



## APGO Education Foundation Launches New Flora Tab of Hamilton Area in Partnership with The Bruce Trail Conservancy on GeoscienceINFO.com

May 13, 2024, Toronto, Ontario: The APGO Education Foundation (“APGOEF”) in partnership with the Bruce Trail Conservancy is pleased to announce the release of a new informative tab describing common flora on the **Chedoke Radial GeoHike** in Hamilton (see Figure 1 for location). This feature is the first of a series of upcoming flora tabs that will highlight the main vegetation types encountered in particular ecozones along the Niagara Escarpment and Bruce Trail. To see the new flora tab, visit the [Chedoke Radial GeoHike page](#).



Figure 1. Map showing the location of the Chedoke Radial GeoHike (yellow star), located in Hamilton, Ontario.

Ontario is divided into multiple “ecozones”; locations in the same ecozone share a similar list of plant species that grow within it, and this list differs amongst ecozones. We have expanded the Chedoke Radial GeoHike to include a highly detailed chapter that describes over 50 of the most common plant species found in the area.

The Chedoke Radial GeoHike is located in the Mixedwood Plains Ecozone, in southwest Ontario. The plant species found along this GeoHike can be categorized into three major groups: native species, naturalized species, and invasive species. **Native species** (see Figure 2) evolved in this area and were not directly introduced from a different environment. **Naturalized species** were transported from a different environment but have little or no impact on the survival of native species found here. **Invasive species**



(see Figure 3) were transported from a different environment and pose a direct threat to the survival of native species. Each plant highlighted along the Chedoke Radial GeoHike is characterized by a photo and a description.



Figure 2. Annual fleabane flowers, a native plant species found along the Chedoke Radial GeoHike.



Figure 3. Dog strangling vine leaves, an invasive plant found along the Chedoke Radial GeoHike.

The Mixedwood Plains Ecozone flora chapter was developed by Dr. Daniel Dick at McMaster University, Adam Brylowski at the Bruce Trail Conservancy, and Dr. Deana Schwarz, P.Geo., at APGOEF. It is the first descriptive chapter of an ecozone in southwestern Ontario to be released on GeoscienceINFO.com and aims to enhance public knowledge of trails in Ontario using a hands-on and virtually accessible approach. We plan to highlight descriptions of flora in different ecozones along the Niagara Escarpment in our GeoHikes along the Bruce Trail in the future.

## About the APGO Education Foundation

The APGO Education Foundation (“APGOEF) is a registered charitable organization under the Canada Not-for-profit Corporations Act, registration number 84604 5052 RR0001.

The purpose of the charity is to advance the education of the public in the area of geoscience by:

- Holding lectures, presentations, and conferences on geoscience both in person and virtually to introduce geoscience to high school and university students as well as enhance the knowledge of the general public.
- Providing scholarships to post-secondary students for the study of geoscience in the final year of a Bachelor of Science (B.Sc.) degree program.
- Providing bursaries to immigrants to Canada who are internationally trained geoscientists and have demonstrated financial need for completion of licensure procedures for registration as professional geoscientists (P.Geo.s) in Ontario.

APGOEF provides funding to support innovative geoscience education projects working with university geoscience departments, community groups and not-for-profit organizations across Ontario. Please see our website at [www.apgoedfoundation.ca](http://www.apgoedfoundation.ca)



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