

## NATURE GUIDE – INFORMATION SHEET

<b>Region</b>	Nature Chilliwack
<b>Area</b>	Fraser Valley Regional District
<b>Location Name</b>	City of Chilliwack
<b>Key Photos</b>	Mount Thom Park
<b>Description</b>	
<b>Photo Gallery</b>	A 50 minute hike through a mixed coniferous-deciduous forest with scattered mature Douglas Fir. Take the Lookout Loop Trail for panoramic views over the Fraser Valley and south to Cultus Lake. It is a moderate hike with some steep sections on natural and gravel trails. Good for children. Elevation gain is ~125m.
<b>Geographical Description,</b>	
<b>Area/Trail Length</b>	Mount Thom Park is located on 'Mount Tom' with the view point at 484m elevation. Provincial Topographical Map of Mount Tom - <a href="http://www.canmaps.com/topo/nts50/topomap/092h04.htm">http://www.canmaps.com/topo/nts50/topomap/092h04.htm</a>
<b>Seasons to Visit</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Mount Thom Park is 70ha. in size with approximately 7km of trails in total.</li> <li>2) From the parking lot on Churchill Parkway, the Lookout Loop hike is 2.6km long, taking approximately 1 hour. Elevation gain is ~125m with some moderately steep sections.</li> </ol>
<b>Habitat, Eco system</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3) Year round, visit in dry, sunny weather as steeper sections can be slippery when wet or snow covered and the view is clearer.</li> </ol>
<b>Viewing Highlights</b>	A moist, mixed coniferous-deciduous forest consisting of western red cedar, Douglas fir, Western Hemlock and Big-leaf Maple with scattered mature Red Cedars.
<b>Other Features</b>	In spring/ summer you can bird for woodpeckers, Pacific wren, black-headed grosbeaks, purple finch, thrushes, warblers and other songbirds. Turkey Vultures and Ravens sometimes ride the thermals above Mt. Tom. Great views of the Fraser Valley towards Abbotsford and south to Cultus Lake. In spring watch for Trilliums and Fairy Bell's along the trail.
<b>Main Access</b>	
<b>LAT, LONG</b>	Take the Prest Road exit #123 south to Teskey Way. Turn left on Promontory Road and follow it uphill until it turns into Extrom Road. Follow Extrom Road to Forester Road to Churchill Parkway.
<b>Secondary Accesses</b>	1) Churchill Parkway trailhead 49.102379 121.907097 Trail head is ~2km from Extrom Rd to Churchill Parkway parking.
<b>Cautions</b>	2) Promontory Road to Sylvan Drive - Steeper, longer hike with stairs, elevation gain of 375m.
<b>Jurisdiction</b>	Steep sections can be slippery when wet; avoid the forested trails when windy; watch for stinging nettle and Devil's club. Be aware of wildlife and ticks in spring.
<b>Regulations</b>	City of Chilliwack
<b>Facilities</b>	Leash and clean up after dogs, no fires, no motorized vehicles, closed dusk to dawn.
<b>Other Recreational Activities</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Portable toilet at Churchill Parkway parking entrance, kiosk with map of the various trails in the park.</li> </ol> Bench at Lookout Trail viewpoint as well as on the Ridgeline Trail

	viewpoint.		
<b>Other Connections</b>	2) Runners, plus several designated trails on Mt. Tom for horseback riders, like Karver's Trail.		
<b>History</b>	The trailhead for Elk Mountain is also located in the community of Ryder Lake approximately 20 minutes away as well as other shorter trails in the community of Promontory. City of Chilliwack Trail guide: <a href="https://www.chilliwack.com/main/page.cfm?id=1754&amp;dowhat=typeView&amp;ptID=2">https://www.chilliwack.com/main/page.cfm?id=1754&amp;dowhat=typeView&amp;ptID=2</a>		
<b>For More Info</b>	The park began in 1943 with the purchase of 38 ha from the province and has had several additions since to its present size of 70ha.		
<b>Links</b>	City of Chilliwack, Recreation and Culture, 604-793-2904.		
<b>Describe the type of area where the site is located</b>	Nature Chilliwack - <a href="https://naturechilliwack.ca/">https://naturechilliwack.ca/</a> City of Chilliwack – information and map <a href="https://www.chilliwack.com/main/page.cfm?id=1754&amp;dowhat=locationView&amp;plID=92">https://www.chilliwack.com/main/page.cfm?id=1754&amp;dowhat=locationView&amp;plID=92</a> You tube view from Mount Thom Park - <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8AFTNZC2HkM">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8AFTNZC2HkM</a>		
<b>Should this Nature Site be preserved as a protected site</b>	City of Chilliwack park on Mount Tom situated adjacent to the rural community of Ryder Lake in Chilliwack, BC.		
	Yes/No ; Area is designated as a City of Chilliwack park.		
<b>#1</b>	<b>File #</b>		
<b>#2</b>	n/a	<b>Caption for Photograph</b>	<b>Name of Photographer</b>
<b>#3</b>	n/a	Cultus Lake view	Lee Larkin
	n/a	Fraser Valley view	Lee Larkin