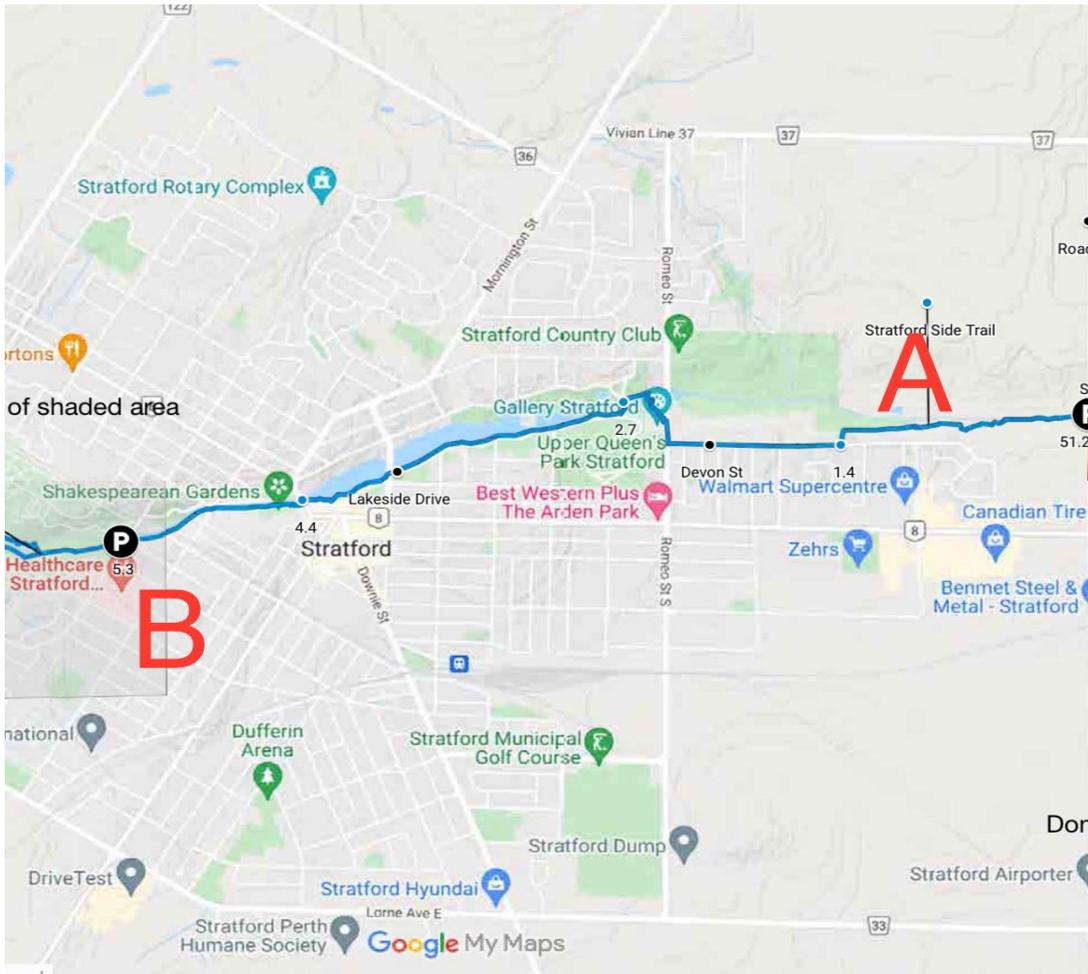


June 3, 2024
City of Stratford

AVON TRAIL BLAZING PLAN

The Avon Trail Stratford Side Trail runs from the Devon Street playground by the Avon River north of Devon Street, through Stratford and into TJ Dolan Natural Area. With the addition of the new sign in Upper Queen’s Park devised by ATAC and the sign’s description of Avon Trail directional blazing, actual blazing is required.

In TJ Dolan, blue side trail blazing was supervised by Quin Mallott in 2021. This was on city installed posts. There are no blazes of any kind between the Devon Street playground and TJ Dolan at this time. The following map shows the route of the side trail in blue. Blazes are needed between “A” and “B.”



All blazing will be done by trained and experienced Avon Trail volunteer members with a template and high-quality paint. Blazes will be kept to the minimum number required for walkers to follow the trail. Blazes will be on both sides of the post or tree selected to provide guidance to walkers going in **either direction**. Numbers in the description below are estimates reached by the blazing team.

All blazes will be painted blue and be 5.08 cm x 15.24 cm (2 inch x 6 inch) This is a standard size blaze on trails throughout Ontario and the USA.

Mockup of blue Stratford Side Trail blaze on concrete post. Approximately 1.6 metres (5.5 feet) off the ground.



BLAZING LOCATIONS THROUGH THE CITY:

Off-road north of Devon Street

Blazes to commence at Devon Playground (43°22'33"N 80°56'38"W) by the Avon River and lead westwards along the existing riverside trail for about 600 metres. The Avon Trail joins Devon Street on the grassy gap between 274 and 288 Devon Street.

Blazes to be on approximately 12 trees.

Blazing along sidewalks between 274 Devon Street and the train trestle bridge (south)

Blazes to commence on existing city concrete light standards leading westwards from 274 Devon Street. Blazes to continue south on Romeo Street and cross Romeo at the crosswalk and enter Upper Queens Park. On Devon Street 6 posts will be used; on Romeo 2 posts. Between Romeo and the train trestle bridge 2 trees will be used.

Blazing from north side of train trestle bridge and William Hutt Bridge

Blazes to commence on 1 tree on grass leading westwards to Lakeside Drive North and on existing concrete posts on Lakeside Bridge and westwards along Lakeside Drive. Blazes to use 6 posts.

Blazing from William Hutt Bridge to John Street and the TJ Dolan entrance

Blazes to continue on Lakeside Drive and leave it to follow the lake shore. Continuing west and after the tourist office, blazing will lead under the Huron Street Bridge and through the Shakespearean Gardens and follow the river to the TJ Dolan entrance on John Street.

Blazes to use 7 concrete posts and possibly one tree.

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