

Runners, canoeists, cyclists gear up to support Oak Ridges Moraine Trail

The race is on to lend a hand to the Oak Ridges Moraine as cyclists gear up for the Oak Ridges Moraine Adventure Relay, which returns next Saturday, June 13, for the ninth year in a row.

An enthusiastic team of volunteers has planned one of the largest events of its kind in Ontario. This unique race annually engages over 400 canoeists, runners and trail cyclists covering 160 km of the beautiful Oak Ridges Moraine trail.

This year's day-long multi-sport team challenge is in final preparations for another challenging non-stop race. Proceeds from team entries and sponsorships go towards improved signage, parking lots, boardwalks and maintenance equipment used to keep the trail clear and safe for all users.

Teams of up to 15 will once again paddle, bike and run across the Oak Ridges Moraine Trail from Rice Lake (north of Cobourg) to Seneca College's King City Campus, with spirited start and finish line celebrations! This year's race welcomes many returning teams eager to better their 2014 performances, and many newcomers who are taking on the Moraine challenge for the first time.

Organizers now boast nearly 30 teams ready to take on the challenge, making it one of the largest events of its kind on Canada.

?Over 120 Oak Ridges Trail Association members are volunteering for the day, says Relay Co-Chair Brian Millage. ?Teams represent communities from Peel, York, Durham and Northumberland. It's so exciting to see teams entered from conservation authorities, cyclist, hiking and running clubs, and corporations.?

With checkpoints in various locations along the trail route, participants are expected to check into the Aurora Checkpoint at the Sheppard's Bush Conservation Area parking lot between 7.15 p.m. and 8.15 p.m.

For more information on the Oak Ridges Moraine Adventure Relay, including registration, checkpoint locations, directions, and maps, visit www.oakridgestrail.org/adventure-relay.