

## Sudden Regional Forest

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# SUDDEN

Region of Waterloo

Regional Forest

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<b>Municipality:</b>	North Dumfries
<b>Location:</b>	Concession 8 Lots 20, 21
<b>Access:</b>	Open to the public; parking lot on Spragues Road, 2 additional pull-offs on Beke Road; trail network throughout Forest
<b>General Location:</b>	East side of Spragues Road, south of Greenfield Road
<b>Size:</b>	88.6 hectares
<b>Physiographic Area:</b>	Waterloo Sandhills, outwash plains and end moraines
<b>Eco-region:</b>	Dumfries
<b>Associated ESPA(s):</b>	52 (Sudden Tract)
<b>Date of Acquisition:</b>	1944
<b>Soils:</b>	Primarily glacio-lacustrine sands and silts, outwash sands. Organic materials found in very poorly drained sites in depressions.

### General Description

Sudden Regional Forest comprises a variety of site types and contains several significant species of flora and fauna. Moraines provide a series of hills and valleys with small ponds and vernal pools being found in the valleys and mixed hardwood forests on the hillsides and hilltops. There are several conifer plantations which are well established and which provide habitat for a variety of bird species. There is a well developed network of trails that covers the entire forest and is well used by recreational walkers and educational groups.

There are a number of sites throughout Sudden Regional Forest that support populations of salamanders, including the Jefferson complex and Four-toed salamander. Forest activities will have to be planned in such a way that timing and physical impact will not cause harm to these animals. Much of the natural forest type is Carolinian forest and includes populations of red oak, which are gradually being replaced by sugar maples.

### General Management Goals

An effort to conserve the oak forest type will require the reduction of sugar maples throughout a number of areas. It is desirable that the conifer plantations are maintained through management activities in order to maintain the presence of the bird population that is found in this forest type.

### Facilities

As noted above, there is a well developed trail system throughout Sudden Regional Forest including a boardwalk through the wetland. There is a relatively large parking lot at the Spragues Road entrance which is the primary location for visitors, with the pull-outs on Beke

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Road being suitable for only one or two vehicles at best.

### **Special Considerations**

Any management activities will have to take into account the high number of visitors to the forest as well as maintaining and/or enhancing the Carolinian features while also ensuring that the significant populations of unique flora and fauna are not negatively affected.

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