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# FESTIVAL AT THE FORT

## Take a journey back in time!

**SPRINGWATER TOWNSHIP / August 22, 2011** – On Saturday September 17, come



*The **Festival at the Fort** highlights life as a British soldier in 1812 in a camp setting similar to life two centuries ago. Visitors can enjoy the various re-enactors as they demonstrate their daily tasks including blacksmithing, candle making and musket ball making.*

out to the **Festival at the Fort** to witness and be a part of life as it was during the early 19th century, with activities and demonstrations for all ages!

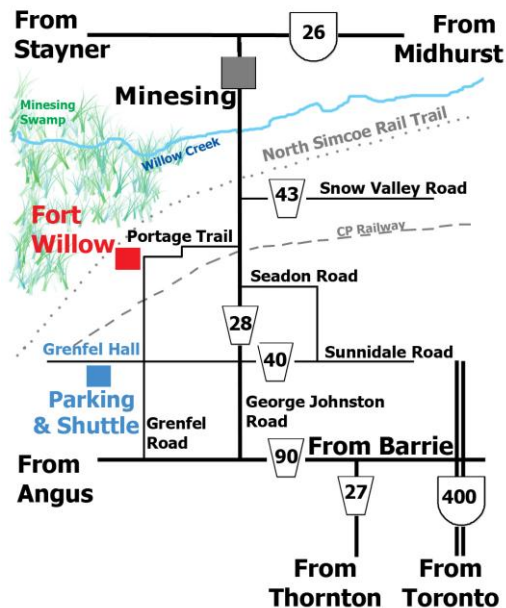
Come experience encampment life during 1812 in one of Central Ontario's most historic sites. Fort Willow was developed as a half way point between Kempenfelt Bay and the Nottawasaga River enabling a continuous trade and transportation route from Lake Ontario through to Georgian Bay. During the War of 1812, the British military utilized this portage route for the transport of supplies and personnel as the lower lakes were occupied by the Americans. During the Festival, you can attend this historic British supply depot in Springwater Township and take a journey back in time!

“We’re really excited about the first annual **Festival at the Fort**,” said Springwater’s Special Events Coordinator, Julie Ann Columbus. “We’ve got a great setting for this amazing event. With plenty of activities and lots of interactive displays, this is a great day out for families and people of all ages!”

Springwater Council is also looking forward to the first **Festival at the Fort**.

“This is a great event that brings so many people to our area,” said Mayor Linda Collins. “It’s a fun way to share the history and heritage of our region with the whole family.”

Admission is free and visitors can enjoy the various re-enactors as they demonstrate their daily tasks including blacksmithing, candle making and musket ball making. There is a surgeon, magician, traveling minister, musicians and a seamstress. The Fort is brought to life with re-enactors performing various tasks and interacting with festival visitors. The ***Festival at the Fort*** is a great venue for families with interactive stations, children's entertainment and hands-on historical displays.



Visitors are reminded that there is no parking available at Fort Willow. There will be free parking and a free shuttle at the Grenfel Community Hall located at 1989 Sunnidle Road. The shuttle will run from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm on September 17.

The Township of Springwater, Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority and Friends of Fort Willow have developed this event to celebrate the significance of historic Fort Willow and the history of Canada. The ***Festival at the Fort*** was previously known as the Nine Mile Portage Heritage Festival.

Springwater is a municipality of approximately 18,000 residents located in the heart of Simcoe County. Springwater Township is home to the second largest concentration of County Forests and is a popular destination for outdoor activities in all four seasons.

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#### Contact Information:

Jennett Mays  
 Communications Coordinator  
 Tel. 705-728-4784 Ext. 2067  
 Email: [jennett.mays@springwater.ca](mailto:jennett.mays@springwater.ca).

Julie Ann Columbus  
 Recreation & Special Events Coordinator  
 Tel. 705-728-4784 Ext. 2054  
 Email: [julieann.columbus@springwater.ca](mailto:julieann.columbus@springwater.ca)