

INTERIM GUIDELINES FOR BOULDERING AT THE NIAGARA GLEN



The Niagara Glen is a premiere bouldering area in southern Ontario which has significant cultural, geological and natural elements. It is by the grace of the Niagara Parks Commission that bouldering is currently permitted. The following are guidelines for new and seasoned boulderers that will help maintain access to bouldering at the Niagara Glen until the formal NPC park management plan is completed.

1. Stick to the main trails leading to the boulders. If you don't know where the boulder is ask other boulderers or check the online guide at www.niagarabouldering.com. Do not scramble through vegetated areas in search of it.
2. Do not remove or disturb natural (e.g. vegetation, soil) and/or cultural resources from the boulders or any area surrounding the boulders. If the boulder or areas of rock are vegetated, it is not a boulder problem. Go and climb the established problems.
3. Boulderers will exercise a "no topping-out" policy on all boulders heavily vegetated at the top. There may be rare and endangered species located at the top.
4. Bring a bouldering pad and use it. If you don't own one, borrow one. Insufficient padding for the landings increases the risk of injury and jeopardizes access. "Your safety is your responsibility" and it is important that you act responsibly.
5. Properly spot the climber. Watching is fun but spotting is key to reducing chance of injury and maintaining access. The Niagara Glen is a complicated place from which to get rescued.
6. Do not climb in your hiking or street shoes. They are filled with dirt and debris and this increases the wear and damage to the rock.
7. Clean off the dirt and debris from your climbing shoes before getting on a boulder problem.
8. Keep profanity and yelling to a minimum.
9. Assist NPC with its stewardship responsibilities by exercising the "pack in, pack out" policy and to clean up after less considerate visitors. Visit the Leave No Trace website at www.leavenotrace.ca for more detail.
10. Do not camp in the Niagara Glen or in the parking lot.
11. Do not have a fire in the Niagara Glen. Fires are only allowed in the hibachi locations at the top of the Niagara Glen.

12. Obey all signage posted on NPC land.
13. Keep dogs on a leash at all times and remove all dog waste to be disposed of in garbage receptacles supplied by NPC.
14. Boulderers will refrain from consuming any drugs or alcohol while on NPC land.
15. Keep chalk use to a minimum. Avoid chalk bag spillage and excessive use of chalk.
16. Avoid the use of tick marks for the holds. If you have to put a tick mark to see a hold while you are climbing that day, remove it before you leave.
17. The Niagara Glen is a wilderness area so be properly prepared, i.e., proper apparel, food and water, first aid etc.
18. Be respectful to other visitors in the Glen. It is a privilege to boulder there, not a right.
19. Do not leave your belongings on the main trail where they will interfere with the passage of other visitors.
20. Visit the OAC website: www.OntarioAccessCoalition.com for the latest access updates.

