

NATURE NEWS

From Nature Calgary

www.naturecalgary.com



President: John McFaul
403-289-9517
email: president*@naturecalgary.com

VOLUNTEER

Volunteer*@naturecalgary.com
for general inquiries, or contact
Melanie Senevieratne
(melaniesene*@gmail.com or 403-
815-1275) for specific events.

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To suggest a location or lead a trip
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new trips and updates. 

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GET IN TOUCH

Nature News is published 8 times per
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Next deadline: Oct 1, 2018

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Nature Calgary, Box 981 Stn. M
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Speaker Series

Wed Sep 19: Adventures with the earliest amphibious arthropods - human history and ancient ecology. The earliest evidence of animals leaving the water to move about on land comes from fossilized arthropod trackways in the Cambrian of eastern North America. Such trackways were first recognized and collected in the late 1840s at Beauharnois, near Montreal. The collected trackways made their way to the United Kingdom, to be described by Sir Richard Owen, the anatomist best remembered today for coining the term “dinosaur”. Owen provided detailed, well-illustrated descriptions, and gave the trackways a Linnean name: Protichnites. After that promising start, a complicated history followed, including the loss and eventual rediscovery of the Beauharnois specimens. This talk will trace that history, review some recent work on the earliest landward excursions of animals, and discuss the challenges of studying and classifying the footprints that those creatures left behind.

Robert MacNaughton is a Research Scientist in the Calgary office of the Geological Survey of Canada (GSC). His research focuses on the tectonics, paleontology, and stratigraphic evolution of northwestern mainland Canada. Since his undergraduate days, he has been fascinated by ichnology—the study of fossilized animal behaviour. He has been fortunate to indulge this fascination through studies of the Cambrian “explosion”, early life in the deep seas, and the earliest history of animals on dry land.

Nature Calgary's monthly meetings are held at 7:30pm the 3rd Wednesday of the month at a new location:

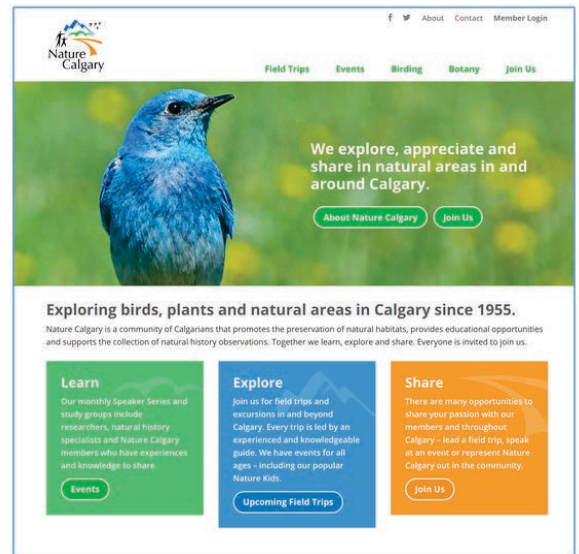
Cité des Rocheuses, 4800 Richard Rd SW.
Free for members, \$5 for non-members.

View map | www.citedesrocheuses.com

Issues, Events & Updates

Nature Calgary's Annual Bus Trip to Bow and Peyto Lakes was a huge success! Despite rain in Calgary, the weather held up and everyone had a good time. We had many plant and bird experts on the trip. Thanks to Karel Bergman and John McFaul for plant identification, as well as Kate Reeves, Pam Hardy and Gail Linden for helping to hand out snacks. Highlights of the trip include seeing a huge black bear chewing dandelions at the side of the highway, elk, fox sparrow, common loons and a northern waterthrush sighting.

Naturecalgary.com gets a facelift! We are excited to have a launched an updated website this past summer. Besides a fresh new look, the site is now easily accessible from your smartphone. Big thanks to our webmaster, Jeff Wiehler, for doing such a great job!



Nature Calgary's updated homepage - head on over and take a look!

Nature Calgary's Annual Fall Banquet: 2018 Edition
Musical performance by The Wardens
 Saturday, November 10th | Cocktails 6:00pm | Dinner 7:00pm



The Wardens are a Banff National Park-based trio who sing about experiences as park wardens and the land they've protected for a collective 60+ years. They will also present a slide show.

\$55.00 for members
\$65.00 for non-members

Irish Cultural Society - 6452-35 Ave NW

Pay by cheque: Box 981, Station M, Calgary, Alberta T2P 2K4 indicating meal preference (beef or vegetarian)

Pay online: naturecalgary.com/events/banquet
 (Tickets available until November 8th)

For further information call Penny Smith at 403-807-8137.



Rare Bird Alert:

report rare bird sightings to Bird Alert Compiler, Terry Korolyk at 403-300-1067
 For latest sightings check: [Albertabird](#) or [BirdTrax](#)



Bird Study Group

Wed Sep 5: Battles & Bliss: Local Birding Tales - A Photographic Adventure

Avid nature lovers and photographers Marcy and Ray Stader discovered their love for birding through a series of unexpected events. Their presentation, "Battles and Bliss," showcases some of their most memorable birding encounters in Alberta through photography and video and how it has led to a new passion that follows them to their home in Panama, where they migrate for the winters!

Wed Oct 3: Backyard birding presented by Ken Orich. Born and raised in Lethbridge, Ken returned to live there after retiring in 2008 from the Alberta Government (Forest Service) where he had spent 35 years. Ken is an avid bird watcher, photographer, gardener, writer and wood-worker. He volunteers for the Helen Schuler Nature Centre and is a member of the River Bottom Writers group. Ken will talk about backyard birding and specifically how to design and maintain your yard to be a haven for wild birds.

Bird Study Group is the first Wednesday of every month at Cardel Theatre (180 Quarry Park Boulevard SE), with the exception of January 2019, where the group will meet the 2nd Wednesday. Free for members, \$5 for non-members.

[View map | www.cardeltheatre.com](http://www.cardeltheatre.com)

Field Trips

Participants are responsible for bringing their own food, water, sunscreen, bug spray and any other equipment or supplies the duration and location of the trip may require.

For the most up-to-date field trip information, visit naturecalgary.com/field-trips/

Sat Sep 1, 7:30am to 11:00am: Monthly Elbow River Birding Survey. Meet Stanley Park, 42 Av SW, just W of Macleod Tr. Walk to Glenmore Reservoir, ride back (3.5 hours). Call leader Gus Yaki, 403-243-2248, to ensure vehicle space for return.

Nature Kids Events



Sat Sep 15, 9:00am - 11:00am: Nature Kids: "The Amazing and Talented Beaver." Meet at the Bow Valley Ranch (EAST end of Fish Creek Park). Equipped with a toolbox of sharp teeth, fur coat and strong tail, the beaver is an incredible ecosystem engineer and home builder! Join us to discover the amazing adaptations of the beaver, explore its habitat and investigate the role this animal plays in the park. Be sure to dress for the weather and bring your binoculars (optional) as we learn just how amazing beavers are! **Please register by contacting Joan Walker, herbiehilda@gmail.com, 403-271-4578 by September 10.**



American Beaver | © Sue Konipnicki

Nature Kids is for youth (4-12) and families who like to learn, have fun and explore. Members have access to Explorer Day events with local chapter leaders, quarterly editions of NatureWild e-Magazine, and the Nature Heroes program. To connect with the Nature Kids team email us at nkcalgary*@naturealberta.ca

Sun Sep 2, 8:30am to noon: Bird Confederation Park. Meet at Rosemont Community Hall parking Lot, 2807-10th Street NW. Located on the west side of 10th Street in Confederation Park. This small urban park can be spectacular for migrating birds. Leader Dave Russum, 403-284-4775.

Sat, Sep 8, 9:30am for approx 3hrs: Fungi 101 Everything you always wanted to know about mushrooms. Searching for fungi of all kinds and points for identification. To get there drive through Bragg Creek townsite along the shopping area, across the bridge, turn left and drive about 9 km to the end of the road to the parking lot. Leader, Karel Bergmann, ph. 403-285-2380 or lacerta324@gmail.com.



Mallards | © Gerald P. David

Sat Sep 15, 8:30am: Inglewood Bird Sanctuary. The Sanctuary is located at 2425 - 9 Ave SE. Meet in the parking lot. Leader: Janet Gill, 403 230-5671.

Thu Sep 20, 8:00 am to approx 4:30pm: Bird East of Calgary (destinations TBD). Meet at Carburn Park. Meet in the parking lot and bring lunch. Anticipated return around 4:30 pm. Registration required. Leader Andrew Hart, 403-279-5209.

Sat Sep 22, 9:30am: Bird the Irricana Sloughs, Strathmore area, then the Langdon, Chestermere, and Shepard areas on the return to Calgary. Find migrating shorebirds and songbirds; waterfowl, Raptors, Gulls, and others. The first wave of Fall shorebirding is ending; the second wave is underway. Trip will go until approximately 4:00pm. Bring lunch. Carpooling. Meet at Deerfoot City Mall west parking lot. Leader Terry Korolyk, 403-254-1878.

Sat Sep 29, 9:00am to noon: Bird North Glenmore Park. Meet in parking lot C just W of Rowing Club, accessed from S end of Crowchild Tr SW (no 37 St access). Leader Penny Smith, 403-249-5997.

Sun Sep 30, 8:00am: Bird East (or South) of Calgary. Meet at Carburn Park parking lot. Drive south from Glenmore Trail on 18th Street SE to second stop light, then turn right and follow signs to Carburn Park. Bring lunch. Expect to be back to Calgary by 4:30pm. Leader Howard Heffler, 403-284-2961.

Mon Oct 1, 8:00am to 11:30am: Monthly Elbow River Birding Survey. Meet Stanley Park, 42 Av SW, just W of Macleod Tr. Walk to Glenmore Reservoir, ride back (3.5 hours). Call leader Gus Yaki, 403-243-2248, to ensure vehicle space for return.

 = registration required

General Interest

Photography in the Park Minibus Tour: Sep 11 6pm - 8pm. Friends of Fish Creek minibus tours provide amazing opportunities to learn about the unique history and natural features of this cherished park. Led by film and digital photography enthusiast Bob Bakker. Tickets are \$20 and can be purchased online.