

## DESTINATION GARDENS

Plant lovers don't have to go far afield to find a wonderful and beloved public garden—they abound right here in our city. Quiet gardens, colourful gardens, contemporary gardens, Victorian gardens, gardens for kids, gardens attached to a castle or a working farm, gardens under glass, gardens on the lake, gardens inspired by art or music—Toronto has a wealth of gardens, a bouquet of gardens, a glory of gardens for you to discover. Use this map to plan a personalized garden route at your own pace. Spend a day, a weekend or a season and find your favourite.

*Alona Satterthwaite*  
Executive Director, Toronto Botanical Garden



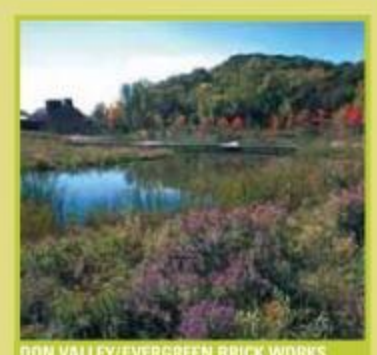
Park Name	Park Address/Contact	Grid Coordinates	Description
<b>Aga Khan Museum for Islamic Art and Culture</b> OPENING 2013	Wynford Dr. near Don Mills Rd. and Eglinton	K24	Park on a 6.0 hectare site. Surrounding the centre will be a place of quiet contemplation and beauty. Geometric ponds, fountains, gardens and pathways will project the feeling of a traditional Islamic garden.
<b>Allan Gardens and Conservatory</b> *	160 Gerrard St. E.	R19	Park and 6 Conservatories (16,000 sq. ft. under glass). The Palm House dates from 1910.
<b>Casa Loma Gardens</b>	1 Austin Terrace www.casaloma.org/gardens	P17	A wide variety of specialty garden areas in a unique setting, ranging from the formal elegance of the perennial borders to the shady glades of the hillside gardens.
<b>Centennial Conservatory</b>	151 Elmcrest Rd. Etobicoke	M2	The conservatory features 12,000 square feet of interesting plant collections in three glass houses.
<b>Edwards Gardens</b>	777 Lawrence Ave. E. (at Leslie)	J22	A former estate garden featuring perennials and roses on the uplands and wildflowers, rhododendrons and an extensive rockery in the valley.
<b>Franklin Children's Garden</b> *	Centre Island, Toronto	W17	An exciting garden for children and families to enjoy the great adventure of learning inspired by the classic literary series, Franklin the Turtle.
<b>Guildwood Inn Gardens</b>	191 Guildwood Parkway, Scarborough	L36	This spectacular public sculpture garden, set atop the Scarborough Bluffs, features fragments from demolished buildings in and around Toronto.
<b>High Park</b> *	1873 Bloor St. W.	Q12	Pleasure gardens, woodlands, allotment gardens and a children's garden. Unusual plant communities including rare oak savannah.
<b>Nathan Phillips Square</b>	Queen St. W. and Bay St.	S18	Floating garden in a pool, Peace Garden, planters and a lovely roof garden.
<b>Riverdale Farm</b>	201 Winchester St.	R20	Working farm with pathways through wooded areas, around ponds, and into butterfly, herb, flower and vegetable gardens.
<b>Rosetta McClain Gardens</b>	5 Glen Everest Road Scarborough	Q30	Impressive floral displays and magnificent views over Lake Ontario.
<b>St. James Gardens</b>	65 Church St. at King St. (beside the cathedral)	S19	Victorian-style formal garden developed by the Garden Club of Toronto.
<b>Sherbourne Common</b>	East of Lower Sherbourne St., from Lake Ontario to Lakeshore Blvd.	T19	Waterfront park combining water, woods and green space. A UV facility collects and treats storm water and releases it from three dramatic art features into a water channel and then back out to the lake.
<b>Spadina House Garden</b>	285 Spadina Rd.	P17	Victorian/Edwardian garden, including an orchard, grape arbour, kitchen garden and formal lawn and display beds.
<b>Toronto Botanical Garden</b> *	777 Lawrence Ave. E. at Leslie	J23	Located in Edwards Gardens, its 17 contemporary, urban-scale garden areas include green roofs, a woodland walk and a children's teaching garden.
<b>Toronto Islands</b> *	Reached by ferry from ferry terminal at rear of Weston Hotel south of Queen's Quay	V16	Largest city park with interesting habitats and plant communities, including wetlands, meadows, cottonwood woodlands and rare freshwater sand dunes and beach strands.
<b>Toronto Music Garden</b>	475 Queen's Quay W.	T17	The Toronto Music Garden can be appreciated on many levels—as a garden infused with the spirit of music, dance and artistic genius, as a public place for young and old alike to enjoy and learn, and as a meditative space to sit and quietly ponder nature.
<b>Toronto Sculpture Garden</b>	115 King St. E.	S19	Since 1981, this small urban park in the downtown core has been the site of innovative, contemporary sculpture installations.

\* Gardens with facilities for children  
♿ All destination gardens are wheelchair accessible

## NATURALIZED AREAS

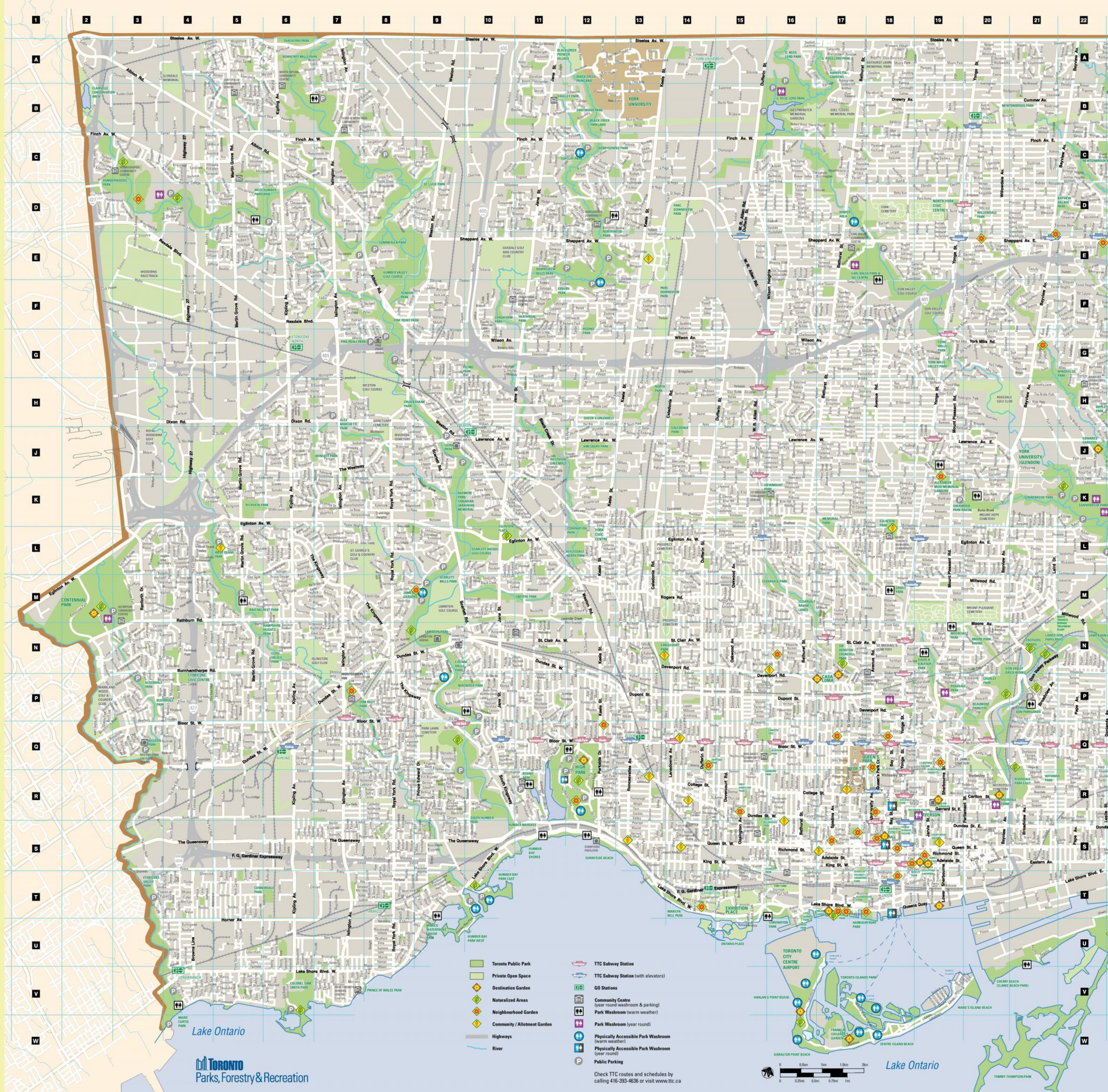
The City's naturalized areas represent an extension and connection with the original natural heritage of Toronto, and include the complex systems of ravines, wetlands, streams, rivers, woodlands, meadows, and shorelines; their recognition, protection, conservation, restoration and enhancement encompass many hours of professional and volunteer participation in maintenance, planting, and stewardship; they provide a cultural link with our spiritual and mythical prehistory, and an ecological environment that fosters the continued survival of the indigenous flora and fauna that are an important component of a green and beautiful Toronto.

*Paul Martel, Ecology Park—Toronto*



Park Name	Park Address/Contact	Grid Coordinates	Description
<b>Beechwood Wetland</b>	Lower Don Trail north of Pottery Rd., just before Beechwood Ave.	N21	Small wetland including interpretive signage and benches.
<b>Centennial Park</b> ♿	151 Elmcrest Rd. Etobicoke	M2	Park vegetation communities include shagbark hickory, sugar maple and beech forests, green ash swamp, marshes and meadows.
<b>Colonel Samuel Smith Park</b>	Lakeshore Blvd. W. and Kipling Ave.	V6	Waterfront lake-fill area naturalized with native grasses, shrubs and trees. A popular park for birding.
<b>Crothers' Woods</b>	Beside Loblaw's between Bayview Ave. & Crothers' Woods	N21	One of the last significant beech/maple climax forests. Natural environment trails have been created.
<b>DonValley/Evergreen Brick Works</b> *	550 Bayview Ave.	P20	This heritage site is an international showcase for urban sustainability and green design. It has a variety of plant communities including wetlands, meadows and forests.
<b>East Point Park</b>	On shore of Lake Ontario between mouth of Highland Creek and Beechgrove Ave.	L40	Successful plant community and meadow habitat. Internal trails and an important bird habitat and flyways site. It is lovely in fall with asters and goldenrod in bloom.
<b>Eglinton Flats</b>	Eglinton and Jane entrance	L10	A pond and wetland edge the circular walk.
<b>Elevated Wetlands</b>	Taylor Creek Park-Don Valley Parkway and Don Mills Rd.	N24	Elevated pots hold wetland species. Water from the Don River flows through the sculptures and returns to the river in a cleaner condition.
<b>Glendon Forest</b>	In Sunnybrook Park, turn left before the riding stables	K22	Significant valley slope plant communities including remnant white pine.
<b>High Park</b> *	See Destination Gardens	R12	
<b>Humber Bay Butterfly Habitat</b>	Lakeshore Rd. E. and Parkview Rd.	T10	Herbaceous plant communities support the life cycles of a number of native butterflies.
<b>Humber Valley Community Forest</b>	West Humber Valleys and Hwy. 27	D4	Volunteer plantings have transformed this into an interesting and varied successional plant community.
<b>Humberwood Park</b>	Topbank Dr. and Humberwood Blvd.	C3	A walking trail with interesting art features.
<b>Lambton Woods</b>	Go south from James Gardens or north from Lambton Park Arena	N8	Remnant black oak savannah in the park and woods is a climax maple/beech forest.
<b>Mine Hollow Park and East Don Trail</b>	Don Valley Parkway and Lawrence Ave. E.—entrance east of DVP on south side	J25	Large naturalized park planted by volunteers with thousands of plants. A new trail is planned to connect to Concorde Place and Moccasin Trail Park. The latter has large display of spring ephemerals.
<b>Nordheimer Ravine</b>	St. Clair W. and Spadina Ave.	N17	The ravine is home to native trees, shrubs and herbaceous species including skunk cabbage as well as a number of birds and animals.
<b>Riverdale Park East Naturalization Planting and Wetland</b>	North end of Riverdale Park East at Broadview Ave. and Riverdale footbridge	Q21	An early volunteer planting site which has developed a multi-trail internal system that needs further management. An example of early naturalization and some of the challenges of this type of planting.
<b>South Humber Parkland</b>	Parklands in Humber Valley that can be accessed from Waterfront Trail at Humber River or from Bloor St. (parking on Catherine Ave.)	Q9	The Humber River was designated as a "Heritage River" in 1999. Remnant oak savannah and Humber marshes.
<b>Spadina Quay Wetland</b>	Foot of Spadina Ave. and Queen's Quay Blvd.	T17	Man-made wetland that supports a pike spawning habitat.
<b>Taylor Creek Wetland</b>	Taylor Creek and Daves Rd. Parking lot—follow trail east	P26	Newly created wetland with a variety of wildlife habitats.
<b>Thomas H. Thompson Nature Trail</b>	Trail is off the last parking lot in Sunnybrook Park at extreme north end	K23	Quiet area of this upland forest is lovely in spring.
<b>Todmorden Mills</b>	Bayview and Pottery Rd.	P21	A heritage site with wildflower preserve, walking trails and a variety of natural habitats.
<b>Toronto Islands</b> *	See listing in Destination Gardens	V16	
<b>Warden Woods</b>	Parking off Pharmacy, south of St. Clair Ave. E.	P27	The trail follows Taylor-Massay Creek. Species of interest include downy arrowwood, false dragonhead and butternut.
<b>Woodlands Park</b>	Located within Rouge Park on the southeast corner of Steeles Ave. E. and Reesor Rd.	A39	Spectacular forest with snags and tree cavities that provide habitat for birds, salamanders and insects. Tree species include hemlock, red oak, ironwood and black walnut. Bird flyways site.

\* Gardens with facilities for children  
♿ Wheelchair accessible naturalized areas



Check TTC routes and schedules by calling 416-393-4636 or visit [www.ttc.ca](http://www.ttc.ca)

## EXPLORING TORONTO GARDENS

### Introduction

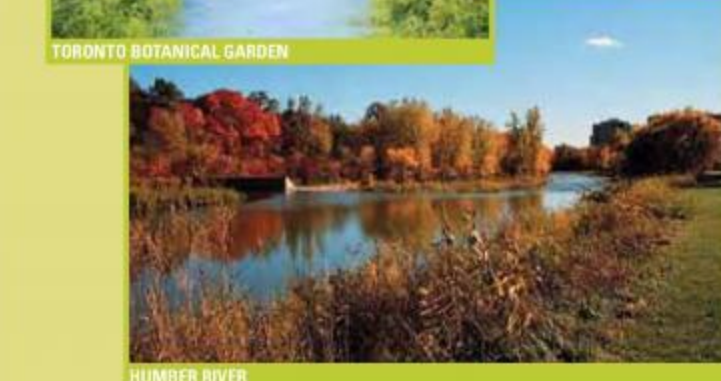
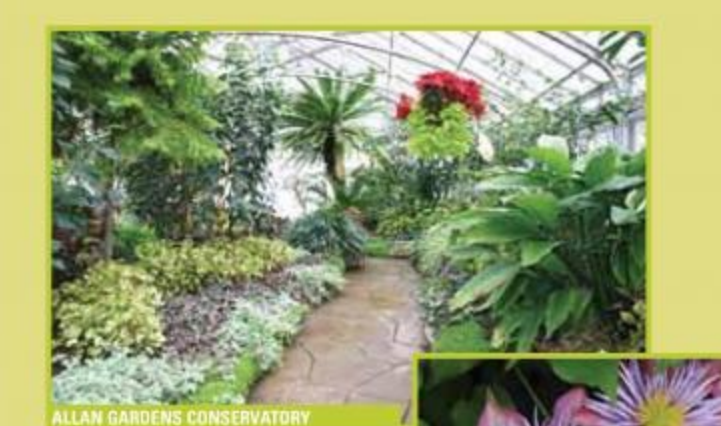
Toronto was once described as "A city in a forest..." Alas, we've moved from that state to one where our trees have become increasingly precious as old age, pollution and urban abuse fills them green street by street. Our parks, however, have become our lifeline to the ancient forest. They are not only the repository of some of our most magnificent trees, but also of our collective memory. They pull us back to that original forest we came from. And, until this map came along, who knew just how many parks and public gardens were nurtured in Toronto.

This map was initiated by the Horticultural Societies of Parkdale & Toronto in partnership with Toronto's Parks, Forestry and Recreation Department, and is a major resource for citizens and visitors alike. The map shows some of the best-kept and most gorgeous of all the secrets this complex city holds including quiet places to sit and contemplate, areas to play in, and glorious ravine parks to walk through.



What's so wonderful about this map is that every park, parkette and garden is marked clearly and is easily available to the public. Toronto's destiny is to become, once again, a city in the forest and this map will guide the way.

*Marjorie Harris*  
Celebrated garden writer, designer and author of *The Canadian Gardener*



Please direct any comments or questions about this map to [info@parkdaleortorontohort.com](mailto:info@parkdaleortorontohort.com) Call 3-1-1

## EXPLORING TORONTO GARDENS

