

About the Carolinian Life Zone

The Carolinian Life Zone is a region rich in rare and unusual plant and animal species found nowhere else in Canada. Longwoods is located within this region.

The "Carey Carolinian Arboretum and Trail" will increase environmental awareness about Carolinian species and serve as an ecological classroom. It will be a living botanical museum of Carolinian ecology for today, as well as a lasting legacy for present and future generations. These trees and plants will be important seed producers for years to come.

Project Phases

- Survey of native and non-native trees complete
- Design trail layout complete
- Assessment of risk complete / ongoing
- Removal of hazard trees near trail complete / ongoing
- Resurface existing trail and blaze new trail section complete
- Plant new Carolinian trees and shrubs complete / ongoing
- Control of non-native tree and plant species summer 2009
- Produce trail brochure complete
- Order tree interpretive plaques and install summer/fall 2009
- Official opening fall 2009
- Construct "Carolinian" information kiosk pending funding















A special thank you to **Earl** and **Mark Livermore** for their generous contribution of time and effort to the project.



Brochure produced 2009 with the financial assistance of the TD Canada Trust Friends of the Environment Foundation - Lambton Chapter

For Further Information Contact

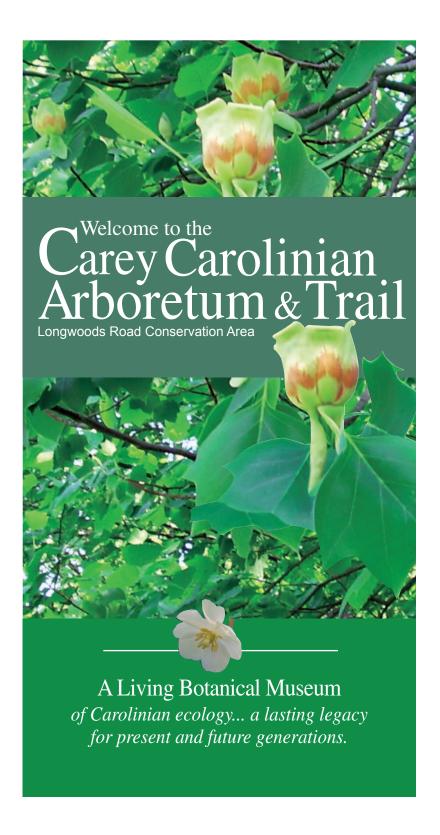
Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority at:

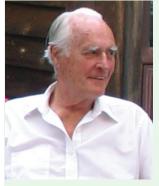
Longwoods Road Conservation Area phone: (519) 264-2420

e-mail: lowerthames@odyssey.on.ca

www.lowerthames-conservation.on.ca

Located at 8348 Longwoods Road 6.5 km west of Delaware, Ontario, Canada





a generous donation

from Lewis Stafford Carey, MD in 2008. funded a new Carolinian arboretum and trail at Longwoods Road Conservation Area west of London in the Municipality of Strathroy-Caradoc. Inspired by a book on Carolinian forests, Dr. Carey presented

his "vision of a Carolinian arboretum" to the Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority and Lower Thames Valley Conservation Foundation in 2006. His knowledge of our area's First Nations pre-history and how it is depicted at the Ska-Nah-Doht Village and Museum at Longwoods prompted his support of a project emphasizing the connection between the precious Carolinian forest habitat and the local people.

With London expanding towards Longwoods, Dr. Carey felt that the Carolinian arboretum and trail project "would have a good audience of adults and children visiting the property and present a huge marketing opportunity for the conservation area". Longwoods would be "the nearby resource" to come to see and learn about Carolinian trees. He also felt that in time, a Carolinian arboretum could provide valuable seeds for study and propagation at local universities and colleges.

In Dr. Carey's words, "the whole point is to have a winding trail in a Carolinian forest with plants and trees planted over time, and secure bird houses in various areas so students can see all the birds and animals. Forest trails should have special surfacing for good drainage and to allow optimum accessibility. The trees are of various sizes, some small and some larger with arboretum signage identifying the Carolinian species and their attributes. The arboretum shouldn't be so big that kids can't manage it." In addition, Dr. Carey donated a significant supply of timber beams for the construction of an information kiosk in the later project phases which will highlight Carolinian arboretum and trail brochures and postcards.

According to his vision, the Carey Carolinian Arboretum and Trail will continue growing. An existing trail at Longwoods has been modified with a new extension blazed and resurfaced to create a beautiful, winding wheelchair accessible trail. Nesting boxes for Carolinian birds and mammals have been placed along the trail. Nearby, an open area beside our three heritage log cabins showcases flowering tree species. Arboretum signs accompany over 35 species of Carolinian trees and shrubs providing scientific names, unique features, and historical and present day importance to the residents of the Thames River watershed.



