

The <u>Ojibway Prairie Complex</u> contains 350 ha (865 acres) of some of the highest-quality tallgrass prairie and oak savanna left in Ontario and has been called "a garden of rarities". It is composed of five closely situated, globally significant protected natural areas in Windsor. Ojibway Park, Tallgrass Prairie Heritage Park, Black Oak Heritage Park and Spring Garden Natural Area are administered by the City of Windsor's Ojibway Nature Centre. Ontario Parks manages the Ojibway Prairie Provincial Nature Reserve. The extensive prairie, oak savanna, and woodland represent ecological communities that historically dominated the local landscape. A tremendous variety (over 4000 species) of plants and animals are found here - including 115 provincially rare species of flora, 10 of which occur nowhere else in Canada.

Preservation of this spectacular natural area began in 1957 and has only been achieved with the support of many public and private organizations and individuals, including the City of Windsor, Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, Ontario Parks, Ontario Heritage Foundation, Wildlife Habitat Canada, The Nature Conservancy of Canada and Habitat Stewardship Program of Environment Canada.

<u>Ojibway Park</u> is a 66 hectare (162 acre) day-use park operated by the Windsor Department of Parks and Recreation. Pin Oak woodland, savanna and tallgrass prairie habitats provide a rich diversity of plant and animal life. Prairie wildflower gardens are planted near the Nature Centre. Trails for pedestrian use begin near the Centre and wind throughout the park. Two trails are paved to provide access for strollers and wheelchairs.

The parking lot is paved and is near the Nature Centre off Matchette Rd. Please remember that pets must be on a leash at all times. Alcoholic beverages are not permitted in the park. There is no charge for admission to Ojibway Park and Nature Centre.

> All Plants and Animals in the Parks are **Protected**. Please do not pick mushrooms, wildflowers, leaves, firewood or disturb any wildlife.

<u>Ojibway Nature Centre</u> is open to the public from noon to 5:00 pm Wednesday through Saturday. Exhibits in the Nature Centre provide an opportunity to learn more about local ecology. A wildlife viewing area provides closeup looks at local birds and wildlife. Programmes for schools and other organized groups can be arranged through Nature Centre staff. Naturalists are available to help organize lessons and conduct tours. A fee is required and groups must schedule appointments.

The Nature Centre offers a wide variety of seasonal programmes for all ages including family friendly celebrations of Prairie, Snakes, Butterflies, Birds and more! Two meeting rooms with presentation equipment and kitchens are available to groups on a rental basis. Please call the centre for all bookings and registrations. Sale items at the Nature Centre include a fine selection of wild bird feeders, books and children's items.



Ojibway Nature Centre 5200 Matchette Rd. Windsor 519-966-5852 www.ojibway.ca

