



ANIMATING TORONTO PARKS 2025 PROGRAM GUIDELINES

For activities happening in 2026

Application Deadline: June 3, 2025

TAC is committed to equity and inclusion and welcomes applications from diverse cultural and geographic communities within the City of Toronto. Specific equity measures or targeted programs are in place to ensure full access and participation by Black artists, Indigenous artists, artists of colour, artists who are Deaf, have disabilities or are living with mental illness, artists who self-identify as 2SLGBTQIAP, newcomer and refugee artists, young and emerging artists and artists working outside the downtown core. Learn more about what we are doing to make TAC more accessible and inclusive in our [Equity Framework](#).

What does this program support?

The *Animating Toronto Parks* grants program provides funding to professional artists, arts organizations, artist collectives, and non-profit organizations to create and present free arts programming in selected Toronto parks located in Etobicoke, York, North York, East York, and Scarborough. For the purposes of this program, “arts programming” may include the presentation of dance, literary arts, music, theatre, visual and media arts, community-engaged arts, Indigenous arts, and other fields of artistic practice.

Animating Toronto Parks is a Strategic Funding Program managed by Toronto Arts Council (TAC), in partnership with Toronto Arts Foundation’s Arts in the Parks initiative, City of Toronto Arts & Culture Services, Parks & Recreation (P&R), Black Creek Community Farm, and community partner Park People.

The maximum grant in this program is \$25,000. Grants awarded may be less than the full amount requested. Applicants are not required to secure other sources of funding. The payment of artists’ fees is a requirement of this program.

Grant recipients will be provided with:

- funding toward artist fees and production elements;
- access to the park space (permit dates subject to approval by Parks & Recreation);
- coverage under the TAC’s liability insurance;
- information regarding additional requirements, such as emergency action plan, waste and recycling diversion plan, etc., or additional permits, noise exemption, building permit, etc.;
- an introduction to City of Toronto Parks & Recreation permit staff and park supervisors, Park People, and local community/parks groups;
- support under Toronto Arts Foundation’s Arts in the Parks initiative, including marketing, promotion, inclusion on the artsintheparksto.org website, wayfinding signage, onsite volunteers, assistance with local community outreach, and other support; participation in Arts in the Parks is a requirement of the program.

Community consultation and/or engagement is a requirement of the program.

What is Arts in the Parks?

Arts in the Parks is a free city-wide initiative managed by Toronto Arts Foundation (TAF), in partnership with Toronto Arts Council (TAC), Parks & Recreation (P&R), and community partner Park People. Arts in the Parks offers a wide range of in-kind supports to artists and arts organizations working in parks across the city, such as support with marketing, community engagement, on-site wayfinding signage, and volunteer coordination. Arts in the Parks is a core resource for Animating Toronto Parks grants recipients. To learn more about Arts in the Parks please visit <https://artsintheparksto.org/>.

TAC Accessibility Grant

Projects involving Deaf artists and artists with disabilities may apply for an additional TAC grant by completing the Accessibility Expenses section of the application and including the requisite information in their budget. A **TAC Accessibility grant** will provide up to a maximum of \$5,000 towards accessibility costs for artists incurred during the project. Accessibility costs include but are not limited to: ASL interpretation, audio description, closed captioning, communications assistants, attendant care (including helpers for Elders), support workers and equipment rentals or other supports required to meet artists' accessibility needs.

When can the project happen?

- The Project Start Date must be no earlier than January 1, 2026. This includes planning activities leading up to events in parks.
- For activities in the parks, it is recommended they fall within Arts in the Parks season: June to September 2026. Outside of those months, on-site support from Arts in the Parks and community groups will be limited. For **first time applicants to the program**, it is strongly recommended to have events planned for **no earlier than June 15, 2026**.
- All projects must be completed within two years of the date on the Notification Letter.

Who can apply?

If you are a first-time applicant or have questions about your eligibility or application, please contact the Strategic Programs Manager, Lena Golubtsova at lena@torontoartscouncil.org.

- This grants program is open to **professional artists, not-for-profit arts organizations, artist collectives** operating on a not-for-profit basis, and **not-for-profit organizations**. Not-for-profit organizations that are not arts-based may only apply to undertake projects that involve the artistic leadership of professional artists.
- A professional artist is someone who has developed their skills through training and/or practice; is recognized as such by artists working in the same artistic field; actively practices their art; seeks payment for their work; and has a history of public presentation or exhibition.
- TAC recognizes that due to systemic barriers within the broader arts community (e.g. limited mainstream presentation opportunities for artists from equity-seeking communities) some flexibility may be required in interpreting eligibility criteria to take into account equivalent professional experience and contexts. Potential applicants from equity-seeking communities are encouraged to discuss their eligibility with the Program Manager in advance of submitting an application.
- You may not apply as an individual and be part of an organization or collective applying in the same competition.
- You may not apply for the same project in different grants programs.

TAC has two distinct funding envelopes. Applicants may be eligible to apply for one grant in each category per year, so long as they have no incomplete projects or outstanding final reports. The two funding envelopes include:

1. **Arts Discipline:** project and operating grants in dance, visual arts, theatre, etc.
2. **Strategic Programs:** Animating Historic Sites, Open Door, etc.

With a few exceptions (Newcomer & Refugee Artist Mentorship, TAC-CS Digital Solutions Incubator, Black Arts, Indigenous Arts), applicants can receive only one grant from each funding envelope per year. The Animating Toronto Parks program falls within the Strategic Funding envelope. Any other Strategic Program grants must be completed with a final report filed and approved to meet eligibility criteria.

Animating Toronto Parks Exception: If you received an Animating Toronto Parks grant for activities happening in summer 2025, you can still apply in this round for activities in summer 2026. This exception is only for the Animating Toronto Parks program. Funds for recommended grants will not be released until 2026.

For Individuals:

- Individuals must be Canadian Citizens or Permanent Residents or have an application pending for Permanent Resident Status or be a Protected Person (approved refugee claimant) and, if requested, must be able to provide documentation to verify this. Grant recipients must have a Social Insurance Number.
- Individuals must have been a resident of the City of Toronto for at least one year prior to the deadline, and live and work in Toronto for at least 8 months a year. A Post Office Box address cannot be used to meet the residency requirement.
- Professional artists pursuing graduate studies may not apply for work related to their program of study. A letter from the graduate program director specifying that the project is not related to the graduate student's program of studies must be submitted with the application.

For Organizations and Collectives:

- Organizations and collectives must be incorporated non-profit organizations or unincorporated collectives which operate on a non-profit basis. A collective is defined as two or more artists working together under a group name, either on a single project (ad hoc) or on an ongoing basis. For collectives of two artists, both must be City of Toronto residents. For collectives of more than two artists, the majority of members must be City of Toronto residents.
- Not-for-profit organizations that are not arts-based are eligible to apply to this grants program. Projects must include the collaborative involvement of professional artists with community members, as well as the payment of professional artist fees.
- Organizations and collectives must be located in the City of Toronto. A Post Office Box address cannot be used to meet this requirement.
- Collectives must be prepared to submit bank account information (in the name of the collective as listed in the application) if the application is successful.

This program does not fund:

- Undergraduate students;
- Permanent installations, such as permanent sculpture;
- Commercial businesses and for-profit organizations;
- Ongoing operating costs, such as permanent staff salaries and general administration of an organization. This program is not intended to support an organization or collective's ongoing activities. Where a portion of permanent staff or administrative resources are dedicated to the project, you may estimate the value of these resources and include a detailed breakdown in the budget as in-kind revenue;
- Costs related to equipment purchase, capital projects (capital assets such as vehicles, computers or cameras to be used beyond the duration of the project), fundraising projects, deficit reduction, publishing and archiving projects, awards and award ceremonies, projects conceived

for the creation of a film or for competitive purposes, art therapy, academic research, commercial activities (i.e.: the sale of art);

- Activities taking place outside of the City of Toronto (such as events, rehearsals, research, touring, travel, accommodations);
- Schools that are part of Ontario's public or private education system;
- Educational and religious institutions, unless there is a clear separation in both programming and budget between their regular activities and their arts activities.

How do I apply?

Register and submit the application on TAC Grants Online (<https://tac.smartsimple.ca>). Applications must be submitted no later than 11:59 pm on the deadline date. TAC does not accept applications by any other means of delivery. You will receive a confirmation email when your application is submitted. Check your spam/junk mail folder if it doesn't arrive in your in-box.

Application Accessibility Support for Deaf persons or persons with disabilities

Applicants who are Deaf or have a disability and need support to complete their grant applications can apply for funds to cover the costs of assistance from **Application Support Service Providers. Up to \$500 is available per eligible applicant in each calendar year.** Please contact your Grant Program Manager at least six weeks before the grant program deadline to determine eligibility, request application support funding, and to review the process for payment to be made to your Service Provider. Requests for application support require approval from the Grant Program Manager. Additional information [here](#).

Choose your park

Following is a list of parks that have been pre-approved by City of Toronto Parks & Recreation for this program. You can choose one or more parks in the "Parks Selection" section of the grant application. Build your application around your preferred park(s). List your alternative park preferences. The grant review panel may assign a different park (or parks) for your project, where necessary. Be prepared to be flexible. It is strongly recommended that the first-time applicants select one park. For all applicants: if you want to program multiple parks, consider outreach for each of the local communities, obtaining permits for each park, site visits, etc. and include it in your work plan and budget.

Parks list: list of available parks is subject to change; an alternative park may be assigned for your project.

- Alexmuir Park (Scarborough)
- Amos Waites Park (Etobicoke)
- Bell Manor Park (Etobicoke)
- Black Creek Community Farm (North York)
- Cedar Brook Park (Scarborough)
- Dentonia Park (East York)
- Earl Bales Park (North York)
- Flagstaff Park (Etobicoke)
- Fountainhead Park (North York)
- Fred Johnson Park (Scarborough)
- Fundy Bay Park (Scarborough)
- Guild Park and Gardens (Scarborough)
- Lee Lifeson Art Park (North York)
- Maidavale Park (Scarborough)
- Memorial Park (York)
- Milliken Park (Scarborough)
- Morningside Park (Scarborough)
- Neilson Park (Etobicoke)
- Neilson Park (Scarborough)
- Parkway Forest Park (North York)
- Prairie Drive Park (Scarborough)
- Raymore Park (Etobicoke)
- Rowntree Mills Park (Etobicoke)
- R.V. Burgess Park (East York)
- Shawn Blu Rose Park (Scarborough)

- Summerlea Park (Etobicoke)
- Taylor Creek Park (East York)
- Thomson Memorial Park (Scarborough)
- Walter Saunders Memorial Park (North York)
- Wincott Park (Etobicoke)

Parks map: [here](#)

Please see [2025 Parks List & Descriptions](#) at the end of this document.

Park permits

Any activity in a City park (including rehearsals) will require a permit from Parks & Recreation (P&R). Park permits are all subject to approval by P&R, taking into consideration existing permits and limitations on some parks. If you receive an Animating Toronto Parks grant, you will still need to apply to PR&F for a special event permit. **The special event permit fee will be waived so you do not need to budget for that**, but there may be other costs associated with your activity in the park, such as noise exemptions or building permits. Be prepared to budget for these expenses. If your special events permit application is not approved by P&R, TAC, TAF and P&R staff will work with you to find an alternative park for your project. Be prepared to be patient and flexible.

The above park permit information does not apply to Black Creek Community Farm, where there is no permitting process, but the applicants for this location will still need to work out the details of their projects and the schedule with the farm's staff.

What do I need to prepare?

The four main sections of the Animating Toronto Parks grant application are: Project Details, Project Description, Budget, and Support Material.

- **Project Details:** amount requested, project dates, park permit dates, park selection and why this park(s), weather contingency plan, access plan, and project summary.
- **Project Description:** project overview, technical requirements, workplan, outreach and community engagement plan, and project contributors form with brief bios for all contributors.
- **Budget:** budget form and supplementary budget notes.
- **Support Material:** audio/visual examples of your work.

Are there requirements and guidelines for paying artists?

Grant recipients are required to pay artists' fees for professional artists, and encouraged to bring these fees into line with sector standards or, at a minimum, living wage benchmarks:

- Arts sector guidelines: [Carfac \(visual arts\)](#), [Canadian Alliance of Dance Artists](#), [Canadian Actors Equity – Independent Theatre Agreement](#), [Canadian Federation of Musicians](#)
- The Ontario Living Wage as a minimum standard for artists/arts workers' salaries and fees: [Ontario Living Wage by Region](#)

How will my application be assessed?

Grants are awarded on a competitive basis by an independent grant review panel of practicing artists with input from the program partners. Representatives from TAC partner organizations, City of Toronto Parks & Recreation, Toronto Arts Foundation, Black Creek Community Farm, and Park People, will participate in the assessment process to provide contextual information to the peer assessors. Peer assessors are selected on the basis of their familiarity with and specialized expertise in a broad spectrum of artistic practices and their direct experience in the Toronto arts community and with outdoor programming. Grant review panels are composed to ensure equitable representation from TAC's Equity Priority Groups as well as geographical communities and artistic disciplines. The grant review panel's recommendations are approved by TAC Directors.

The Grant review panel makes an assessment based on the applicants' past and proposed work within the context of each competition. The grant review panel evaluates all eligible applications in a comparative context and makes funding decisions based on the availability of funds, the program

objectives, and the following assessment criteria:

- Artistic merit;
- Extent to which the proposed project will engage and include local communities;
- Quality of experience the proposed activity will provide to community;
- Demonstrated capacity of the applicant to carry out the project as outlined;
- Financial viability of the project, including adequate payment of artist fees.

Included in the [Equity Framework](#) is an **Equity Priority Policy**, which states that if there are multiple well-assessed applications of equal merit in an adjudication round but insufficient funds in the grants budget to support all deserving candidates, applications proposed by applicants that self-identify as belonging to one or more of Toronto Arts Council's equity priority groups or that primarily involve or serve artists from these groups will be prioritized.

Projects that involve local artists (or are proposed by artists with strong existing ties and partnerships with the local community) are prioritized in this program.

Project funding is recommended only at the discretion of the grant review panel. This is a competitive program. Applicants should be aware that meeting the general eligibility requirements does not guarantee that a grant will be recommended. Decisions of the grant review panel are final.

As the peer assessors and the applications change with each deadline, peer assessor evaluation of relative artistic merit will also vary. Unsuccessful applicants may succeed with another grant review panel and are encouraged to reapply.

How and when will I find out the application results?

TAC will send you an email when the results are available and you will log in to TAC Grants Online to receive results. Notification will be sent approximately four months after the application deadline. Results are not released over the telephone.

What if my project changes?

Grants may be used only for the purposes outlined in the application. Changes to the scale, activities and timeframe of the project must be reported promptly to TAC. In such cases, TAC may require full or partial repayment of the grant. Changes to project dates must be reported to your Program Manager.

What do I do when I have completed the project?

Recipients are required to file a final report on their project. The final report is filled out and submitted online through TAC's granting portal. The due date for the final report will be included in the Final Report form. Future applications to TAC Strategic Projects Programs* will not be accepted unless reports on previous funding have been received and approved by TAC.

*Exceptions include Newcomer & Refugee Artist Mentorship, and TAC-CS Digital Solutions Incubator programs. Contact a TAC Program Manager if you have questions about these exceptions.

What are the requirements & conditions of this funding?

Funding requirements:

- Successful applicants will receive a Letter of Understanding (LOU). The LOA will detail the terms and conditions of the funding and must be signed and uploaded to TAC Grants Online before funding can be released.
- Grant recipients will be required to sign and upload a signed Declaration of Compliance with Anti-Harassment/Discrimination Legislation and City Policy and a City of Toronto Release, Waiver and Indemnity form before funding can be released.

Funding conditions:

Funds for recommended grants will not be released until 2026.

- Grant recipients will work with P&R to book their dates for any activities in the park. All grant recipients will **submit a special event permit application** to P&R. Grant recipients will be required to **submit the signed Permit Notice** (and any other conditional permits or permissions) via your TAC Grants Online account, or upload proof of permit application, **before funding can be released**. Any additional permitting costs should be included in the grant budget. Grant recipients will be required to submit an Emergency Action Plan to P&R.
- Grant recipients will work with Arts in the Parks and community groups to ensure success of their projects. Participation in Arts in the Parks is a requirement of the program.
- Grant recipients will be required to attend an Animating Toronto Parks / Arts in the Parks Program Orientation Session (date TBA).
- Grant amounts are designed to cover portable washroom costs. Where washroom facilities are not available or accessible, **grants recipients will be required to provide bathrooms** for any public activities. Portable washrooms must be AODA compliant. Washroom costs should be included in the grant budget for parks without washroom facilities.
- All arts programming **must be free and open to the public**. Donations or fees from audience members may not be solicited. Tickets may be reserved for capacity but must be free and accessible to local communities.
- Park space may only be used during the agreed permit dates and times, and solely for the agreed activity.
- The park must be clean and clear of damage following the event.
- Grant recipients must include **visual acknowledgement of TAC and Arts in the Parks** support in all promotional materials, advertising and programs related to the project. The TAC logo is available on our website; specifications for the size and placement of the logo should be commensurate with that of other donors or sponsors that have provided similar financial support. The Arts in the Parks logo will be provided by TAF staff. Arts in the Parks wayfinding signage will be provided by Arts in the Parks staff.
- If your application is approved, you will be required to enter **the bank account information** of the grant recipient that **corresponds to the Applicant Name** on your Notification Letter. You will be required to submit your individual, organizational or collective's Bank information along with your Letter of Understanding and other Notification Letter Conditions and Requirements.
- In addition to the aforementioned general conditions of funding, TAC reserves the right to place other conditions on the release of the grant. Any specific conditions will be contained in the Letter of Understanding.

Further questions

Contact Strategic Programs Manager,

Lena Golubtsova (she/her)

lena@torontoartscouncil.org, 416-392-6802 x 219

2025 PARKS LIST & DESCRIPTIONS

The following parks descriptions are provided to help you decide which park or parks you would like to apply to program. Please consider visiting the park(s) of choice before applying and researching and/or contacting park friends groups or community organizations associated with the park(s). **Community partnership is essential to a successful Animating Toronto Parks project.**

As the list of available parks is subject to change, an alternative park may be assigned for your project.

RESOURCES

[Toronto Arts Foundation Arts in the Parks resources](#)

[Park People resource library](#)

[City of Toronto ward profiles](#)

Local Arts Service Organizations (LASOs)

Local Arts Service Organizations (LASOs) support the City of Toronto's Strong Neighbourhoods Strategy in underserved geographic areas as well as the 2018-2022 Economic Development and Culture Divisional Strategy of inclusion and equity in geographic areas outside the downtown core. They provide inclusive and affordable opportunities for local residents, artists, and arts organizations, with a focus on underserved children, youth, and participants from a broad demographic spectrum. LASOs are a great place to start when designing your outreach plan. They may be open to partnership. There are six LASOs receiving municipal funding:

[Arts Etobicoke](#), [Urban Arts](#), [Lakeshore Arts](#), [North York Arts](#), [East End Arts](#), [Scarborough Arts](#), [Neighbourhood Arts Network](#)

Please Note

Washrooms: Some parks have washrooms, and some do not. Washrooms are not only nice to have, but are a requirement for many reasons, including accessibility. **Portable washrooms rental should be included in the "production/technical fees" section of the grant, if applicable.** It is up to an applicant to obtain up-to-date quotes for budgeting purpose. Where portable washrooms are required, they must be AODA compliant.

Accessibility: TAC has endeavored to provide as much descriptive detail as possible in the following parks descriptions for accessibility purposes. City of Toronto Parks, Forestry and Recreation is in the process of bringing older parks up to AODA compliance, but there is no current information available about park accessibility. We are aware of the limitations of these descriptions and invite feedback. Please contact the Program Manager if more information is required.

PARTICIPATING PARKS

Click on the park's or district's name to go to the description. Parks map can be viewed [here](#). The map is for reference only, it is not meant to show designated event areas in the parks.

ETOBICOKE: [Amos Waites Park](#), [Bell Manor Park](#), [Flagstaff Park](#), [Neilson Park](#), [Raymore Park](#), [Rowntree Mills Park](#), [Summerlea Park](#), [Wincott Park](#)

YORK: [Memorial Park](#)

NORTH YORK: [Black Creek Community Farm](#), [Earl Bales Park](#), [Fountainhead Park](#), [Lee Lifeson Art Park](#), [Parkway Forest Park](#), [Walter Saunders Memorial Park](#)

EAST YORK: [Dentonia Park](#), [R.V. Burgess Park](#), [Taylor Creek Park](#)

SCARBOROUGH: [Alexmuir Park](#), [Cedar Brook Park](#), [Fred Johnson Park](#), [Fundy Bay Park](#), [Guild Park and Gardens](#), [Maidavale Park](#), [Milliken Park](#), [Morningside Park](#), [Neilson Park](#), [Prairie Drive Park](#), [Shawn Blu Rose Park](#), [Thomson Memorial Park](#)

ETOBICOKE

Amos Waites Park

Amos Waites Park is a 1.4-hectare waterfront park featuring Mimico Square, children's playground, a splash pad, and an outdoor pool. With its boardwalks, paths and beaches, Amos Waites Park features a scenic view of the lake. It is a busy park with a lot of foot traffic. Mimico Square is a lively community event space designed for mid-sized performances, markets, and festivals. There is a bandshell with electrical access. Cement area in front of bandshell has no seating or shade, which might be a budget consideration depending on the time and type of event. The park is equally suitable for workshops and performances. The Lakeshore Village BIA programs various events in the park and is an enthusiastic Arts in the Parks partner. Please note: programming will not be possible on the bike path or shoreline. Mimico Square is the designated event area for this park.

Address: 2441 Lake Shore Blvd W, near Lake Shore Blvd W & Mimico Ave

Ward: 3, Etobicoke–Lakeshore

Friends/community groups: Mimico by the Lake BIA, Lakeshore Village BIA, Lakeshore Arts

Amenities: small neighbouring parking lot, municipal street parking is available, accessible washrooms

Accessibility: washrooms are accessible; the park features a paved path from the sidewalk to the washrooms, playground and bike trail, and there are curb cuts from the street into the park.

Bell Manor Park

This small neighbourhood park features a splash pad and a children's playground and is nicknamed Banana Park. Bell Manor Park features a community garden managed by Stonegate Community Health Centre and mural art, funded by StreetART Toronto, as well as a pebble mosaic created by Red Dress Productions, in collaboration with the community. Stonegate provide much of the community programming in the park, they are an enthusiastic partner for Arts in the Parks.

From Stonegate Community Health Centre:

“Despite being small, this park is suitable for various types of events. Community is very active and involved. Artists proposing to work in this park should plan to reach out to local residents and community organizations to ensure audience participation.”

Address: 1 Bayside Lane, near Park Lawn Road & Berry Road

Ward: 3, Etobicoke–Lakeshore

Friends/community group: Stonegate Community Health Centre

Amenities: playground, splashpad; washrooms available at nearby Park Lawn Park; Recreation provides one portable washroom during splash pad season, but more may be required for larger events, depending on the scale of the event/activity and the time of day

Accessibility: accessible portable washrooms required; the park is intersected and encircled by a paved path with curb cuts on both the west and east sides from the street, the west entrance of the park is graded a bit steeply; there is street parking available all around the park; the community garden is not accessible by paved path.

Flagstaff Park

This 3.6-hectare park features a large area for recreation activities, three lit tennis courts, a children's playground, walking path, and outdoor pool. It is a quiet park in a low-density residential area. Suitable for smaller, more intimate activities. Events in this location would benefit from lots of local outreach with area residents. Please note: limited sound amplification is allowed. Maximum capacity 100. Residents must be notified of events. This is a busy recreation park, so permit availability may be limited.

Address: 42 Mercury Rd, near Martin Grove Rd & Rexdale Blvd

Ward: 1, Etobicoke North

Friends/community group: Community Nature Champions, Friends of Queensplate Drive

Amenities: water fountain, small parking lot, additional street parking available, washrooms available during pool open hours only

Accessibility: accessible portable washrooms may be required as pool washroom hours are very limited, paved paths across park are limited, no direct access from TTC, 2 designated accessible spots.

Neilson Park

This 6.6-hectare park near Dundas Street West and Highway 427 features a ball diamond and children's playground. The park follows the Etobicoke Creek ravine north to Bloor Street with a trail that crosses the creek. The south-east corner of the park is home to the Neilson Park Creative Centre, and artists working in the park would benefit from close collaboration or partnership with the Centre. Workshop style events have been successful at this location in the past.

Address: 56 Neilson Dr, near Neilson Dr & Jeff Dr

Ward: 2, Etobicoke Centre

Friends/community groups: Neilson Park Creative Centre, Friends of Centennial Park (Our Place Initiative)

Amenities: parking, several amenities located at Neilson Park Creative Centre (rentals/partnerships are subject to negotiation with Neilson Park Creative Centre), washrooms, picnic sites

Accessibility: paved path across the park but not to designated area, accessible washrooms in Neilson Park Creative Centre.

Raymore Park

Raymore Park is in the Weston neighbourhood of Etobicoke. It is located along the Humber River Recreational Trail. The park is close to Weston Lions Arena and an outdoor pool. It is a small park located on the banks of the Humber River. Park would be most suited for a performance style of event. As park is not directly accessible by street/path, local outreach in residential area is important.

Address: 95 Raymore Dr, near Scarlet Rd and Lawrence Ave West

Ward: 2, Etobicoke Centre

Friends/community groups: Scarlettwood Warriors for Change

Amenities: parking lot

Accessibility: accessible portable washrooms required; there is no paved path into the main park area, but the park is located on the Humber River Recreational Trail, which is paved.

Rowntree Mills Park

This 92-hectare park along the banks of the Humber River is a beautiful natural oasis in northwest Toronto between Finch Ave West and Steeles Ave West and between Islington and Kipling Avenues. The local social service agencies have held nature walks, movies and seniors walking programs in this park. Projects that are created in close collaboration with the local community would be most successful. Please note: designated area is picnic areas 1 & 2. Park closes at 6pm. No activities after 6pm will be permitted. Capacity 350.

From Rexdale Walking Group:

"The green space is well maintained by the City Parks staff and contractors. This park is a beautiful walking area and has scenic paths as well as ponds that are a host to lots of different birds and other wildlife. Rexdale Walking group collaborated with STEP Public Art for different workshops, murals, beading, walking tours just to name a few."

Address: 155 Rowntree Mill Rd, near Finch Ave West & Steeles Ave West

Ward: 7, Humber River-Black Creek

Friends/community groups: Rexdale Walking Group, Markbrook Residents Group, Delta Family

Resource Centre, Rexdale Women's Centre, various seniors walking groups.

Amenities: recreation trail, water fountain, fieldhouse, parking lot, picnic site, pond, washrooms

Accessibility: paved recreation trails, limited paths to picnic sites, accessible washrooms, accessible designated parking, but not very close to designated site.

Summerlea Park

Summerlea Park is in Rexdale near Albion Road and Islington just north of the 401. This large 23-hectare park runs along the Humber River West Branch as it joins the Humber River. It is part of the West Humber Recreational Trail. In addition to the many trails and naturalized river valley, the park features a ball diamond, three multipurpose fields, a cricket pitch, two basketball courts, two tennis courts, a wading pool, and a children's playground. Summerlea is a well-known local fishing spot.

Address: 2 Arcot Blvd, Albion Rd and Islington

Ward: 1, Etobicoke North

Friends/community group: Queens Leveling Up

Amenities: parking, washrooms, water fountain

Accessibility: accessible portable washrooms required, paved paths.

Wincott Park

Wincott Park is divided in half by Poynter Drive. This park is in the middle of the neighbourhood near Westway Junior School. North of Poynter Drive there is a newly refurbished children's playground and two lit outdoor bocce courts. At the south end of the park there is a swing set, a pair of slides and a climbing structure. There are open green areas along the path that are suitable for most types of events. There are also naturalized areas for wildlife throughout the park. The Humber Creek Trail is a paved path that runs through the park. Near the north end of the park the trail passes by a pond with a small seating area on the south shore. Please note: no amplified sound.

From Somali Women and Children's Support Network:

"In recent years, Wincott Park has been a thriving space for a diverse range of arts and cultural programs, which have captivated and united our community. These art programs have made a lasting impact on community members, nurturing a profound appreciation for the arts. This park is heavily supported by Somali Women and Children's Support Network in terms of outreach and community participation. Partnership or working closely with this group would help events be successful in this community."

Address: 86 Northcrest Rd

Ward: 2, Etobicoke Centre

Near: Islington Ave & Dixon Rd

Friends/community group: Somali Women and Children's Support Network

Amenities: recreation trail, drinking fountain

Accessibility: accessible portable washrooms required, paved paths throughout the park, TTC access, street parking only.

YORK

Memorial Park

A small park on the east bank of the Humber River near Lawrence Avenue West and Weston Road that features a bike trail and a bandshell under a mature tree canopy. Despite central Weston location, significant community outreach should be planned for. Please note: this park is best suited for performances and concerts. Capacity 300. No vehicle access, no parking in the park.

Address: 22 Little Ave, near Little Ave & Lawrence Ave W

Ward: 5, York–South Weston

Friends/community group: Scarlettwood Warriors for Change

Amenities: bandshell with electrical access, small parking lot on south side

Accessibility: portable washrooms required; parking lot is accessible via sidewalk, but there is a steep hill from the parking lot to the park; two accessible entrances from Little Ave, but no paved pathways into park; uneven grassy surface, no ramp to bandshell stage entrance; easy TTC access.

NORTH YORK

Black Creek Community Farm

Black Creek Community Farm is a beautiful 8-acre farm, located in the heart of the Jane and Finch neighbourhood in Toronto. This not-for-profit organization is a leader in Toronto's dynamic urban agriculture and community food sector. Black Creek Community Farm engages, educates, and empowers diverse communities through sustainable food, offering a range of community programming in collaboration with various program partners.

The Farm offers educational programs and growing spaces for children, youth, adults, and seniors. They host an Urban Harvest program, where surplus produce is connected with community food programs, and hold community-building events. Central to Black Creek Community Farm is the Farm Park which models sustainable urban horticulture featuring a food forest, pollinator gardens of both native and medicinal plants, community garden spaces, a spiral sensory garden, serene walking trails that leads to a ravine, and more.

Over the last few years, several pieces of key infrastructure have been installed at the farm, including a gazebo, wash station, vegetable cooler, pavilion, wood-fired brick oven, wiigwam, an enclosed chicken coop, children's outdoor classroom, stone seating, four-season greenhouses, compost bins, irrigation lines, perimeter trail system, and bee yard.

These infrastructure projects have been complemented by the construction of numerous natural spaces including eight pollinator gardens, a community/collective garden, a children's spiral garden, raised bed senior's gardens, a medicine wheel garden, a raspberry patch, west end forest trail (planted primarily with edible/medicinal species), east end forest trail (planted with native species to restore biodiversity on Black Creek ravine), backyard garden, front yard garden in raised beds, greenhouse vegetable production, and field vegetable production. In addition, we host team-building activities, retreats, and community events.

To discuss prospective applications or arrange for a site visit, please contact:

Anna Mancuso, Programs Manager, Black Creek Community Farm, at annam@blackcreekfarm.ca at least two weeks in advance of the grant deadline.

Visit blackcreekfarm.ca for more information.

Address: 4929 Jane St, near Jane & Steeles, closest TTC stop is Black Creek Pioneer Village subway

Ward: 7, Humber River–Black Creek

Amenities: washrooms, electricity access, water, parking

Accessibility: partially accessible, limited accessible parking spots, the parking lot is laid with coarse gravel, curb cuts from sidewalks, packed dirt paths around garden areas, two portable washrooms, one is accessible.

Earl Bales Park

Earl Bales Park is a large 51-hectare park. It is a destination park, the fourth largest park in the city, with a large outdoor amphitheatre (subject to additional permitting fees), an off-leash dog area, playgrounds, sensory garden, splash pad, memorials, paved walking/cycling trails, picnic sites and fire pits. It also has one of the two city's ski hills. It is heavily used in the summer for picnics and in the winter for skiing. The Canadian Society for Yad Vashem Holocaust Memorial Site is situated near the entrance to Earl Bales

Park at 4169 Bathurst Street. As it is a very large and active park and the amphitheatre is closed off from passersby due to its structure, events in this location would benefit from very clear signage/wayfinding or additional staff/volunteers to help guide audiences. There are forest walking trails in the park that have been used by artists in this program for walking tours, nature walks, etc. Please note: no staking in the park. Avoid programming on Saturdays for local community religious observation.

From Friends of Earl Bales Park:

“This park is supported by Friends of Earl Bales Park, an independent resident-led group that partners with other local grassroots organizations and groups. The group was formed in April 2013 as part of Clean Toronto Together. Since then, we have been hosting annual clean up at Earl Bales Park, screened movie nights, hosted a tree planting event, “Love and Care” Day and multicultural music and dance performances. We have also co-hosted series of virtual climate change workshops and virtual multicultural celebration.”

Address: 4169 Bathurst St, near Bathurst St & Sheppard Ave W

Ward: 6, York Centre

Friends/community group: Friends of Earl Bales Park

Amenities: washrooms, multiple parking lots, Earl Bales Community Centre (washroom facilities are available during open hours only), the Earl Bales Senior Centre, and the Earl Bales Ski and Snowboard Centre

Accessibility: Community Centre washrooms are accessible, and one is gender neutral, accessible parking is designated.

Fountainhead Park

A 4.4-hectare park at the intersection of Sentinel Road and Finch Avenue West that features three lit tennis courts, two bocce courts, a tennis clubhouse with washrooms and multipurpose sports field. There is a lot of green space suitable for programming. The park is actively used by local community, with close ties to Black Creek Community Farm and Driftwood Community Centre.

Address: 445 Sentinel Rd, near Jane and Finch

Ward: 7, Humber River-Black Creek

Friends/community group: Friends of Fountainhead Park

Amenities: parking lot, water fountain, washrooms

Accessibility: accessible washrooms, paved path around the park, designated accessible parking, TTC access.

Lee Lifeson Art Park

Lee Lifeson Art Park honours two of Canada’s more internationally acclaimed musicians as founding members of the band Rush, Geddy Lee and Alex Lifeson. The heart of this music-themed park is a small outdoor bandshell designed for performances. Park is best suited for performances, or a combination of workshops and performances. Please note: designated area is the bandshell. Max capacity 200. Limited sound amplification: amplified drumming and low-level bass not permitted, acoustic or low-level amplification suggested. Notifying residents of any events with amplified sound ahead of time is recommended.

Address: 223 Gladys Allison Place, near Princess and Hillcrest Avenues at Gladys Allison Place

Ward: 18, Willowdale

Friends/community group: Willowdale Central Ratepayers Association

Amenities: outdoor stage and amphitheatre, washrooms

Accessibility: accessible washrooms with automatic doors, paved path through park.

Parkway Forest Park

A 5.2-hectare park near Don Mills Road and Sheppard Avenue East that features a baseball diamond, a multipurpose sports field, a basketball court, a ball hockey pad, splash pad, calisthenics workout area, portable bathroom on the South side and two children's playgrounds located at the north and south ends of the park. Large open space next to the playground is suitable for most types of events. The projects designed for families, children, and youth and that are interactive would be particularly suitable for this park.

Parkway Forest Community Centre is located adjacent to the park. The neighbourhood has had a lot of high-rise development in the last few years. The Friends of Parkway Forest is the local community park group that has worked with artists in the Arts in the Parks program for the last few years. They work very closely with the partners in the neighbourhood and in particular with LINC, the local language school. Please note: designated area is the south-west corner of the park, south of the school parking lot. No set up on sports field. Max capacity 500. Not a lot of shade, evening events are recommended, or provision of shade. There are no water fountains or evening lighting available.

From Friends of Parkway Forest Park:

"There are lots of newcomer families with kids. Activities that engage these groups are great especially those where parents and kids can work together. Friends of Parkway Forest Park has held Splash on Earth events in this park for the past three years and parents and families had a blast painting on the asphalt and saying how this is the only time when they play together and learn about the environment."

Address: 80 Parkway Forest Dr, near Parkway Forest Dr & Forest Manor Rd

Ward: 17, Don Valley North

Friends/community group: Friends of Parkway Forest Park

Amenities: Parkway Forest Community Centre (washroom facilities during open hours only: open until 9pm)

Accessibility: no paved pathways through the park, accessible washrooms in community centre during open hours.

Walter Saunders Memorial Park (York Beltline)

The York Beltline is a 9km linear park and recreation trail. Walter Saunders Park is part of the Beltline and features outdoor basketball and bocce courts, a playground and a splash pad. The Friends of the Beltline have hosted tree plantings and clean-ups in the Beltline. There is a large open space in this park, which would work well for performance style events. Please note: the area has little to no shade. Limited amplified sound. Capacity 200.

Address: 440 Hopewell Ave, near Hopewell Ave & Times Rd

Ward: 8 Eglinton–Lawrence

Friends/community group: Hopewell Community Garden

Amenities: bottle filling station

Accessibility: accessible portable washrooms required, multiple paved paths, street parking only.

EAST YORK

Dentonia Park

A 6.1-hectare park near Danforth Avenue and Victoria Park Avenue featuring a lit ball diamond, a multipurpose sports field, a cricket pitch, basketball courts, a splash pad and a children's playground. Large and open park, but due to ongoing residents' concerns around noise, smaller scale events with a max of 50 people will be best suited for this park. No sound amplification of any kind is currently permitted at this park.

From Shwasti:

“Dentonia and Prairie Drive are the two parks in the East end that are supported by Shwasti through local outreach. Prairie Drive Park also has a resident-led group that would like to be more involved with events in that park. Dentonia is larger while Prairie Drive Park is more intimate, both are accessible by TTC. Both have hosted successful Arts in the Parks events in the past.”

Please note: this park is appropriate for small, short-term events only. No set up on sports field. Designated area is the picnic area. Max capacity is 50. The events in this park will require increased wayfinding signage as the park gets confused with adjacent golf course.

Address: 80 Thyra Ave, near Thyra Ave & Dentonia Park Ave

Ward: 19, Beaches–East York

Friends/community group: Shwasti

Amenities: clubhouse, washrooms, water fountain

Accessibility: close to Victoria Park subway, paved paths throughout the park, ramp to clubhouse and washrooms.

R.V. Burgess Park

This 1.5-hectare park near Don Mills Road and Overlea Boulevard features a basketball court, a community garden, a splash pad and a children’s playground. It is a busy park with a lot of foot traffic, it is important park for the local community. In the past artists were able to use power from the library for their event. Please note: special event permits are subject to scheduling; any projects must engage with Thorncliffe Park Women’s Committee.

From FCSS, Friends of Thorncliffe Park and Thorncliffe Wellness Café:

“R.V. Burgess Park is the cultural and recreational heart of the Thorncliffe Park neighbourhood, full of life, and full of seasonal activities and events for families. It is heavily supported by multiple community groups including Flemingdon Community Support Services, Friends of Thorncliffe Park and Thorncliffe Wellness Cafe. This park would be great for community engaged art activities and workshops. FCSS is very active and involved in the community through community engaged activities that take place throughout the year. They are also a past recipient of Animating Toronto Parks and would be a great resource for building a successful event.”

Address: 46 Thorncliffe Park Dr, near Thorncliffe Park Dr & Grandstand Pl

Ward: 15, Don Valley West

Friends/community group: Flemingdon Community Support Services, Friends of Thorncliffe Park & Thorncliffe Wellness Café

Amenities: playground, splash pad, community garden, tandoor oven, Thorncliffe Public Library

Accessibility: accessible portable washrooms required.

Taylor Creek Park

This is a linear park that begins at Don Mills Road in the west and wanders to Dawes Road in the east. There are vehicle parking lots at either end of the park. It is a large, wooded park, wayfinding signage recommended.

Address: 260 Dawes Rd, near Dawes Rd north of Danforth

Ward: 19 Beaches-East York

Friends/community group: Shwasti, Birchmount Community Action Council

Amenities: bike trails, water fountain, firepit, parking lot, picnic site, washrooms

Accessibility: accessible portable washrooms required.

SCARBOROUGH

Alexmuir Park

A 2.6-hectare park near Brimley Road and McNicoll Avenue featuring two multipurpose sports fields and a children's playground. This beautiful tree-lined neighbourhood park is situated in a low-density residential area, adjacent to two public schools. Scarborough Rosewood Community Association host annual clean-ups, and various other activities in the neighbourhood, and have been involved with the Arts in the Parks program since its inception.

From Scarborough Rosewood Community Association:

"The park is in center of a close-knit residential area, so local outreach is a must to ensure attendance. Evenings and weekends seem to be the best times for a good turnout. There have been over 200 people come out for music performance and over 300 for community movie nights. The area has a large Chinese (predominantly Mandarin speaking) population. Translated print materials and/or translator on event days would ensure larger audiences (and the Scarborough Rosewood Community Association can help with translating materials and providing some translation during events, if needed)."

Please note: no set up on sports field. No events during sports bookings (limited weekday availability).

Address: 205 Alexmuir Blvd, Alexmuir Blvd & Homedale Dr

Ward: 23, Scarborough North

Friends/community groups: Scarborough Rosewood Community Association

Amenities: none, street parking only

Accessibility: accessible portable washrooms required; a wide paved pathway through and around the park; there are curb cuts at all three path entrances from the street.

Cedar Brook Park

This 18.6-hectare park features many trails, a picnic area and a children's playground set in the naturalized ravine of West Highland Creek. Cedarbrook Community centre is close by. Please note: events may use general parkland, away from the gazebo/playground area. Permittable picnic shelter. Infrequent maintenance.

Address: 91 Eastpark Blvd, near Markham Road and Lawrence Avenue East

Ward: 24 Scarborough–Guildwood

Friends/community group: Friends of Cedarbrook and Thomson Memorial Parks

Amenities: community centre, parking, accessible bathrooms during community centre open hours only

Accessibility: the bus stop is located 350 meters from the northern entrance to the park, down the paved sidewalk; paved paths in the park.

Fred Johnson Park

This small park on Kingston Rd just east of Markham Rd has a community garden in the sunny south end, and a shady treed area on the northern half. Please note: this park is best suited to smaller, more intimate events and community-engaged activities that work in collaboration with the Scarborough Village Community Garden. Small scale events only. No amplification or drumming. Dates will need to be coordinated with the Community Garden's activities. Capacity is up to 100 people and focused local outreach and/or collaboration would benefit projects.

From Scarborough Village Community Garden:

"Scarborough Village Community Garden has held annual Harvest Festivals, Scavenger Hunt Days, Gardening workshops and partnered events with Scarborough Arts Guild (e.g., Mosaic Making, Plant Love arts activities). The 16-year-old community garden is a green oasis beside the historic Cornell Campbell House, where garden volunteers grow many vegetables, berries and herbs to share with each other and the local food bank."

Address: 3630 Kingston Rd, near Kingston Rd & Markham Rd

Ward: 24, Scarborough–Guildwood

Friends/community groups: Scarborough Village Community Garden

Amenities: Scarborough Village Recreation Centre (washroom facilities during open hours only)

Accessibility: accessible portable washrooms required; paved path from Kingston Rd to the gazebo, no path through park, park is flat with some bumpy surfaces and a small incline to the north, no curb cuts on the north side, no bathrooms, lots of shade from mature tree canopy.

Fundy Bay Park

A 2.6-hectare park featuring a ball diamond, a multipurpose sports field and a children's playground. There is also a small but functional skatepark in this park. Fundy Bay Park is in the middle of residential neighbourhood. There are two elementary schools immediately south of it and secondary school to the north. Please note: this park has little shade.

Address: 190 Fundy Bay Blvd, near Warden Avenue and Steeles Avenue East

Ward: 22, Scarborough–Agincourt

Friends/community groups: TBC

Amenities: skateboard area, playground

Accessibility: accessible portable washrooms required.

Guild Park and Gardens

This scenic and historic park on 36 hectares of parkland on Scarborough Bluffs is rich with cultural and natural heritage features. It has recently received a significant revitalization and is subject to a new management plan to preserve its natural and cultural heritage resources, enhance recreation trails and connectivity and revitalize its cultural landscape structure, including a sculpture garden and amphitheatre. The park is owned by the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) and managed by the City of Toronto, Parks, Forestry and Recreation. Please note: Guild Park and Gardens has limited availability due to ongoing wedding permits throughout the summer. The stage is used regularly and rarely available. Evening events Monday to Thursday would work best for this park. Limited amplified sound and vehicle access for drop-offs and deliveries. Cross-promotion and coordination with Guild Festival Theatre would help bring larger audiences.

Address: 201 Guildwood Parkway, near Kingston Rd & Galloway Rd

Ward: 24, Scarborough–Guildwood

Friends/community group: Friends of Guild Park & Gardens (guildpark.ca), Guildwood Village Community Association, Guild Renaissance Group, Guild Festival Theatre

Amenities: Guild Inn Estate, Bickford Bistro, recreation trails, conservatory/greenhouse, 2 large parking lots, fieldhouse, washrooms

Accessibility: accessible parking, accessible portable washrooms near the park entrance.

Maidavale Park

A small 1.5-hectare park features a ball diamond and children's playground. Massey Creek flows along the southern park border. Adjacent to the park is a TCHC building with an active residents' group, the Birchmount Community Action Council. They built a community garden, hosted a TIFF movie, run an after-school program and have taken on many activities to engage their residents. Please note: designated area is the large open area. No amplification. Max capacity 200.

Address: 1031 Birchmount Rd, near Birchmount Road & Eglinton Avenue East

Ward: 21, Scarborough Centre

Friends/community group: Birchmount Community Action Council

Amenities: none

Accessibility: accessible portable washrooms required; paved path along the south side of the park; accessible street parking.

Milliken Park

Milliken is a 32-hectare park near the northern edge of Scarborough located east of McCowan Road, with its main entrance on the south side of Steeles Avenue East. Milliken Park features a pond, picnic sites and a community recreation centre. Please note: this park is heavily permitted for picnics on weekends. Booking is subject to availability. Weekdays events are recommended.

Address: 5555 Steeles Ave East, near McCowan Rd & Steeles Ave East

Ward: 23, Scarborough North

Friends/community group: The Scarborough Rosewood Community Association

Amenities: bike trail, children's garden, water fountain, parking, picnic shelter, playground, pond, splash pad, washrooms, Milliken Park Community Recreation Centre

Accessibility: accessible washrooms.

Morningside Park

Morningside Park is a large regional park spanning 241.46 hectares, with significant urban wildlife, wilderness and valley lands. It features hiking and cycling trails that connect to local communities and to the Waterfront trail. It also features a fire pit, a fieldhouse, picnic facilities, a playground, a splash pad, washrooms, water fountain and parking. Park People in partnership with the TRCA host the Annual Salmon Run in the Highland Creek, which attracts over 500 people. Morningside Park is a destination park and many organizations including the East Scarborough Storefront use it for outdoor activities. Please note: this park is heavily permitted for picnics on weekends. Booking is subject to availability.

Address: 390 Morningside Ave, near Morningside Ave & Ellesmere Rd

Ward: 24, Scarborough–Guildwood

Friends group: Are you Afraid of the Dark T.O.

Amenities: washrooms, fieldhouse, parking lot, drinking fountain

Accessibility: accessible washrooms near the parking lot.

Neilson Park

This 9.6-hectare park on Neilson Road just south of Finch Avenue East in Scarborough's Malvern neighbourhood features three very active baseball diamonds (two with lights for evening games), a gazebo and picnic area, a splash pad, a children's playground, an historic site and a fieldhouse, featuring an unused canteen. Please note: designated programming areas are the canteen and picnic sites (subject to availability). No programming on sports fields. Please design programming for canteen area during sports games. Picnic sites may be available during other times. No food preparation in canteen and members of the public will be permitted behind the canteen counter. Booking is subject to availability.

Address: 1555 Neilson Rd, near Neilson Rd & Crow Trail

Ward: 25, Scarborough–Rouge Park

Friends/community group: Malvern Family Resource Centre, Empringham Community

Amenities: fieldhouse with washrooms and canteen, historic sites, playground, very limited parking, limited street parking

Accessibility: accessible washrooms during open hours, paved paths throughout the park, canteen space has limited accessibility.

Prairie Drive Park

This 1.3-hectare park features a playground, wading pool and a tennis court area surrounded by mature

trees, sloping hills and open green space. It is home to the Prairie Drive Park Community Gardens, which are located to the north of the roadway that leads into the park. One of the gardens is managed by Access Alliance and the other by the South Asian Women's Rights Organization (SAWRO). Prairie Drive Park is located in a densely populated area with lots of families. Max capacity 500.

Please note: subway line runs along the south edge of the park and is above the ground, please take the noise levels into account when planning. Sound amplification may be required.

From Shwasti:

"We support this park with local outreach, along with Dentonia Park. Prairie Drive Park also has a resident-led group that would like to be more involved with events in that park. Please note that Prairie Drive Park is next to local transit which can create noise. Sound amplification would be needed for a successful event in this park. Ravine Day Celebrations are held in Prairie Drive and Parks officials are very supportive and cooperative. Shwasti can also provide on the day volunteer support for events and love to be present and involved."

Address: 70 Prairie Drive, near Pharmacy Ave & Danforth Ave

Ward: 20, Scarborough Southwest

Friends/community groups: Shwasti, Access Alliance, Prairie Drive Park resident-led group

Amenities: close to Victoria Park subway, washroom facilities, water bottle filling station, wading pool, playground, fieldhouse with canteen window, parking lot

Accessibility: Victoria Park subway station is fully accessible, the path from the subway into the park is fully barrier-free, there is an incline at the park entrance, there is a newly paved path through the park, washrooms are accessible.

Shawn Blu Rose Park

A small and quiet 2-hectare park near Morningside Avenue and McLevin Avenue that features a baseball diamond, a picnic area, a children's playground, and a splash pad. Formerly known as "Empringham Park", this park was renamed in 2006 to honour Shawn "Blu" Rose, a local youth worker who was beloved by the Malvern community and who passed away untimely in 2005. This was the first City Park in Toronto named after a Black local community member.

Address: 30 Empringham Dr, near Morningside Ave & McLevin Ave

Ward: 25, Scarborough–Rouge Park

Friends/community group: Empringham Community

Amenities: none

Accessibility: accessible portable washrooms required.

Thomson Memorial Park

This 41.8-hectare park follows the West Highland Creek and has many paths through the large, wooded ravine that lets visitors experience nature in the city. The park also has a lit ball diamond, a lit multipurpose sports field, three lit tennis courts, permitted picnic/social gathering areas, a dog off-leash area, outdoor fitness equipment, a wading pool and a children's playground. Park is quite large so ensuring that event is visible and easy to find will be beneficial. Please note: max capacity is 500. Very busy park. Weekdays only. Limited availability.

Address: 1005 Brimley Rd, near Scarborough Museum

Ward: 21, Scarborough Centre

Friends/community group: Friends of Cedarbrook and Thomson Memorial Parks

Amenities: parking, washrooms, fire pit, drinking fountains, recreational trails

Accessibility: accessible washroom in the north end of the park.

FURTHER INFORMATION

For questions about the grants program:

Lena Golubtsova, Strategic Programs Manager, Toronto Arts Council
lena@torontoartscouncil.org
416-392-6802 x219

For questions about Arts in the Parks initiative:

Alexandra Loewen, Interim Manager, Events & Initiatives, Toronto Arts Foundation
alexandra@torontoarts.org
416-392-6800 x215

For questions about the local park friends / community groups:

sparkingchange@parkpeople.ca