

# NATURE GUIDE – INFORMATION SHEET

## Mount Thom Park

<b>Name of Club submitting this form</b>	Nature Chilliwack
<b>Name of club members completing this form</b>	Lee Larkin, Denis Knopp
<b>Region</b>	Fraser Valley Regional District
<b>Area</b>	City of Chilliwack
<b>Location Name</b>	Mount Thom Park
<b>Key Photos</b>	Cultus Lake view – Lee Larkin – <a href="https://flic.kr/p/2pptho4">https://flic.kr/p/2pptho4</a> Fraser Valley view – Lee Larkin – <a href="https://flic.kr/p/2ppuFkB">https://flic.kr/p/2ppuFkB</a> Lookout Loop Trail – Lee Larkin – <a href="https://flic.kr/p/2ppthoe">https://flic.kr/p/2ppthoe</a>
<b>Description</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 ~125 metres.
<b>Photo Gallery</b>	<a href="https://flic.kr/s/aHBqjB8vfo">https://flic.kr/s/aHBqjB8vfo</a>
<b>Geographical Description</b>	Mount Thom Park is located on 'Mount Tom' with the view point at 484 metres 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>Area/Trail Length</b>	1) Mount Thom Park is 70 ha. in size with approximately 7 km of trails in total. 2) From the parking lot on Churchill Parkway, the Lookout Loop hike is 2.6 km long, taking approximately 1 hour. 3) Elevation gain is ~125 metres with some moderately steep sections.
<b>Seasons to Visit</b>	Year round; visit in dry, sunny weather as steeper sections can be slippery when wet or snow covered and the view is clearer.
<b>Habitat, Eco system</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>Viewing Highlights</b>	In spring and 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 bells along the trail.
<b>Other Features</b>	
<b>Main Access</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>LAT, LONG</b>	1) Churchill Parkway trailhead: 49.102379 -121.907097 2) Trail head is ~2 km from Extrom Rd to Churchill Parkway parking.
<b>Secondary Accesses</b>	Promontory Road to Sylvan Drive – Steeper, longer hike with stairs, elevation gain of 375 metres.
<b>Cautions</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>Jurisdiction</b>	City of Chilliwack
<b>Regulations</b>	Leash and clean up after dogs, no fires, no motorized vehicles, closed dusk to dawn.
<b>Facilities</b>	1) Portable toilet at Churchill Parkway parking entrance, kiosk with map of the various trails in the park. 2) Bench at Lookout Trail viewpoint as well as on the Ridgeline Trail viewpoint.

<b>Other Recreational Activities</b>	Runners, plus several designated trails on Mt. Tom for horseback riders, like Karver's Trail.		
<b>Other Connections</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>History</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 70 ha.		
<b>For More Info</b>	City of Chilliwack, Recreation and Culture, 604-793-2904.		
<b>Links</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> YouTube view from Mount Thom Park - <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8AFTNZC2HkM">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8AFTNZC2HkM</a>		
<b>Describe the type of area where the site is located</b>	City of Chilliwack Park on Mount Tom situated adjacent to the rural community of Ryder Lake in Chilliwack, BC.		
<b>Should this Nature Site be preserved as a protected site</b>	Yes - Area is designated as a City of Chilliwack Park.		
	<b>File #</b>	<b>Caption for Photograph</b>	<b>Name of Photographer</b>
#1	n/a	Cultus Lake view	Lee Larkin
#2	n/a	Fraser Valley view	Lee Larkin
#3	n/a	Lookout Loop Trail	Lee Larkin