

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Hiwatha Highlands Trails – Safety Statement

Issued December 12, 2024 @ 11:00 am

The Sault Ste. Marie Region Conservation Authority (SSMRCA) is issuing a safety statement to residents regarding current weather/snow conditions. This statement is sent out so that residents can be informed and aware.

The SSMRCA is extending the warning to all recreational users of the Red Pine Trail System, located within the Hiawatha Highlands Conservation Area, to stay away from the area. There continues to be significant snow accumulation causing a number of downed trees on this system which has created a hazardous and unsafe situation for all users. SSMRCA staff appreciate everyone's patience at this time as the safety of trail users is of utmost importance.

Please visit the SSMRCA's website or follow its social media channels for the latest updates.

Conservation Areas are more than pretty places. They play an important environmental, educational and recreational role in Ontario, and contribute to the physical and mental well-being of over seven million visitors annually. Hidden within these natural gems are lakes, rivers and streams, wetlands, sand dunes, beaches, waterfalls, caves, forests, and natural heritage sites.

The Sault Ste. Marie Region Conservation Authority owns and maintains five conservation areas that are open to the public for passive recreation. For more information on the conservation areas located within the Sault, please visit <u>https://ssmrca.ca</u>

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