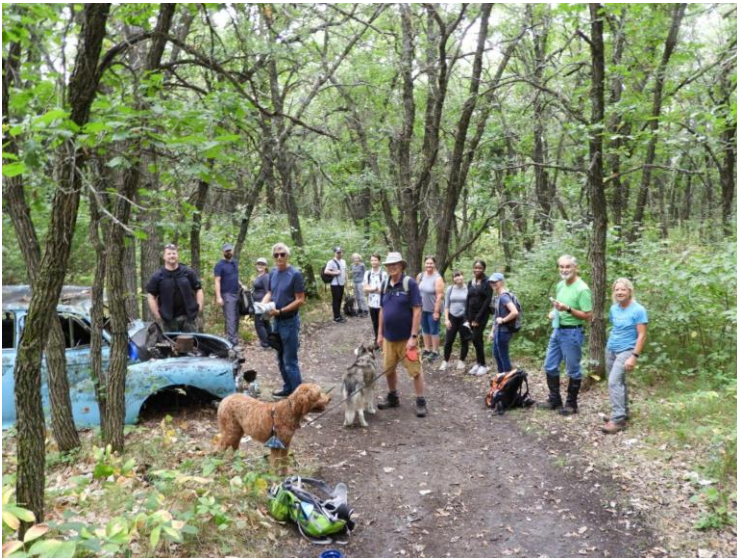


## The Spine - Brandon Hills hike August 26, 2023

17 of us arrived at the southeast trailhead for the 10am start of the hike, 15 two-legged and two four-legged participants. It was a pleasant 18° C with mostly overcast skies, perfect weather for hiking.

James, Olwen, Matt, Ariane, Courlyn, Lacy, Ben, Rick, Agnes, Phil, Steffany, Temi, Tori, Dennis, Di, Spirit and Carson headed off up Easy Up Trail. I decided to skip the side trip to "Death Valley" to try and keep the hike under the 10 km distance. Soon we were checking out the variety of poison ivy along the side of Lucky 3 Trail. This portion of the trail gave us a view of the South Spine to the east of us. Lucky 3 morphed into Lucky 2 Trail and we headed west and were soon at the Old Blue Car for a refreshment break.



I was told there was a mechanic amongst our group, but he didn't seem to have much hope of getting the car running.

After a short break we headed back west down Paul's Trail to North and South Trail. We chose to go north and we were soon at the junction of Dead Coyote and the Grand Downhill Trails. Because the Grand Downhill Trail is closed to general traffic and bikers it was fairly overgrown with weeds, some of which may have been poison ivy ... I will know for sure in a couple of days. We headed east from the end of this trail and we were soon making the climb up onto the North Spine and on for a short distance to our favourite snack break spot overlooking the farmland to the east and Brandon Hills to the west.



After replacing some of the calories we had burned we headed south to summit the South Spine. Then it was all downhill from here for the last kilometer back to the trailhead where we had parked.

James

2023-08-26 12:57:02

Summary	Time	Speed	Elevation
Points: 915	Elapsed Time: 3:03:14	Avg: 3.09 km/h	Min: 400 m Ascent: 857 m
Distance: 9.4 km	Moving Time: 2:23:50	Avg Moving: 3.9 km/h	Max: 501 m Descent: 838 m
Area: 2.1 sq km	Stopped Time: 0:39:28	Min: 0 km/h	Grade: 0.2 %
		Max: 6 km/h	

[Click here for some additional photos.](#)