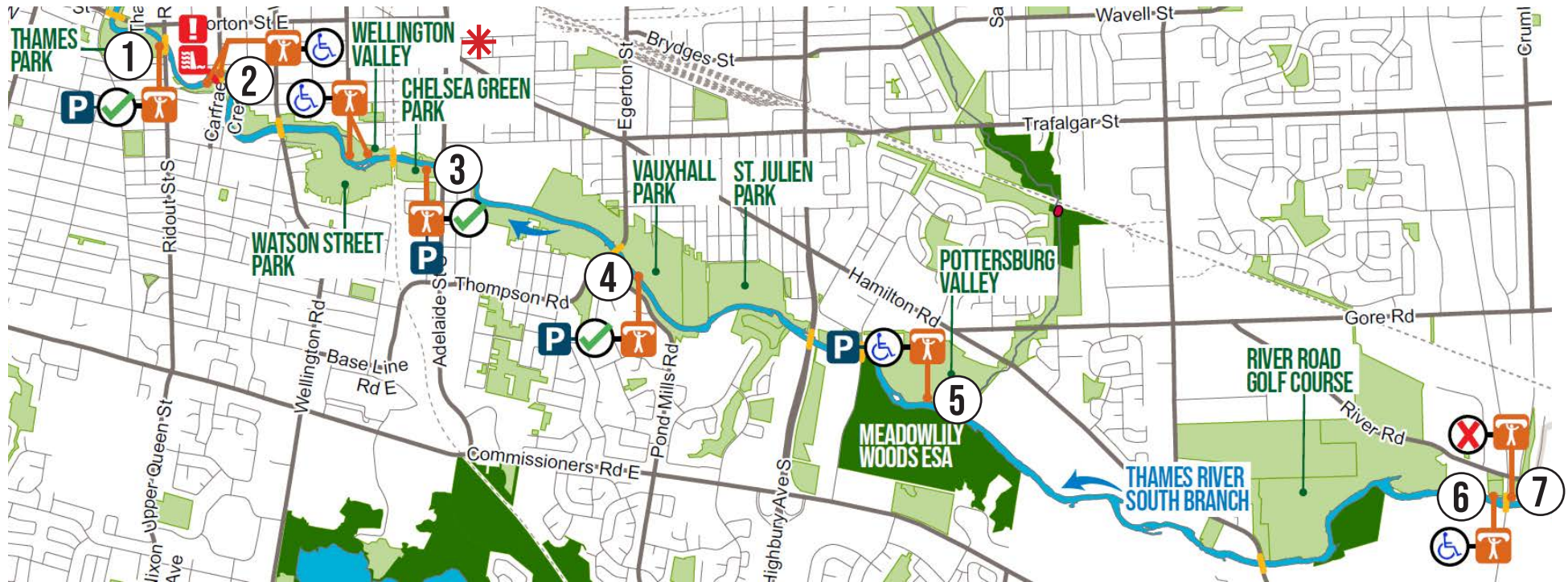


Figure 39: Existing Footpath Leading to Shore



Figure 40: Existing Shore Access- Easy Access

SOUTH BRANCH INSPECTIONS- KEY MAP



* Wellington Valley- Area Under Construction. Future Park Plans Includes 2 Shore Accesses

1 LOCATION: Thames Park
ADDRESS: 15 Ridout St S



Inspection Evaluation	Yes	No	Notes
Mapped on Fish & Paddling Map/One River Management Plan		✓	
Accessibility Route Nearby	✓		
Existing Foot Path	✓		
Invasive Management Required	✓		Buckthorn
Site Grading Required/Permits Required		✓	
Existing Signage		✓	
Washrooms Nearby	✓		
Recommended Launch	✓		

Condition of Shore Access:

☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☒ 3

1= Poor
 2= Fair
 3= Good

Ground Characteristics:

☐ Sandy ☐ Rocky ☐ Sandy & Rocky ☐ Geo-textile Mats
☐ Concrete Mats ☒ Mix of Ground Vegetation

Parking Type:

☒ Parking Lot
☐ Roadside
☐ N/A

Shore Access Frontage: **10m**

Distance from Multi-use Pathway: **20m**

Parking Distance from Shore: **60m**

Notes: Thames Park is closed through 2022-2023 for Victoria Bridge reconstruction.

Supporting Photos:



Figure 41: Well Established Footpath



Figure 42: Existing Shore Frontage

2 LOCATION: Charles Hunt Park
ADDRESS: 50 Carfrae St



Inspection Evaluation	Yes	No	Notes
Mapped on Fish & Paddling Map/One River Management Plan	✓		
Accessibility Route Nearby		✓	No multi-use pathway nearby
Existing Foot Path	✓		
Invasive Management Required	✓		Buckthorn
Site Grading Required/Permits Required	✓		Very steep; difficult to access shore due to poor grading (west of weir)
Existing Signage	✓		
Washrooms Nearby		✓	
Recommended Launch	✓		

Condition of Shore Access:

☒ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3

1= Poor
 2= Fair
 3= Good

Ground Characteristics:

☐ Sandy ☐ Rocky ☐ Sandy & Rocky ☐ Geo-textile Mats

☒ Concrete Mats ☒ Mix of Ground Vegetation

Parking Type:

☐ Parking Lot

☒ Roadside

☐ N/A
Shore Access Frontage: **10m**Distance from Multi-use Pathway: **N/A**Parking Distance from Shore: **125m+/-**

Notes: West of weir- fast flowing water. East of weir launch- concrete platform. Due to high water levels it was difficult to reach the concrete platform. Future park plans include improvements to these existing portages.

Supporting Photos:

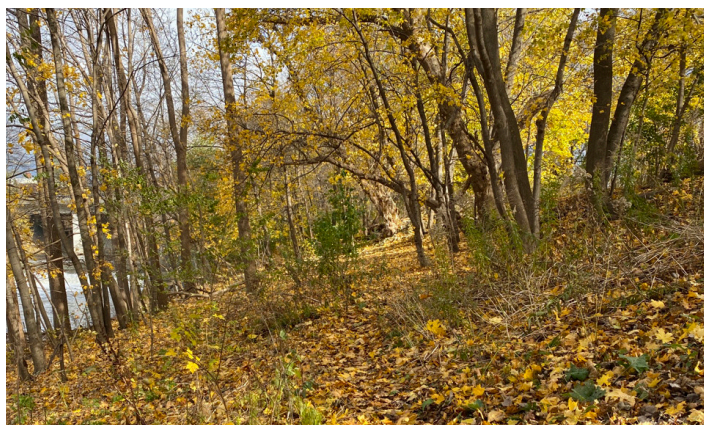


Figure 43: Existing Trail Leading to Launch West of Weir



Figure 44: Existing Launch West of Weir



Figure 45: Existing Footpath Leading to Launch East of Weir



Figure 46: Existing Launch East of Weir- Cannot Access due to Water Levels; Lots of Garbage in this Area

3 LOCATION: Chelsea Green Park
ADDRESS: 1 Adelaide St S



Inspection Evaluation	Yes	No	Notes
Mapped on Fish & Paddling Map/One River Management Plan		✓	
Accessibility Route Nearby	✓		
Existing Foot Path	✓		
Invasive Management Required	✓		Buckthorn
Site Grading Required/Permits Required		✓	
Existing Signage		✓	
Washrooms Nearby		✓	
Recommended Launch	✓		

Condition of Shore Access:

☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☒ 3

1= Poor
 2= Fair
 3= Good

Ground Characteristics:

☐ Sandy ☐ Rocky ☐ Sandy & Rocky ☐ Geo-textile Mats
☐ Concrete Mats ☒ Mix of Ground Vegetation

Parking Type:

☒ Parking Lot
☐ Roadside
☐ N/A

Shore Access Frontage: **40m+/-**

Distance from Multi-use Pathway: **75m**

Parking Distance from Shore: **95m**

Notes: *Difficult to find shore access-- signage required.*

Supporting Photos:



Figure 47: Existing Footpath Leading to Shore



Figure 48: Existing Shore Frontage

4 LOCATION: Vauxhall Park
ADDRESS: 54 Price St



Inspection Evaluation	Yes	No	Notes
Mapped on Fish & Paddling Map/One River Management Plan		✓	
Accessibility Route Nearby	✓		
Existing Foot Path	✓		
Invasive Management Required	✓		<i>Buckthorn</i>
Site Grading Required/Permits Required		✓	
Existing Signage		✓	
Washrooms Nearby	✓		
Recommended Launch	✓		

Condition of Shore Access:

☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☒ 3

1= Poor
2= Fair
3= Good

Ground Characteristics:

☐ Sandy ☐ Rocky ☐ Sandy & Rocky ☐ Geo-textile Mats
☐ Concrete Mats ☒ Mix of Ground Vegetation

Parking Type:

☒ Parking Lot
☐ Roadside
☐ N/A

Shore Access Frontage: **15m**

Distance from Multi-use Pathway: **30m**

Parking Distance from Shore: **160m**

Notes: *Concrete block removals.*

Supporting Photos:



Figure 49: Existing Footpath Leading to Shore



Figure 50: Existing Shore Frontage- Easy Access

5 LOCATION: Pottersburg Dog Park
ADDRESS: 1139 Hamilton Rd



Inspection Evaluation	Yes	No	Notes
Mapped on Fish & Paddling Map/One River Management Plan		✓	
Accessibility Route Nearby	✓		
Existing Foot Path	✓		
Invasive Management Required	✓		
Site Grading Required/Permits Required	✓		Minor
Existing Signage		✓	
Washrooms Nearby		✓	
Recommended Launch	✓		

Condition of Shore Access:

☐ 1 ☒ 2 ☐ 3

1= Poor
 2= Fair
 3= Good

Ground Characteristics:

☐ Sandy ☐ Rocky ☐ Sandy & Rocky ☐ Geo-textile Mats
☐ Concrete Mats ☒ Mix of Ground Vegetation

Parking Type:

☒ Parking Lot
☐ Roadside
☐ N/A

Shore Access Frontage: **10m**

Distance from Multi-use Pathway: **45m**

Parking Distance from Shore: **140m**

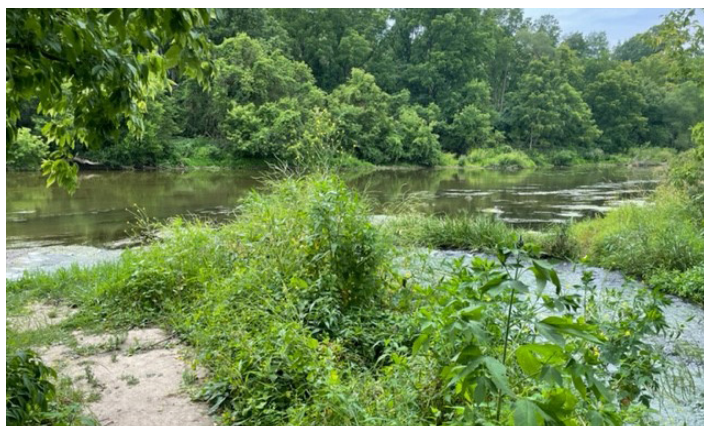


Figure 51: Existing Access

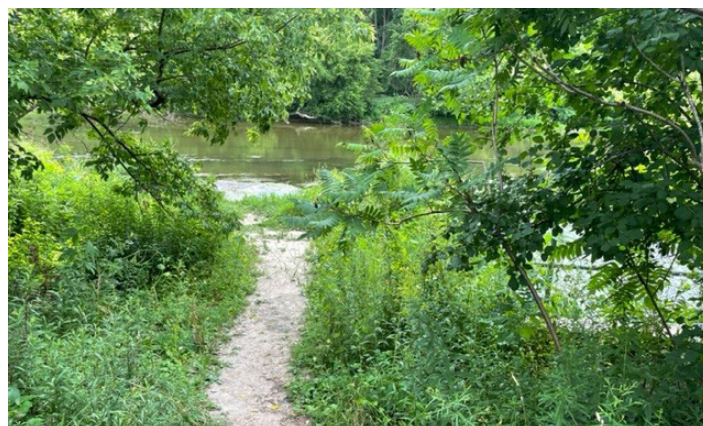


Figure 52: Existing Trail to Access



Figure 53: Existing Porta-Potty

6 LOCATION: River Road SWM/Remembrance Gardens
ADDRESS: 2315 River Rd



Inspection Evaluation	Yes	No	Notes
Mapped on Fish & Paddling Map/One River Management Plan		✓	
Accessibility Route Nearby		✓	No Multi-use pathway nearby
Existing Foot Path	✓		
Invasive Management Required	✓		Phragmites
Site Grading Required/Permits Required	✓		Minor
Existing Signage		✓	
Washrooms Nearby	✓		Porta-potty
Recommended Launch	✓		

Condition of Shore Access:

☒ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3

1= Poor
2= Fair
3= Good

Ground Characteristics:

☐ Sandy ☐ Rocky ☐ Sandy & Rocky ☐ Geo-textile Mats
☐ Concrete Mats ☒ Mix of Ground Vegetation

Parking Type:

☒ Parking Lot
☐ Roadside
☐ N/A

Shore Access Frontage: **10m**

Distance from Multi-use Pathway: **N/A**

Parking Distance from Shore: **130m**

Notes: Calm waters. Lots of invasives to be treated. Narrow pathway leading to shore. Limited parking at Remembrance Gardens. Future park plans.

Supporting Photos:



Figure 54: Existing Footpath Leading to Shore. Invasives to be Addressed



Figure 55: Existing Shore Frontage



7 LOCATION: Waubuno Creek - South / Open Space
ADDRESS: 2355 River Rd

Inspection Evaluation	Yes	No	Notes
Mapped on Fish & Paddling Map/One River Management Plan	✓		
Accessibility Route Nearby		✓	No Multi-use pathway nearby
Existing Foot Path	✓		
Invasive Management Required	✓		Phragmites
Site Grading Required/Permits Required		✓	
Existing Signage		✓	
Washrooms Nearby		✓	
Recommended Launch		✓	

Condition of Shore Access:

☐ 1 ☒ 2 ☐ 3

1= Poor
2= Fair
3= Good

Ground Characteristics:

☒ Sandy ☐ Rocky ☐ Sandy & Rocky ☐ Geo-textile Mats
☐ Concrete Mats ☐ Mix of Ground Vegetation

Parking Type:

☐ Parking Lot
☒ Roadside
☐ N/A

Shore Access Frontage: **10m**

Distance from Multi-use Pathway: **N/A**

Parking Distance from Shore: **240m+/-**

Notes: Some areas of the dirt road leading to shore had large puddles (Figure 54). Parking can occur on River Road and there is a small parking area off Crumlin Side Road.

Supporting Photos:



Figure 56: Existing Dirt Road- Poor Drainage

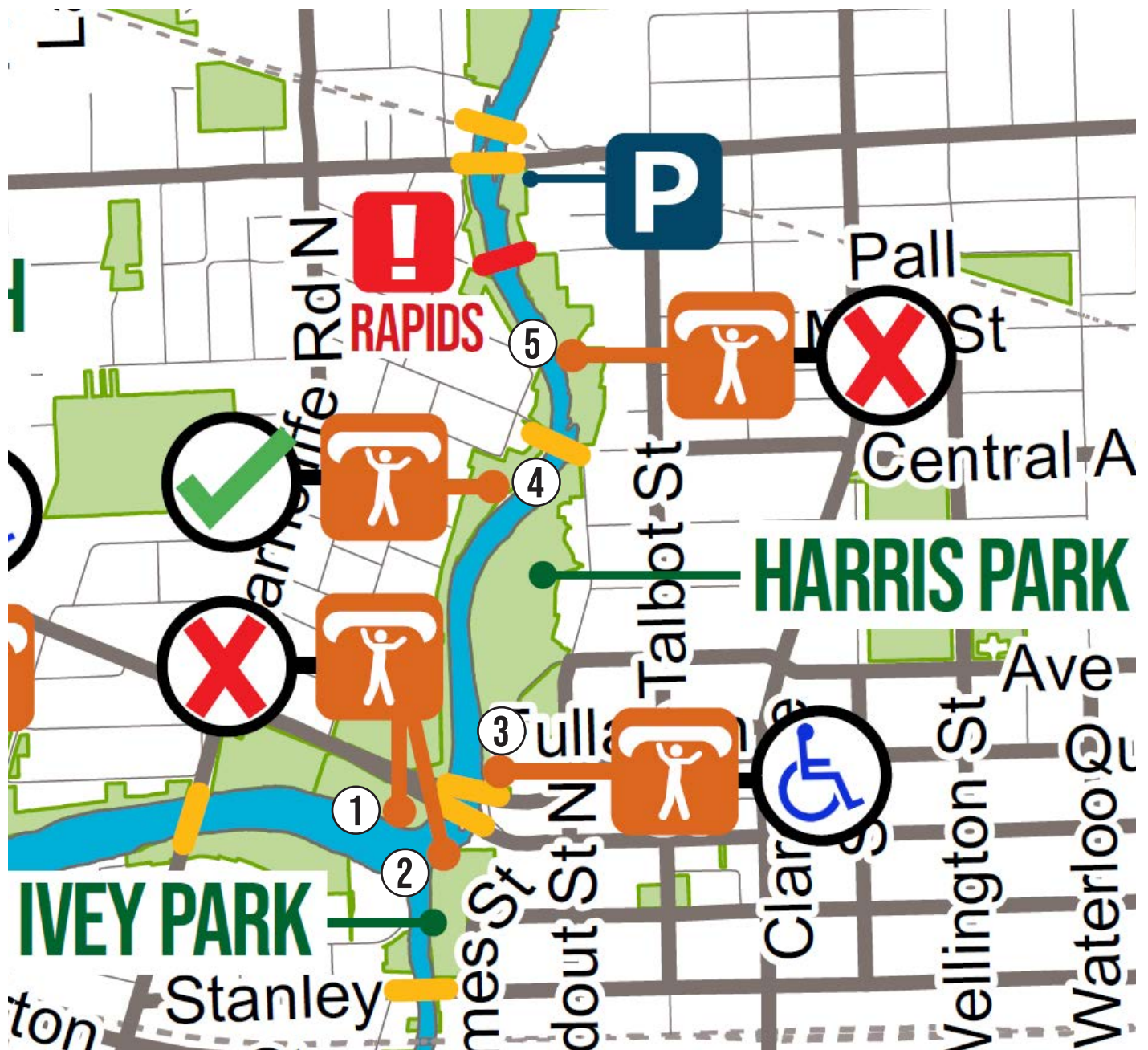


Figure 57: Existing Shore Frontage



Figure 58: Parking on Crumlin Side Road

FORKS OF THE THAMES INSPECTIONS- KEY MAP



1 LOCATION: Mitchell A. Baran Park
ADDRESS: 10 Riverside Dr.



Inspection Evaluation	Yes	No	Notes
Mapped on Fish & Paddling Map/One River Management Plan		✓	
Accessibility Route Nearby	✓		
Existing Foot Path	✓		
Invasive Management Required		✓	
Site Grading Required/Permits Required		✓	
Existing Signage		✓	
Washrooms Nearby	✓		Riverside Park Community Center
Recommended Launch		✓	

Condition of Shore Access:

☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☒ 3

1= Poor
2= Fair
3= Good

Ground Characteristics:

☒ Sandy ☐ Rocky ☐ Sandy & Rocky ☐ Geo-textile Mats

☐ Concrete Mats ☐ Mix of Ground Vegetation

Parking Type:

☒ Parking Lot

☐ Roadside

☐ N/A

Shore Access Frontage: **20m**

Distance from Multi-use Pathway: **20m**

Parking Distance from Shore: **290m**

Notes: Parking lot at Riverside Park (community center).

Supporting Photo:



Figure 59: Existing Shore Frontage



2 LOCATION: Ivey Park
ADDRESS: 331 Thames St

Inspection Evaluation	Yes	No	Notes
Mapped on Fish & Paddling Map/One River Management Plan	✓		Shown as fishing access
Accessibility Route Nearby	✓		
Existing Foot Path		✓	Stairs leading to dock
Invasive Management Required		✓	
Site Grading Required/Permits Required		✓	
Existing Signage		✓	
Washrooms Nearby	✓		
Recommended Launch		✓	

Condition of Shore Access:

☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☒ 3

1= Poor
2= Fair
3= Good

Ground Characteristics:

☐ Sandy ☐ Rocky ☐ Sandy & Rocky ☐ Geo-textile Mats
☐ Concrete Mats ☐ Mix of Ground Vegetation ☒ Dock

Parking Type:

☒ Parking Lot
☐ Roadside
☐ N/A
Shore Access Frontage: **10m**Distance from Multi-use Pathway: **15m**Parking Distance from Shore: **115m**

Notes: Water levels fluctuate widely and are seldom suitable as an access for paddling. Therefore, it would be difficult to access canoe or kayak from dock. Dock is not fully accessible, as you need to walk down stairs to access it. Dock is slippery. Paid parking only.

Supporting Photos:

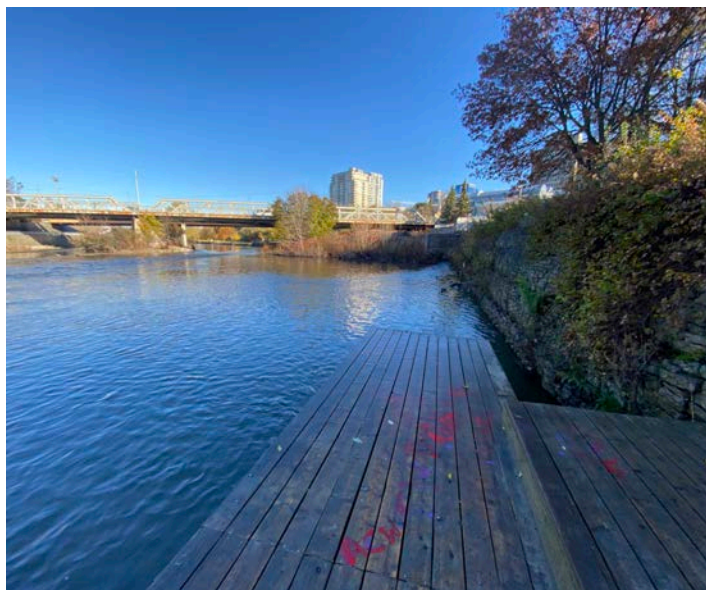


Figure 60: Existing Dock



Figure 61: Existing Stairs Leading to Dock

3 LOCATION: Harris Park
ADDRESS: 531 Ridout St



Inspection Evaluation	Yes	No	Notes
Mapped on Fish & Paddling Map/One River Management Plan	✓		
Accessibility Route Nearby	✓		
Existing Foot Path		✓	
Invasive Management Required		✓	
Site Grading Required/Permits Required	✓		
Existing Signage		✓	
Washrooms Nearby	✓		Washrooms at Ivey Park
Recommended Launch	✓		

Condition of Shore Access:

☐ 1 ☒ 2 ☐ 3

1= Poor
2= Fair
3= Good

Ground Characteristics:

☐ Sandy ☒ Rocky ☐ Sandy & Rocky ☐ Geo-textile Mats

☐ Concrete Mats ☐ Mix of Ground Vegetation ☐ Dock

Parking Type:

☒ Parking Lot

☐ Roadside

☐ N/A

Shore Access Frontage: **5m**

Distance from Multi-use Pathway: **5m**

Parking Distance from Shore: **270m**

Notes: Gabion baskets used for launch and requires attention. Sharp gabion baskets. A little steep- grading should occur. Paid parking only. Broader capital project for park (major future park improvements). Integrate with Harris and Ivey Park Erosion Control Structure Replacement projects in 2024.

Supporting Photos:

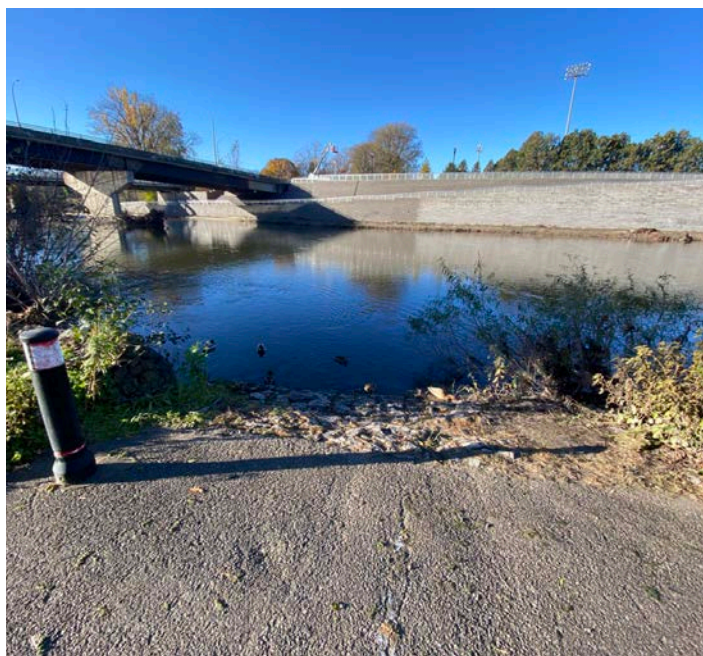


Figure 62: Path Leading to Shore

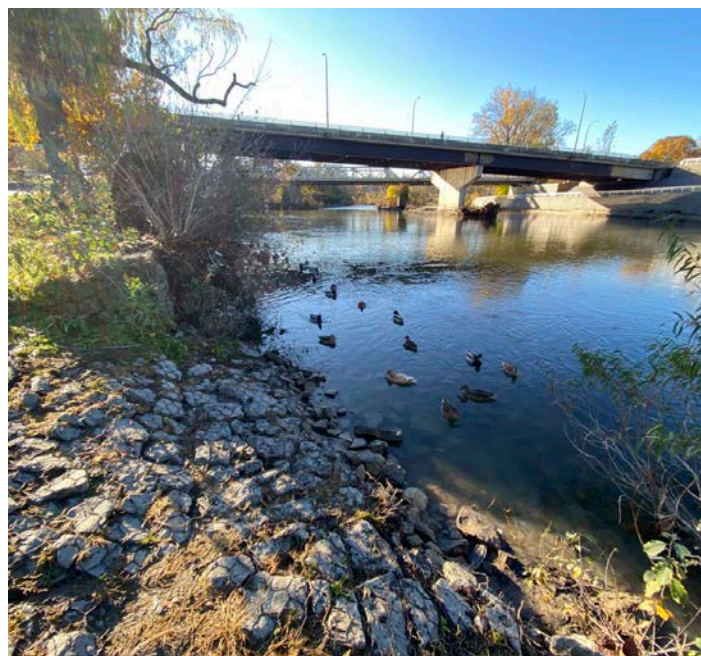


Figure 63: Existing Shore Frontage- Gabion Baskets

4 LOCATION: Blackfriars Park
ADDRESS: 2 Cummings Ave



Inspection Evaluation	Yes	No	Notes
Mapped on Fish & Paddling Map/One River Management Plan		✓	
Accessibility Route Nearby	✓		
Existing Foot Path	✓		
Invasive Management Required	✓		
Site Grading Required/Permits Required		✓	
Existing Signage		✓	
Washrooms Nearby		✓	
Recommended Launch	✓		

Condition of Shore Access:

☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☒ 3

1= Poor
 2= Fair
 3= Good

Ground Characteristics:

☐ Sandy ☐ Rocky ☒ Sandy & Rocky ☐ Geo-textile Mats

☐ Concrete Mats ☐ Mix of Ground Vegetation ☐ Dock

Parking Type:

☐ Parking Lot

☒ Roadside

☐ N/A

Shore Access Frontage: **5m**

Distance from Multi-use Pathway: **75m**

Parking Distance from Shore: **120m**

Notes: Nice launch, very flat.

Supporting Photos:



Figure 64: Existing Foot Path Leading to Shore



Figure 65: Surrounding Area Leading to Shore

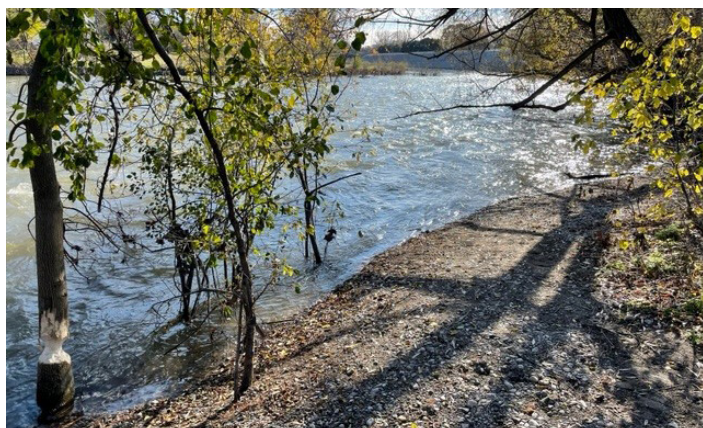


Figure 66: Existing Shore Frontage

5 LOCATION: Ann Street Park- Southwest of Pedestrian Bridge
ADDRESS: 65 Ann St



Inspection Evaluation	Yes	No	Notes
Mapped on Fish & Paddling Map/One River Management Plan		✓	
Accessibility Route Nearby	✓		
Existing Foot Path	✓		
Invasive Management Required	✓		Buckthorn
Site Grading Required/Permits Required		✓	
Existing Signage		✓	
Washrooms Nearby	✓		Porta-potty near by- Community Gardens
Recommended Launch		✓	

Condition of Shore Access:

☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☒ 3

1= Poor
2= Fair
3= Good

Ground Characteristics:

☒ Sandy ☐ Rocky ☐ Sandy & Rocky ☐ Geo-textile Mats
☐ Concrete Mats ☐ Mix of Ground Vegetation ☐ Dock

Parking Type:

☒ Parking Lot
☐ Roadside
☐ N/A

Shore Access Frontage: **20m**

Distance from Multi-use Pathway: **15m**

Parking Distance from Shore: **230m**

Notes: Far from parking, very busy park of the TVP. Narrow and better options nearby.

Supporting Photos:



Figure 67: Well Established Footpath Leading to Shore



Figure 68: Existing Shore Frontage

05. DESIGN CRITERIA & OBJECTIVES

Consistent with the One River Environmental Assessment River Management Plan (2019), the London Plan (2016), the Thames Valley Corridor Plan (2011), and best management practices, paddling accesses will protect and integrate with the natural environment. The City anticipates two types of sustainable accesses. Most will continue as existing natural surface accesses with minor enhancements and some will be designed to be fully accessible. To improve the paddling experience and enhance ecosystem health, priority invasive species including Buckthorn, Japanese Knotweed and Phragmites are being managed in the Thames Valley Corridor consistent with the London Invasive Plant Management Strategy (2017).



Figure 69: Example of Accessible Access, Grand River, Ontario (Image provided by Stantec)

About 5-10 existing accesses per branch were reviewed to continue to provide Londoners with sustainable access to the river. The Paddling Plan (and One River EA recommendations) includes updates and repairs for existing managed accesses including Springbank Park, Riverside Boat Launch, Harris Park, and improvements to the Charles Hunt Weir portage accesses.

To minimize the need for construction and reduce complexity, existing launches were evaluated using the following criteria to find the best natural accesses as “quick wins” for Phase 1 along with a few accesses where detailed design and studies may be underway, or require for the more complex, higher end, fully accessible accesses for Phase 2.



ACCESSIBILITY

- Firm and stable surface, as close to 5% as possible (preferably under 8%) at water's edge to stabilize a boat on shore when getting in and out is recommended.
- At a minimum, an accessible access will typically have a firm and stable pathway connection from the existing parking lot to the access, consistent with the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act 2005. Accessible accesses will meet all technical requirements for accessibility including minimum width and head clearance space
- Preferably, two accessible accesses per branch to enter and exit river.



ACCESS LOCATION APPROPRIATENESS & AMENITIES

- Not too steep, or rocky and near calmer water is ideal.
- Good proximity to existing amenities such as parking lots, pathways, benches and washrooms, or porta pottys.
- Sustainable location in relative to natural river processes and geomorphology.



COST CONSIDERATIONS AND COMPLEXITY

- Detailed design and additional studies will be coordinated for enhancing the more complex, higher end, accessible accesses as part of Phase 2.
- Many accesses do not require adding additional amenities to make them safe, sustainable, mapped, and well signed.



SENSITIVE HABITATS

- Direct paddlers to formal, sustainable access locations through the improvement of existing accesses in strategic locations, away from sensitive habitats.
- Closure of unsafe and unsustainable accesses.
- Manage priority invasive species, plant native species, add habitat enhancements, fishing line recycling receptacles, and educational signage to protect and improve the ecosystem health of the river corridor.

06. RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the thorough shore inspections completed, **3-7 existing accesses per branch** are recommended as managed shore access locations.

MAIN BRANCH



**1A 1B. SPRINGBANK PARK (WEST OF DAM)-
RECOMMENDED FOR ENHANCED ACCESSIBILITY**

**2. SPRINGBANK PARK (EAST OF DAM)-
NOT RECOMMENDED**

**3. STORYBOOK GARDENS- RECOMMENDED FOR
ENHANCED ACCESSIBILITY**

**4. SPRINGBANK PARK (WEST OF PUMPHOUSE)- NOT
RECOMMENDED**

**5. THAMES VALLEY GOLF COURSE- NOT
RECOMMENDED**

6. WONDERLAND GARDENS- NOT RECOMMENDED

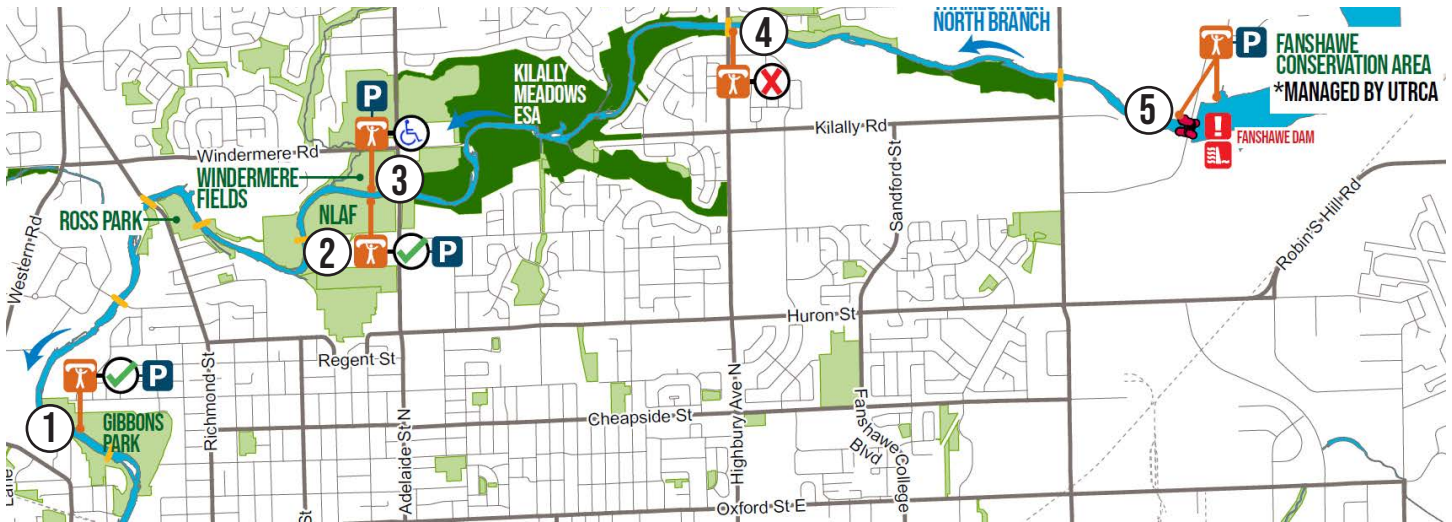
**7. MCMANUS BOATHOUSE- RECOMMENDED FOR
ENHANCED ACCESSIBILITY**

**8. GREENWAY PARK- RECOMMENDED ACCESS *QUICK
WIN***

**9. RIVERSIDE BOAT LAUNCH- RECOMMENDED FOR
ENHANCED ACCESSIBILITY**

**10. CAVENDISH PARK- RECOMMENDED FOR ENHANCED
ACCESSIBILITY**

NORTH BRANCH



1. GIBBONS PARK- RECOMMENDED ACCESS
QUICK WIN

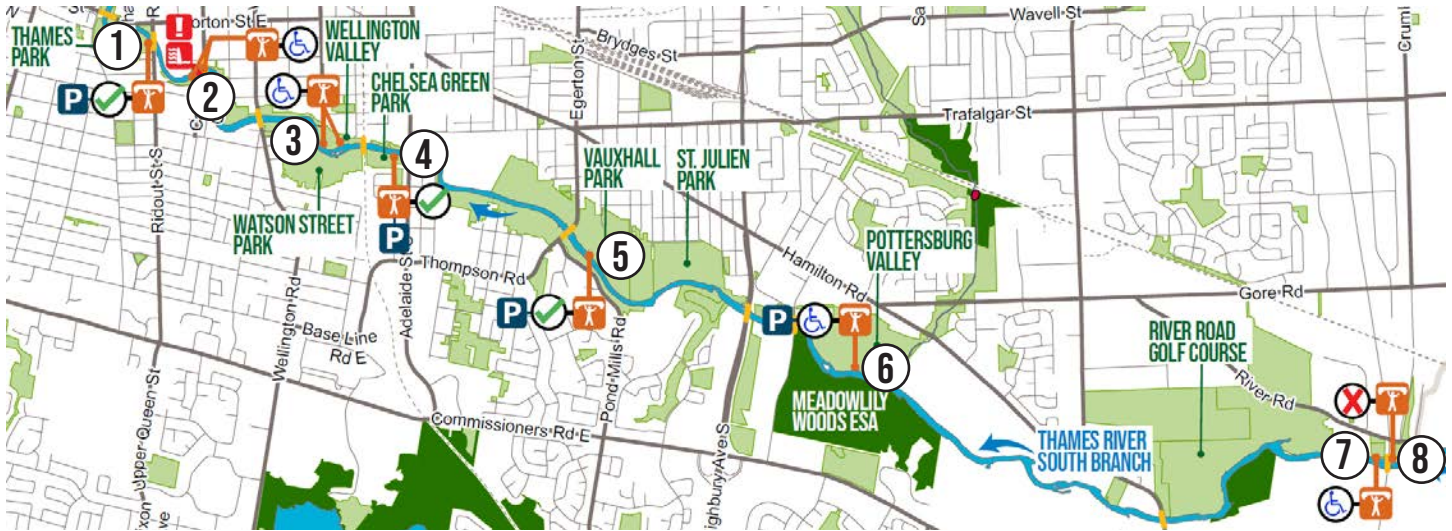
2. NORTH LONDON ATHLETIC FIELDS - RECOMMENDED ACCESS
QUICK WIN

3. WINDERMERE FIELDS- RECOMMENDED FOR ENHANCED ACCESSIBILITY

4. EAST OF HIGBURY AVE N BRIDGE- NOT RECOMMENDED

5. FANSHAWE CONSERVATION AREA ACCESS-
MANAGED BY UTRCA

SOUTH BRANCH



1. THAMES PARK- RECOMMENDED ACCESS

2. CHARLES HUNT PARK- RECOMMENDED FOR ENHANCED ACCESSIBILITY

3. WELLINGTON VALLEY- RECOMMENDED FOR ENHANCED ACCESSIBILITY

**4. CHELSEA GREEN PARK- RECOMMENDED ACCESS
*QUICK WIN***

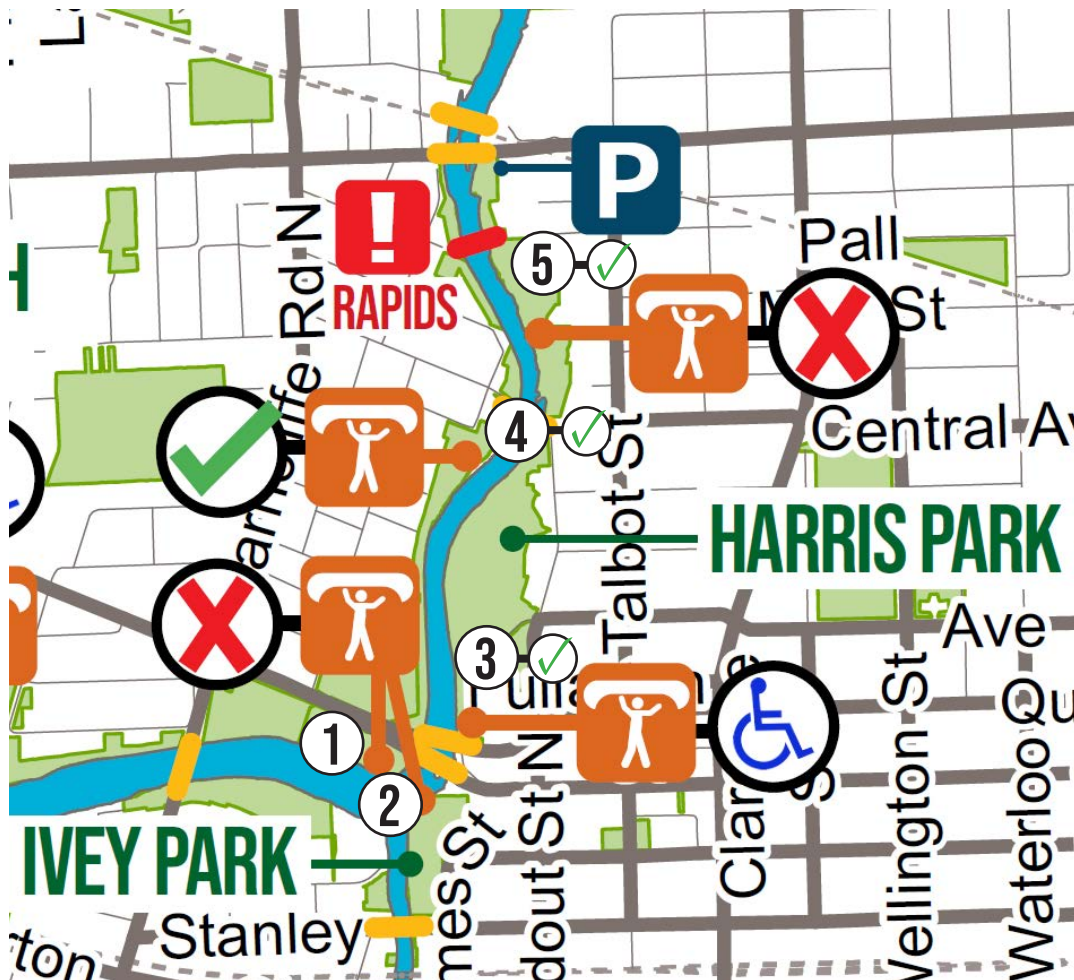
**5. VAUXHALL PARK- RECOMMENDED ACCESS-
*QUICK WIN***

6. POTTERSBURG DOG PARK- RECOMMENDED FOR ENHANCED ACCESSIBILITY

**7. RIVER ROAD SWM/REMEMBRANCE GARDENS-
RECOMMENDED FOR ENHANCED ACCESSIBILITY**

8. WAUBUNO CREEK - SOUTH / OPEN SPACE- NOT RECOMMENDED

FORKS OF THE THAMES



1. MITCHELL A. BARAN PARK- NOT RECOMMENDED

2. IVEY PARK- NOT RECOMMENDED

3. HARRIS PARK- RECOMMENDED FOR ENHANCED ACCESSIBILITY

4. BLACKFRIARS PARK- RECOMMENDED ACCESS-
QUICK WIN

5. ANN STREET PARK- NOT RECOMMENDED

07. APPENDIX A

POLICIES AND COUNCIL APPROVED PLANS AND RECOMMENDATIONS SUPPORTING PADDLING PLAN

Provincial Policy Statement (2020)

“1.5.1 Healthy, active communities should be promoted by:... b) planning and providing for a full range and equitable distribution of publicly accessible built and natural settings for recreation, including facilities, parklands, public spaces, open space areas, trails and linkages, and, where practical, water-based resources; c) providing opportunities for public access to shorelines;”

London Plan (2016)

“122_ The Thames Valley Corridor is considered London’s most important natural, cultural, recreational, and aesthetic resource. Within London, the Thames River supports environmental and economic vitality, tourism, and local and regional recreation initiatives. Through history, the river valley and the associated tributaries, have also served as a corridor for stormwater and sanitary infrastructure. Balancing these often competing demands is required to ensure the long-term environmental sustainability of London’s river valley system and the functional, cultural, and recreational benefits it continues to provide. Effective management of adjacent land development, human uses, and the natural environment will be critical to managing this treasured London resource over the life of this Plan.”

“409_ To achieve our objectives, we will plan and provide for a full range and equitable distribution of publicly-accessible built and natural settings for recreation, including facilities, parkland, public spaces, open space areas, trails and linkages, and water-based resources, and provide opportunities for public access to shorelines, consistent with the Provincial Policy Statement.”

“538_ Develop programming along the Thames Valley Corridor and in London’s parks to allow for festivals, events and activities that promote social connections, physical health, mental well-being and intellectual development.”

“766_ Public access along the shoreline of the Thames River may be provided within the context of existing and future land uses, where there is no unacceptable risk to public safety, and where significant natural features and areas and ecological functions can be protected.”

Council’s Strategic Plan 2019-2023

“Protect and enhance waterways, wetlands, and natural areas.

- Bring Londoners ‘Back to the River’ by revitalizing the Thames River radiating from the Forks.
- Implement recommendations associated with the River Management Plan and One River Environmental Assessment.”

Thames Valley Corridor Plan (2011) - Key Strategies:

“Provide additional opportunities along the Thames River’s edge for viewing, fishing, and river contact in locations that are safe, accessible from main pathways and trails, and ecologically responsible.

New Thames River edge access points should generally be informal in nature and low-impact. They can be created with natural elements and accessed by secondary trails as off-shoots from the main TVP. If more formal entry points are anticipated they should be directed to urban nodes such as the Forks of the Thames and Activity Areas.

Create a formal Blueway or Water Trail where various aspects of the valley corridor can be emphasized and promoted. The trail provides an alternative vantage point to view the City and the corridor. If new recreational boating facilities are contemplated, they should be accommodated by upgrading existing locations or developing in locations where there are existing facilities such as parking, washrooms, and picnic areas to support them.

Ensure that some Thames River edge access points are barrier free in appropriate locations such as Activity Areas where there is access to parking, paved accessible pathways and other public amenities.”

Parks and Recreation Master Plan (2019)

“Access to the Thames River is important to Londoners and visitors, as is protecting and promoting its Heritage River status. Fishery health and ecosystem biodiversity in local waters are improving and interest in fishing and paddling are trending upward. Residents and stakeholders have requested enhanced access for water-based recreational pursuits and cultural ceremonies. Maintaining and increasing shoreline access promotes good health, water-based recreation, environmental awareness, and connections to nature for multiple user groups. Consistent with the London Plan and Thames Valley Corridor Plan, the City will continue to seek opportunities to invest in and enhance access to London’s riverfront.”

Connecting People with Nature / Thames River 23. Place a greater emphasis on helping people connect with nature through recreation by: c) Enhancing shoreline access and gathering spaces by providing more amenities for trails/ pathways and water-based recreational pursuits (e.g., fishing, paddling, etc.) adjacent to the Thames River, in keeping with best environmental practices.

One River Environmental Assessment - River Management Plan (2019)

“With the ultimate goal to develop a management plan that integrates a healthy aquatic environment with a diverse recreational experience...a new focused set of technical, social/cultural, environmental and economic criteria were developed based on input from the community, First Nations, and agencies. The evaluation process, using these criteria, selected “Strategic River Corridor Active Use and Access” as the preferred option. This option provides new places to access the Thames, improves the condition of the existing access locations, and includes restoration of the eroded areas along the river banks. This alternative balances providing improved opportunities for accessing the river while protecting the sensitive habitat areas within the river corridor.”

“The River Management Plan includes several projects that will need more study before they can be built. These include projects that require further assessment to determine potential environmental and social/cultural impacts and further evaluation to develop options that meet a list of selected technical, social/cultural, environmental and economic criteria.

Projects that require further study include:

- Pathway development
- Riverbank restoration

Improvements that can be implemented as next steps include:

- Springbank Dam Fishing and Boat Access
- Wonderland Road/Riverside Drive Boat Access
- Harris Park Boat Access
- Charlie Hunt Weir Boat Access
- Greenway Park Fishing Access
- Ivey Park Fishing Access and Lookout
- Springbank Gardens Boat Access
- Lookout along Cavendish Trail in Cavendish Park”