

VOLUNTEERING AT KORTRIGHT



WHAT IS THE KORTRIGHT CENTRE?

Kortright Centre for Conservation is the leading provider of environmental education and programming, engaging over 135,000 visitors per year. Part of the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA), we provide visitors with first-hand experiences with nature and help them to enjoy, appreciate, and learn to protect the environment. Kortright is also Canada's largest demonstration site for green buildings and renewable energy technologies. We offer guided walks, adult workshops, summer camps, school programs, and 15 kilometres of nature trails through forest, meadows, wetlands and streams. We also hold major events each year: Maple Syrup Festival, Kite Festival, Honey Harvest Festival, Fall Colours Celebration, Kreepy Kortright, and our Magical Christmas Forest Program. Evening programs such as Owl Prowls are also popular. The events and evening programs require many volunteers to help them run smoothly. We truly appreciate the efforts and contributions of our many volunteers without which we could not offer this range of programs.

WHERE IS KORTRIGHT?

Kortright is at 9550 Pine Valley drive- midway between Rutherford Road and Major Mackenzie Drive. Pine Valley Drive is 3 km west of highway 400. We are near Woodbridge, Kleinburg, Maple, and Canada's Wonderland. Volunteers are responsible for their own transportation to and from Kortright. There is no public transit directly to Kortright.

WHO VOLUNTEERS AT KORTRIGHT?

About 50 volunteers are active at Kortright during a year. Some volunteers are retired, some have jobs during the week, but volunteer on weekends or certain evenings. Many are high school students who are working toward completing their 40 hours of community service. Our minimum age for volunteers is 14 years.

WHAT DO VOLUNTEERS DO?

Volunteers work with the public at our special events, and also work "behind the scenes", preparing, building or maintaining things. See the Volunteer Application Form for a list of many of our volunteer activities. You may have talents we can use, such as leading children's activities, playing guitar, drawing, carpentry, or computer skills. If you have other skills, we may have a special job just for you, let us know.

WHEN DOES KORTRIGHT NEED VOLUNTEERS?

We require volunteers on weekends and weekdays, and all year 'round. We need the most volunteers during our special events. These include our Maple Syrup Festival in March, Kite Festival in May, Honey Harvest Festival in September, the Fall Colour Celebration in October, Kreepy Kortright in October, and Magical Christmas Forest in December.

WHAT ARE THE HOURS?

Most special event shifts start between 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. and finish at 4:00 p.m., with a lunch break. The few evening events are from 6:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. "Behind-the-scenes" jobs are much more flexible, and most can be adjusted to suit your schedule. There may even be some jobs you can do at your own home, such as data entry or repairing and maintaining program supplies and materials.

WHAT DOES KORTRIGHT OFFER VOLUNTEERS?

1. Friendly staff, friendly volunteers, friendly visitors.
2. Opportunities to work outdoors in beautiful natural surroundings.
3. The chance to contribute to educating people about nature and sustainable living.
4. If you are a High School student, your family should know that Kortright values and respects young people, and supports their education and training.
5. If you volunteer for 30 hours or more within a 12 month period, you will receive a volunteer pass card. This card allows you unlimited free visits during a year to Kortright, other TRCA conservation areas, and to many attractions in the Toronto Area.

VOLUNTEER SECURITY

Any volunteer under 18 years of age will be supervised by an adult employee or volunteer who has passed a police record screening check. Any volunteer older than 18 years will be required to get a vulnerable sector police screening.

WHAT DOES KORTRIGHT EXPECT FROM VOLUNTEERS

1. **Be Reliable.** Once you agree to volunteer on a certain date, please write it down in your calendar. We expect you to show up, on time.
2. **Be Committed.** We expect that each volunteer will work 20 or more hours over a 12 month period. Certain volunteer jobs require more commitment. If you can do more, or continue year after year, that's even better.
3. **Be Responsive.** If you have a phone or email message asking whether you are available for a volunteer job, please answer it. You can answer "yes" or "no" or "I don't know yet" but we need a reply.
4. **Be Professional.** Certain jobs involve working with the public. For these jobs, we need volunteers who are pleasant and outgoing with the public, friendly with people of all ages, and well spoken.

HOW CAN I LEARN MORE ABOUT THE KORTRIGHT CENTRE?

If you or your family want to know more about Kortright, check out our website: www.kortright.org or if you want to learn more about the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority, visit our website at www.trca.on.ca.

HOW DO I APPLY?

Complete the volunteer application form and submit it to the information desk, or the address below. We will contact you to conduct an interview to discuss your interests, and orient you to our work and volunteer procedures. Once the interview process is complete, you will need to attend a Volunteer Information Session at Kortright. The date and time of this information session will be provided to you during the phone interview.

KORTRIGHT CENTRE FOR CONSERVATION

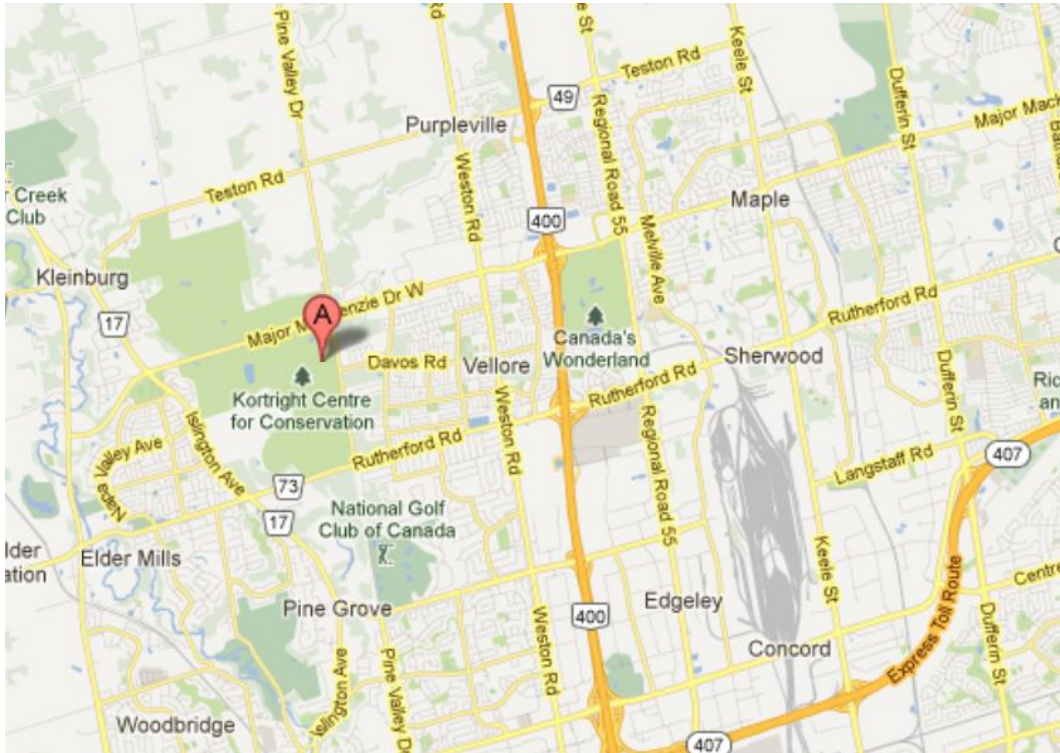
Phone: 905-832-2289 Ext. 239

Fax: 905-832-8238

Email: jgreen@trca.on.ca

Website: www.kortright.org

HOW TO GET TO THE KORTRIGHT CENTRE



The Kortright Centre is located at 9550 Pine Valley Drive, 1 km North of Rutherford Road, or 1 km South of Major Mackenzie Drive. Pine Valley Drive is 3 km west of Highway 400.

From Toronto: Go to Highway 401, then over to Highway 400. Go North on Highway 400 for 13 km to Rutherford Road (near Canada's Wonderland). Turn left on Rutherford Road and go west for 3km. Then at the Kortright sign, turn right on Pine Valley Drive and go North for 1km. The Kortright Centre entrance is on the left.

Our part of Pine Valley Drive is NOT connected with the part of Pine Valley Drive that intersects Highway 7 and 407. Pine Valley Drive is not continuous.

Thank you for your interest in volunteering at the Kortright Centre for Conservation and the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority.