



Walks and hikes around Peachland



Photo by Ken Carpenter

View from Pincushion Mountain high above Peachland

Nestled in the elbow of Lake Okanagan and surrounded on three sides by valleys and mountains, Peachland offers an exciting variety of walking and hiking trails.

From the popular beach front and heritage walks on level pavement to the rugged steeper trails of the hillsides, degrees of difficulty will suit both casual walker and avid hiker.

The purpose of this booklet is to encourage both tourist and local to explore on foot our unique Okanagan environment and to discover what makes Peachland so special.

"Walk and be happy; walk and be healthy -- the best way to lengthen out our days is to walk steadily and with a purpose." -- Charles Dickens

"Nature is man's teacher. She unfolds her treasures to his search, unseals his eye, illumines his mind, and purifies his heart; an influence breathes from all the sights and sounds of her existence," -- Alfred Street

Trail Rating Guidelines

The following two-part rating system was designed by the Canadian division of the *International Volkssport Federation* (IVV) to give walkers an estimation of the difficulty of a trail. The first part uses a number to refer to the difficulty of the incline while the second part uses a letter to refer to the nature of the terrain.

Part 1 – INCLINE

1. very little hill or stair climbing
2. some moderate hill or stair climbing
3. some significant hill or stair climbing
4. a good deal of significant hill or stair climbing
5. many steep hills or high altitude trails

Part 2 – TERRAIN

- A. almost entirely on pavement, probably suitable for baby stroller
- B. a significant part of the walk takes place on well-groomed trails with very little more difficult terrain
- C. a significant part of the walk takes place on somewhat difficult terrain (rocky/rooted paths)
- D. a significant part of the walk takes place on very difficult terrain
- E. The majority of the walk takes place on very difficult terrain

Extreme weather conditions could also raise the difficulty of the routes, thus walkers should take caution under certain weather conditions.

NOTE: The Canadian IVV is in no way connected to the actual ratings applied to the trails of Peachland.

Disclaimer of Liability: It is understood that anyone walking the trails of Peachland does so at their own risk and that the District of Peachland, Parks Committee and the Volkssport Club are in no way responsible for the conditions of the trails and their upkeep nor can they be held responsible for any lost or stolen items, accidents or injuries at any time.

A list of Walks & Hikes

(For details see instructions and map)

Peachland: For further details contact the Visitor Information Centre, Peachland Chamber of Commerce, 5812 Beach Avenue, (Phone 250-767-2455)

Note: Trail markings are in the shape of a peach.



Trails (🍑 Marked)

Rating Approx. Dist.

1. Beach Avenue Walk	1A	8 kms
2. Hardy Falls Walk	1A	1 km
3. Peachland Heritage Walk	1A	5 kms
4. Stave Pipe Walk (orange 🍑)	3B	2.5 or 4 kms
5. Trepanier Forest Walk (yellow 🍑)	3B	5 kms
6. Pincushion Mountain Hike (red 🍑)	4C	5 kms



Climbing the
Stave Pipe Trail



Walking the Trepanier
Forest Trail



Peachland from a rest stop



Panoramic view of Lake Okanagan from the top of Pincushion -- elevation 815m
Peachland down below

Photos: Christopher Byrd

Beach Avenue Lakeside Walk

Difficulty rating: 1A

Distance: 8 kms

The Peachland waterfront trail is probably the most used of all Peachland trails. Every morning you'll find regular power walkers, joggers, and inline skaters plying their way along. In the summer, the beaches are packed with picnickers and swimmers. You'll find the changing moods of the Lake's picturesque vista absolutely inspiring.

From the Information Centre at the Chamber of Commerce building turn right along Beach Avenue and walk south until you are opposite the Pentowna Marina and directly in front of the painted mural depicting a montage of Peachland's history. If you are interested in the details of this area turn to the **points of interest** pages of the **Heritage Walk** insert.

You will now travel north along the waterfront to the furthest point of Beach Avenue. Cross the road at the nearest crossing into Heritage Park and follow the shoreline north. You'll pass into Centennial Park where the cenotaph is and then into the recreational area of Swim Bay. Although there is usually ample room on the right hand side of the road without having to walk on the grass be aware of the traffic behind you especially if there are lots of parked cars.

Walk at a leisurely pace and enjoy the surroundings. At Trepanier Creek bridge pause to look for Kokanee the Okanagan's landlocked salmon. In the Fall they will be swimming under the bridge to make their way up the creek. The beaches between the bridge and the end of Beach Avenue have been preserved as a recreational and wilderness area of Trepanier Bay.

When you reach Buchanan Road at the end of Beach Avenue, retrace your steps. You may wish to walk on the right hand sidewalk once you're past the bridge or you can remain on the lake side of the road. Your choice. By the time you return to the Information Centre you'll have walked 8 kms.

Hardy Falls Walk

Difficulty rating: 1A

Distance: 1 km

This is a very pleasant groomed and meandering walk into the canyon of Deep Creek in Peachland South. It starts at the end of Hardy Road, opposite Antler's Beach.

The walk crosses several bridges and follows the wooden riffles that provide spawning areas for the Kokanee as they travel up the creek in the fall. Listen to the melodious sound of the trickling water.

The path winds its way through a mix of deciduous and conifer trees that provide shade and nesting areas for a variety of birds.

In September thousands of Kokanee salmon jump the riffles to spawn and die in the higher reaches of the creek. You will also see them vainly attempting to jump the falls themselves.



Photo: Christopher Byrd

Hardy Falls



Peachland Heritage Walk

(A collaboration of The Peachland Historical Society and
The Peachland Volkssport Club)

Difficulty rating: 1A

Distance: 5 kms

Directions (For *Points of Interest* see next page)

Leaving the Visitor Information Centre at the Peachland Chamber of Commerce, 5812 Beach Avenue, turn right along Beach Avenue. At the **Edgewater Hotel** on the corner of Beach Avenue and 2nd Street, walk into the hotel's lobby and take a look at the photos with their captions depicting Peachland's past history.

From the hotel cross Beach Avenue using the crosswalk. **The Cenotaph** (Point of Interest 1) is straight ahead.

Take the path from the Cenotaph that continues south (left) along Beach Ave. Follow this path as it turns left, down toward the water then right, curving around the docks and right again, up the steps into **Heritage Park** (Point of Interest 2).

Stay on the path as it winds around by the water and back to Beach Ave. Turn left at Beach Ave. (stay on the left-hand side of the road) and continue to the Pentowna Marina. Opposite on your right, looking up, is **The Bump** (Point of Interest 3).

Cross Beach Ave. and turn right. As you proceed back along Beach you will pass on your left; **The Mural** (Point of Interest 4), the **Peachland Museum** (Point of Interest 5), **Lakeside Auto & Gas** (Point of Interest 6) now a coffee shop at the corner of 1st, **Sunnyside Market** (Point of Interest 7) and the **Peachland General Store** (Point of Interest 8) now Frank's Chinese Laundry.

Turn left at 4th St. On your left, up ahead, is the **Peachland United Church** (Point of Interest 9).

Turn right at Brandon Lane. The small white building up ahead on your left is the **Old School House** (Point of Interest 10).

Turn right at the lane across from the school house, then left at the T-junction. Follow the lane through 5th St to 6th St and turn right.

Turn left on Beach Ave. On your left is the original **Peachland Primary School** (Point of Interest 11) then **Cousins Park** (Point of Interest 12).

Continue on Beach Ave. to just before the bridge over **Trepanier Creek** (Point of Interest 13). Turn left into Trepanier Linear Park and take a moment to view the environmental display at the kiosk.

Follow the path up. Before reaching the tunnel under Highway 97 turn left into Lambley Park via **Harolds Walk** (Point of Interest 14).

Follow the walk past the tennis courts over to 13th St. and continue down to Beach Ave. Turn right on Beach Ave. and follow it all the way back to the Chamber of Commerce, your starting point. Along the way you will notice directly across from downtown Peachland, **The Island** (Point of Interest 15).

Points of Interest

1 The Cenotaph: Peachland has the solemn distinction of having lost the largest number of men per capita of any municipality in Canada during WW1. This granite obelisk was erected to honor those fallen citizens and now lists those who died in the Second World War and the Korean War as well.

2 Heritage Park: The downtown was a working waterfront from Peachland's earliest years. Heritage Park is on the site of what was once Walters Limited Packinghouse and before that a fruit and vegetable cannery. Severe winter frosts in the early 50s caused a sharp decline in the soft fruit industry so the Packinghouse closed its doors in 1955. The building remained idle for several years while politicians debated the merits of "this or that use for it" but in 1979 the building mysteriously caught fire and burned to the ground. Many prominent citizens volunteered that they had struck the igniting match but none could be singled out to receive the medal of heroism they deserved for getting rid of what was by then an "old eyesore".



Walter's Ltd. Packinghouse

3 The Bumps: Before the modern highway was constructed in Peachland, long fingers of rock went straight out into the lake and the road went up and over them, hence the term "Bumps". There were 5 bumps located between Peachland village and Deep Creek. The bedrock was blasted out in 1937 and it caused a bit of excitement because during the explosion, two boulders crashed through the roof of the Packinghouse. Luckily the packers were busy loading a railway car with fruit and no one was injured.

4 Mural: Painted by local artist Robyn Lake and sponsored by the Peachland Rotary Club, this mural depicts the past and the present. Drawn from original photographs it includes: a native fishing at Hardy Falls; the Lambley House, which was one of the first houses built in Peachland; the downtown waterfront both at the turn of the century and today.

5 Peachland Museum: Built in 1910 as the Peachland Baptist Church, this unique 8-sided building was constructed by volunteers from the church congregation. It was purchased by the government in 1960 and in 1980 the Peachland Historical Society was granted use of the building to establish a Peachland Museum. If it is open be sure to drop in.



Old Baptist Church (1910)
The Peachland Museum

6 Lakeside Auto & Gas (now a coffee shop): The only known art deco style service station in the Okanagan was built by Tom Redstone in 1946.

7 Sunnyside Market: This building was constructed in about 1910. The main floor of the original Morin & Thompson store not only had groceries but dry goods as well and a wide stairway going up from the dry goods section led to the furniture dept on the upper floor.

8 Peachland General Store (Frank's Chinese Laundry): James Clements constructed this store in 1909 shortly after his arrival in Peachland, because he had ascertained that the little community needed another general store. His wife Mary

baked up to 300 loaves of bread per week, which were snatched up by people coming to town to pick up their mail. The store was sold many times and operated as a general store until the mid 1980's when it was renovated into a restaurant known as The Chinese Laundry.

9 Peachland United Church: This building was constructed in 1911 as a Methodist Church. It was the first church in Peachland to have a bell tower and the T. Eaton Co. donated the bell. The building has been in continuous service as a church since it was constructed and the bell is still rung every Sunday.

10 Old School House: This was a one-room school constructed in 1898 as the first permanent school for the young community. In 1908 when Peachland Primary was built, until 1990, this building served the Anglican congregation as St. Margaret's Anglican Church. The building languished for the next 10 years but recently a group known as the Friends of the Little Schoolhouse have worked with great energy and enthusiasm to restore it.



The Little Schoolhouse on Brandon Lane (1898)

11 Peachland Primary School: Constructed by the citizens of Peachland in 1908, it was home to children in grades 1 – 12 until 1949 when it became Peachland Elementary, and later Peachland Primary. Gracing our waterfront its windows look out on the beaches and playing fields where many generations of Peachland "kids" have skinned knees, bruised elbows and learned to swim.

12 Cousins Park: This park has been a focal point of sports activity near the lake since the early days of the community. Originally a gravel field it was used by the entire community to play baseball, track & field and other sporting events. A local family, the Cousins had 9 sons who loved baseball so much that a family team was formed. They played quite successfully throughout the Okanagan. The community honored the family by naming the park after the "nine Brothers who were also Cousins."

13 Trepanier Creek: The Trepanier Creek Linear Park, currently under construction will ascend from Okanagan Lake to the Okanagan Connector 4.7 Km away. One km. upstream from the lake one finds a rugged gorge with the remnants of the old Peachland Dam Site. This dam provided the water supply that drove the Pelton Wheel, which in turn produced Peachland's hydroelectric needs from 1909 to 1947. The remains of the original wood stave pipe that served as the water conduit can still be seen.

14 Harold's Walk through Lambley Park: Harold was Harold Thwaite a long serving reeve, councillor, and mayor. The walk was completed by the Lion's Club in 2002 in memory of his contribution to the Peachland community.

15 The Island: Directly across the lake from Peachland, it is the largest island in Okanagan Lake. The pioneers and old-timers simply called it "The Island" but it is now more commonly known as **Rattlesnake Island** (I wonder why!!) A narrow channel separates the island from the mainland and many boaters delight in exploring this channel where the water is a deep royal blue and a feeling of mystery exists. Close to the island in one of the underwater caves is said to lie the lair of Okanagan's legendary monster Ogopogo.

Pincushion & Trepanier Trails

Stave Pipe Trail # 1 (Orange Peach #1 trail marker)

Difficulty rating: 3B

Distance: Approx. 2.5 kms (or loop 4 kms)

The Stave Pipe Trail links lower Peachland with the Ponderosa subdivision, the upper Trepanier Creek area, and the highest wilderness point of Pincushion Mountain.

The trail starts outside the south east corner of the Peachland Elementary School property and follows the left side of the fence to the end of the schoolyard. About 70 meters past the fence the trail turns left. Follow the orange peach #1 trail markers up the moderately steep slope.



Photo: Ernie Hurd

Remains of the old stave pipe still exist

The first point of interest along the way is the remains of Peachland's early settling reservoir (elevation 415 metres). The purpose of this reservoir was to help remove some of the floating particulate in the potable water supply from Trepanier Creek, especially during freshet.

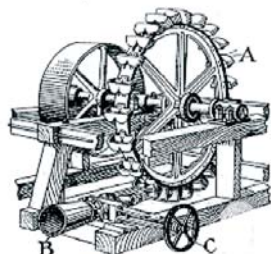
Peachland's first hydro electrical plant became part of the same system when a grant was received from the BC government in 1909/1910.

Gravity feed carried water down via a stave pipe conduit from the dam constructed in the gorge at Trepanier Falls to a Pelton Wheel turbine. The turbine was inclosed in a power house at the lower creek level. The 10" diameter pipe consisted of long wooden staves bound by a coil of steel. In places the stave pipe supported by trestles clung to the canyon walls high above the creek. Remains of the original pipe may be seen today if you look for them. The ruins of the power house still exist on private land below.

The **Pelton Wheel** is named after its inventor Lester Pelton born 1829 in Ohio. The principles of a pelton wheel require at least a 20 metre drop to create sufficient head (pressure) from a small volume and steady flow of water. This means that the drop from the dam above to this power house is at least 20 metres or about 65 feet.

One story goes that Pelton supposedly discovered his wheel "by noticing how water splashed out of the nostrils of a cow as it drank from a stream." (http://www.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pelton_wheel). More

probable is that "Pelton's invention started from an accidental observation, some time in the 1870s. Pelton was watching a spinning water turbine when the key holding its



Pelton Wheel

Fig. 1

wheel onto its shaft slipped, causing it to become misaligned. Instead of the jet hitting the cups in their middle, the slippage made it hit near the edge (Fig. 2); rather than the water flow being stopped, it was now deflected into a half-circle, coming out again with reversed direction. Surprisingly, the turbine now moved faster." (Dr. David P. Stern — <http://www-istp.gsfc.nasa.gov/stargaze/Spelton.htm>) Note that the buckets of the pelton wheel (Figs. 1 and 3) have double cups.

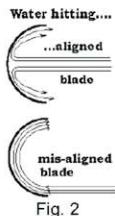


Fig. 2

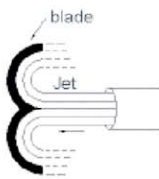


Fig. 3

This basic hydro system was in operation in Peachland from 1909 until 1947.

Further along you will come to the first turnoff leading to **Canyon Lookout**. The trail (about 50m) leads close to the edge of the canyon walls. Stick to the trail and at the end stay well clear of the canyon's edge. Only experts can truly estimate how long it took for the creek to wear the rock down to its present level but you may guess.

Return to the main trail and climb to the next turnoff leading (about 75m) to **Falls Lookout** (elev. 453 metres). Here you will clearly see the dam that was built around the falls. Depending on the time of year the flow of water over the falls will vary from a trickle through a side flue to a raging torrent over the dam itself. The cliffs around here are dangerous so again stay well clear of the edge.

Return to the main trail. As you climb upwards you will notice large rock piles on the slopes. This may well be glacial till or a *lateral moraine*, a ridge-shaped deposit composed of rock gouged out of the valley walls by a moving glacier.

Continue climbing up the last slope of the main trail to **Hermit's Crossing** (elevation 509 metres) noted for a small lean-to shelter built of dead branches at the base of some trees. Here Trail 1 (orange) meets Trail 2 (yellow). You have climbed approximately 187 metres or 615 feet.

You have the option of returning down the way you came for a walk of about 2.5 kilometers. Alternatively you may like to follow Trail 2 to the left out into Pincushion Place and Sixth Avenue which joins Ponderosa Drive. The winding walk down Ponderosa to Highway 97 and then left to Peachland Shopping Centre is 2.7 kilometers for a total of about 4 kilometers. Be sure to stay well to the side of Ponderosa and Highway 97. The trail on Highway 97, a busy thoroughfare, is .5K to the Shopping Centre.

Trepanier Forest # 2 Trail (Yellow Peach #2 trail marker)

Difficulty rating: 3B

Distance: 5 Kms Trails 1 & 2 : 7.5 Kms

The starting point for the *Trepanier Forest # 2 Trail* walk is at the trail head on Pincushion Place off 6th Avenue and Ponderosa Drive. There is parking for your car. An alternative is to walk up Trail 1, *The Stave Pipe Trail* (see map and instructions) to join Trail 2 at *Hermit's Corner*.

Assuming you start at the *Pincushion Place* trail head, walk into the park about 1/2 K until you reach *Hermit's Corner* where the trail meets Trail 1 on the right. Carry straight on following the yellow peach markers into the woods. These are lovely pine woods. Notice that despite summer dryness there is moss and lichen on the trees because of the elevation and moist winter air. Be sure to enjoy the spring and summer wildflowers

The trail parallels Trepanier Creek at a higher elevation until it meets a forest service road making its way down to the river.

Turn left following the yellow markers at the forest road and climb up the road (a steady 15 minute climb) until at the crest you meet the *Pincushion Mountain # 3 Trail* turnoff on the right. Follow the yellow markers straight on down the road until you exit through the gate onto the paved road at the top of Ponderosa Drive.

Follow Ponderosa Drive around the golf course down to 6th Avenue and turn left to return to your car at Pincushion Place or to carry on to *Hermit's Corner* and proceed down Trail 1 (orange markers) to Peachland Shopping Centre.

Pincushion Mountain # 3 Trail (Red Peach #3 trail marker)

Difficulty rating: 4C

Distance: 5 Kms Trails 2 & 3: 7.25 Kms / 1, 2 & 3 : 10 Kms

It is said by local old-timers that you cannot call yourself a true Peachlander unless you have climbed Pincushion Mountain. Whether this applies to visitors from elsewhere is a mute point. Perhaps visitors who accomplish the climb can be considered honorary citizens deserving to be handed the key to the town.



Photo: Ken Carpenter

Climbing to the top of
Pincushion Mountain

The *Pincushion Mountain # 3 Trail* is more demanding than the others, suitable for walkers who do not suffer breathing problems from short spells of exertion. A walking stick is advisable. There are some steep sections and footing can be slippery especially on the way down due to loose gravel. Hiking boots are preferable but walking shoes with good soles will also do. Be sure to take water with you. The climb takes about 1 hour from the trail head with some good rest stops on the way.

There are 3 options to the climb. One option is to park the car just before the private road that extends beyond the end of Ponderosa Drive. The main starting point is a short walk up the private road to a forest road access gate near the top on the right. This option is the shortest route at about 3.5 kms and will take around 1 ¾ hours.

The next alternative is to do the *Trepanier Forest # 2 Trail* walk from Pincushion Place (see instructions), add the Pincushion walk where the trail meets and then to walk down to the car at 6th Avenue. This adds 4.5 kms and about one hour to the hike. The final option is do trails 1,2, and 3 (see Trail 1 instructions) for a total of 10 kms and about 3 hours.

The trail climbs the ridge along a series of terraces to the peak. Follow the red # 3 markers on a steady climb before a turnoff left up a short but steep section of trail. There are several rest stops and views en route, with a particularly nice one from a log which provides ample seating for weary climbers.



Photo: Ken Carpenter

Look carefully and you may still see the charred signs of fires that gave Pincushion its name prior to 1890. Sweeping across the tops of trees the fires left only the bare trunks standing. From below they looked like pins. To the early pioneers the rocky knob was a pincushion. In 1967, as a tribute to Canada's centennial year, a local boy scout troop set a bonfire at the peak that could be seen for miles.

A log proves handy at a rest stop viewpoint

Follow the red markers carefully. There are many animal trails that can lead you astray. This is one of those trails where the next peak is surely the last. Don't worry you'll get there after one or two ups and downs.

At the peak (elevation 815m) the view is magnificent with a panoramic sweep of the lake from Kelowna Mission, Okanagan Mountain Park opposite, down to Naramata/Penticton. The golf course and Beach Avenue waterfront are way down below.

Time to take photos, have a snack, and stroll down to the Canadian flag (below to the right) for yet another photo. The original flag was planted in a cairn by local resident Murray Byrnes in 1996. You can reach the flag by either taking a steep rather slippery path down to the right or retreating back off the rock the way you came and following a more moderate path to the right that takes you in front and below the rock peak over to the flag.

Return the way you came. Again follow the red markers carefully; it is easier to lose track of the path going downhill. When you get back to the junction with the Trepanier Forest # 2 trail you will follow the yellow markers on Trail 2/3 to the right and travel back to where you started. This will be either the trail head gate if you parked your car there or the other starting points according to the Trail 1 and/or 2 instructions. Bon voyage!

Guidelines for the safety and well being of all walkers

1. Wear appropriate clothing and footwear for the conditions. Hiking boots prevent ankle and knee injuries. In hot weather wear a hat. Remember the weather is cooler at higher altitudes.
2. Take plenty of water with you.
3. The arid Okanagan environment creates a serious fire hazard in hot weather. Avoid campfires. Smokers, if they must smoke, are asked to be extra careful.
4. Stay clear of cliffs and other hazards.
5. Keep your pets leashed at all times to avoid disturbing wildlife. In town pick up after your pet.
6. Carry out what you carry in. Respect the environment.
7. Respect private property. Do not trespass when asked not to.
8. Don't pick wildflowers. Let nature flourish.
9. Give bears and other wild animals a wide berth.
10. In town, obey all traffic regulations and signs.

If you enjoy the pleasures of walking,
consider joining

The Peachland Volkssport Club

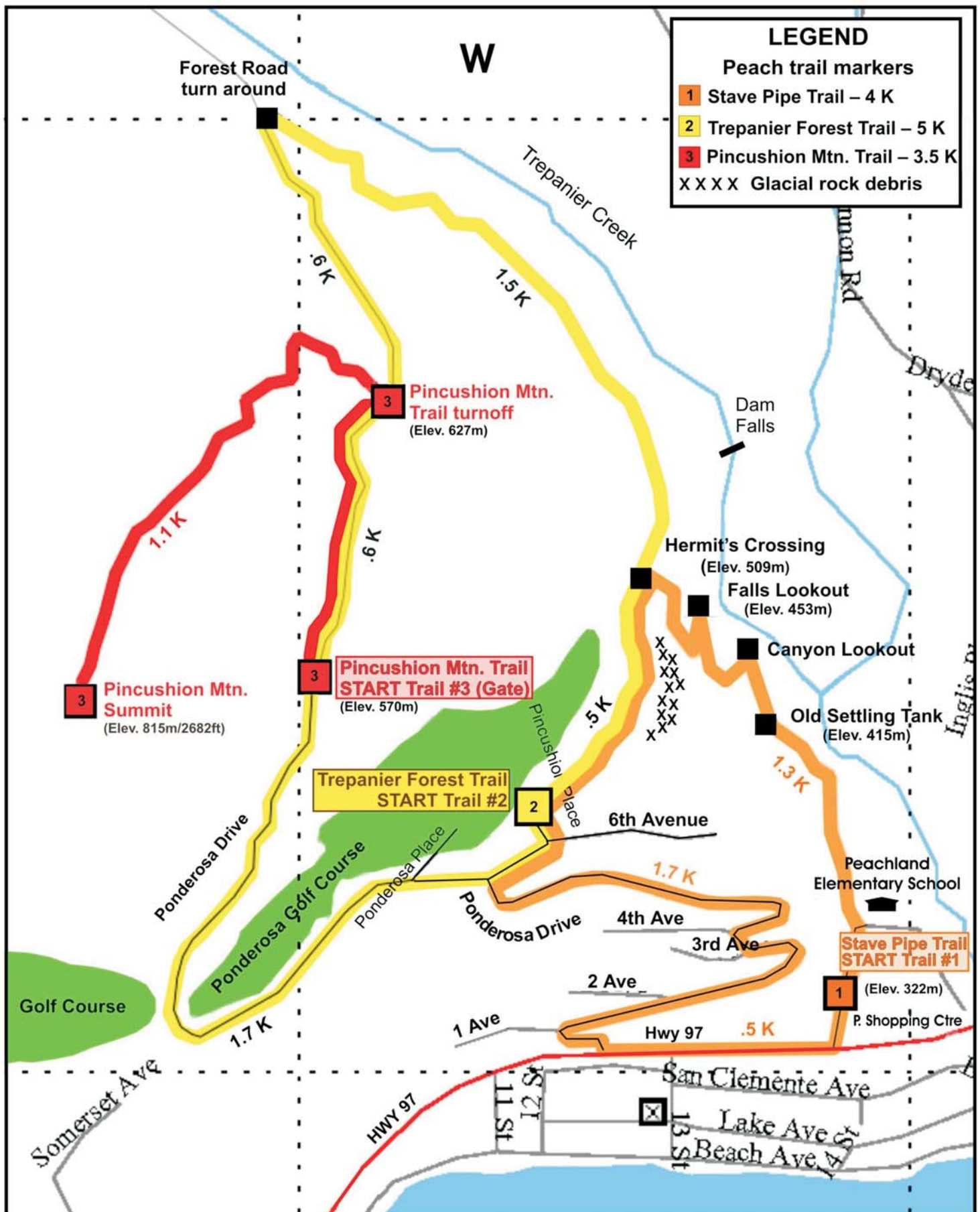
Find out more about our summer
and winter walks and hikes

Contact on the web:

www.peachlandvolkssport.ca/

Or write:

**The Peachland Volkssport Club, PO Box 1163
Peachland, BC, V0H 1X0**



Pincushion & Trepanier Trails– Peachland BC