

# NATURE NEWS

From Nature Calgary

[www.naturecalgary.com](http://www.naturecalgary.com)



President: John McFaul  
403-289-9517  
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## VOLUNTEER

[Volunteer\\*@naturecalgary.com](mailto:Volunteer*@naturecalgary.com)  
for general inquiries.

## FIELD TRIPS

To suggest a location or lead a trip  
email [fieldtrips\\*@naturecalgary.com](mailto:fieldtrips*@naturecalgary.com)

[Check the website frequently for new trips and updates.](#)

## MANAGE MEMBERSHIP

Individual: \$40/year  
Family: \$50/year

Contact Val 403-288-7441 or  
[membership\\*@naturecalgary.com](mailto:membership*@naturecalgary.com)

[Join or renew online.](#)

## GET IN TOUCH

Nature News is published 8 times per year. Send suggestions to:  
[newsletter\\*@naturecalgary.com](mailto:newsletter*@naturecalgary.com).  
Next deadline: Jan 11, 2019

Mailing address:  
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Calgary, AB T2P 2K4

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 [@NatureYYC](https://twitter.com/NatureYYC) on Twitter

## Speaker Series

### Wed Apr 17: Cariboo Chilcotin Coast with Chris Harris.

The final book of the Legacy series presents to the world the vast, spectacular and most diverse landscapes of British Columbia's Cariboo Chilcotin Coast. One of these pristine landscapes, the 'Chilcotin Ark', a gem of global significance, will be brought to light for the very first time.

Chris Harris is a professional photo-journalist and narrative photographer. Since leaving a career of wilderness guiding, Chris has been one of this country's foremost and most respected photographers. He dedicates his photography to bringing awareness and reverence to the value of nature, biodiversity, and the beauty of his home region of British Columbia, the Cariboo Chilcotin Coast. <https://www.chrisharris.com/>

*Nature Calgary's monthly meetings are held at 7:30pm the 3rd Wednesday of the month at Cité des Rocheuses, 4800 Richard Rd SW. Free for members, \$5 for non-members.*

[View map | www.citedesrocheuses.com](#)

## Volunteer Opportunities

**International Migratory Bird Day** - help at Nature Calgary's table at Inglewood Bird Sanctuary, Sun May 13 11am - 3pm. Lunch is usually provided by IBS. Shifts will be 10:30-1:00 and 1:00-3:30 or the full day. Email [volunteer\\*@naturecalgary.com](mailto:volunteer*@naturecalgary.com) to help.

**Nature Calgary is looking for a Marketing Coordinator** to join our board to develop our marketing strategy, coordinate a marketing committee, and analyze the impact of the marketing efforts. If you are passionate about nature and have a desire to help Nature Calgary grow its membership, impact, and reach in the Calgary community, apply today by emailing John McFaul at [president@naturecalgary.com](mailto:president@naturecalgary.com)

**Nature Calgary is holding our first ever Calgary Birding and Nature Festival May 22 - 24 in 2020.** We are looking for volunteers for the Organizing Committee with expertise or a strong interest in - Geology, Insects, Reptiles/Amphibians, Terrestrials, Mycologists, Botanists (trees and wildflowers). If you have an interest in helping the Marketing/Sponsorship, or Logistics/Events committees - please send an email to [yycbirdnaturefestival@naturecalgary.com](mailto:yycbirdnaturefestival@naturecalgary.com) with your name, interest and background information.

## Issues, Events and Updates

### City Nature Challenge Calgary, Apr 26 -29

Become a citizen scientist and help Calgary compete in 2019 City Nature Challenge! The city of Calgary will be under a total BioBlitz April 26-29 and will compete with over 160 cities worldwide. The aim is to document as much urban biodiversity as possible so that we can better understand our local urban ecosystem. Cities worldwide will compete in three categories: The Number of Observations made, The Diversity of Species observed, and the Number of Participants.

Get outside, explore, take photos, and learn! We are documenting everything that calls Calgary home (Insects, Fungi, Plants, Birds, Fish, Reptiles, Mollusks, Amphibians, Arachnids, Mammals, Microorganisms, EVERYTHING!). You are welcome to join one of the free and family-friendly nature events we will host throughout the city or you can explore the city on your own (your garden, backyard, alleyway, schoolyard, sidewalk, playground, alleyways, parks, etc).

Observations are made by uploading photos to iNaturalist.ca. Download the free app on your smartphone or upload photos on your desktop. iNaturalist is a citizen science platform that connects naturalists from around the world. These naturalists will help you learn what you are observing by identifying your posted observations. It's free, fun, educational, and accessible to all ages and skill levels.

#### HOW TO PARTICIPATE:

- 1) **Photograph flora or fauna on your phone or camera within Calgary's city limits.**
- 2) **Upload your photos to iNaturalist.ca on your phone or desktop before midnight April 29!!**  
\*Mark any captive/cultivated organisms (i.e. planted garden or animal at the zoo)
- 3) **Learn about what you found and connect with Calgary's urban ecosystem.**

**Observations must take place anywhere within Calgary's city limits April 26-29.**



Encouraging the appreciation, study and conservation of all components of the natural world.

### Nature Calgary Annual Bus Trip Birding Invermere BC

Saturday, May 11, 2019

This full day adventure will provide a wonderful opportunity to bird the beautiful environs of the Invermere area made famous by their "Wings over the Rockies Festival".



Members \$50.00 Non-members \$70.00

Please pay via the website or by mail by May 4<sup>th</sup>.

[www.naturecalgary.com/fieldtrips/specialtrips](http://www.naturecalgary.com/fieldtrips/specialtrips)

Information: Contact Penny Smith 403-249-5997

**Nature Calgary (Calgary Field Naturalists' Society)**  
PO Box 891  
Calgary, AB T2P 2K4

Visit [www.citynaturechallenge.org](http://www.citynaturechallenge.org) for workshops leading up to the competition and become an expert at iNaturalist. We will be hosting family-friendly and free events all around the city during the competition. Look for event details as they become available at [www.citynatureeyyc.ca](http://www.citynatureeyyc.ca) or visit us at [www.facebook.com/citynatureeyyc](https://www.facebook.com/citynatureeyyc).

A partnership of Calgary's nature steward groups: Nature Calgary, Friends of Fish Creek Provincial Park, Weaselhead Glenmore Park Preservation Society, Friends of Nose Creek, Call of the Wetland.



#### 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 Apr 3: Tadoussac - an alternate to Pt Pelee,** presented by Anne Belton. Last May 28th 6 birders counted over 700,000 warblers passing through Tadoussac! Until now this has been a relatively unknown destination for birders. Anne will speak briefly about the real tourist attraction in Tadoussac - whales, and then look at bird migration (spring and fall)



Chestnut-sided Warbler  
© Anne Belton

Originally from Quebec, Anne spent part of every summer in Tadoussac. She began birding in her 20s. Her career took her to many countries and in every country Anne has tried to arrange a day or two for birding.

*Bird Study Group meetings are held at 7:30pm the first Wednesday of the month at Cardel Theatre (180 Quarry Park Boulevard SE). Free for members, \$5 for non-members.*

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

## Field Trips

**Participants are responsible for bringing food, water, sunscreen, bug spray and other equipment or supplies the trip may require. Field Trips involving car pools will require registration to ensure that a reasonable number of people are able to attend with a limited number of cars for safety and enhanced birding experiences.**

**Sun Mar 31, 8:30am - 4pm: Birding West of Calgary.** Bring lunch. Meet at Assumption School, 34 Av NW (just N of TCH #1, at Sarcee Tr). Leader Howard Heffler, 403-804-2489. Please email [hheffler\\*@shaw.ca](mailto:hheffler*@shaw.ca) by Friday March 29. Registration required.

**Mon Apr 1, 8:30am: 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.

**Sun Apr 7, 9am to late afternoon: Bird Frank Lake.** Bring lunch. Meet at the first Parking Lot in the Glennfield area of east Fish Creek PP (at the SE corner of the Canyon Meadows Drive-Macleod Trail intersection, accessed via Bannister Road). Leader Tony Timmons, 403 256-0754.

**Sat Apr 13 9:30am to 3:30pm. Calgary and area for Spring arrivals.** Waterfowl, raptors, gulls, songbirds and others. Carpooling. Bring lunch. Limit of 24 people. Meet in parking lot at the Fish Creek PP's Visitor's Centre at the entrance to the Park near the end of Bowbottom Trail. To register, e-mail leader Terry Korolyk at [piidpiper\\*@hotmail.ca](mailto:piidpiper*@hotmail.ca), or phone at 403-254-1878.

**Sun April 14, 9am to approx. 12:30pm: Bird Lafarge Meadows in Fish Creek PP.** Meet at boat launch parking lot, S end of Bow Bottom Tr SE. Leader Howard Heffler, 403-804-2489.

## Nature Kids



**Sat Mar 23, 1pm - 3pm: Birds, the Ultimate Nest-builders** Spring is in the air and many of our migrant birds are beginning to return! Join us to learn how these amazing and creative creatures prepare a nursery for their young. Dress appropriately as we will be outside. Meet at Carburn Park, 67 Riverview Dr SE, Calgary. Leader: Joan Walker, [herbiehilda\\*@gmail.com](mailto:herbiehilda*@gmail.com).

**Sat, Apr 27, 11:00 - 12:00pm: Who Am I?** Put your detective skills to the test as you use clues and fun facts to investigate Alberta's amazing wildlife. This is an indoor, games-based activity. Cost for our program participants will be provided. During the event, families who wish to see the exhibits may pay the admission fee or explore the nature park around the centre. The program is limited to 30 participants; RSVP to [nkcalgary@naturealberta.ca](mailto:nkcalgary@naturealberta.ca) indicating the number of adults and children. Meet at 10:45am at the Bow Habitat Station, Pearce Estate Park, 1440 17a St SE, Calgary. Leader: Joan Walker, [herbiehilda\\*@gmail.com](mailto:herbiehilda*@gmail.com).

**May 11 9:00 am - 1:45 pm: Family Bird Day at the Frank Lake Important Bird and Biodiversity Area** east of the City of Calgary. Join us for some bee hotel building, a presentation by Ducks Unlimited Canada, and a guided bird walk. Bus transportation will be provided and from Anderson LRT station.

**Spots are limited as we only have one bus going out so please register by emailing: [naturekids\\*@naturealberta.ca](mailto:naturekids*@naturealberta.ca)**



**Sun Apr 21, 1:30 to 3:30pm: Plants of Reader Rock Garden.** just E of Macleod Tr & S of 25 Av SE. Hepaticas, Snowdrops, Crocus, Larch. Leader Gus Yaki, 403-243-2248.

**Sun Apr 21, 10am to 12:00pm: Earth Day Nose Hill Crocus Cruise.** Meet at the 64th Av and 14 St NW entrance. Leader John McFaul, 403 289-9517.

**Mon Apr 22, 2 -3:30pm: Earth Day Britannia Slopes.** Crocus, other early flowers. From Elbow Dr, go W on 47 Av SW; turn left at Crescent Blvd. Park on Britannia Dr SW. Leader Gus Yaki, 403-243-2248.

**Fri Apr 26, 9:15am for 2-3 hours: Stanley Park (City Nature Challenge).** Black Walnut, Butternut, and various other trees & shrubs. 42 Av SW, 2 blocks W of Macleod Tr. Leader Gus Yaki, 403-243-2248

**Fri Apr 26, 2pm for 2-3 hours: Plants of Edworthy Park, Upper Level (City Nature Challenge).** Many rare plants. Meet in 1st parking lot of off-leash dog park (left on Edworthy St at the end of Spruce Dr). If the lot is full park just beyond, or behind another participant. Leader Karel Bergmann, 403-285-2380.

**Fri Apr 26, any time after 2pm & 6pm: Gus' Garden (City Nature Challenge).** 300 plant species and insects, 420 Brunswick Av SW. Leader Gus Yaki, 403-243-2248.

**Sat Apr 27, 8:30am to 12pm: Bird North Glenmore Park.** Meet in parking lot C just W of Rowing Club, accessed from S end of Crowchild Tr SW. Leader Penny Smith, 403 249-5997.

**Sat Apr 27, 9am for 2-3 hours: Elliston Park (City Nature Challenge).** Ducks, avocets, and stilts. Meet in first parking lot S of 17 Av SE & 68 St SE. Leader Gus Yaki, 403-243-2248.

**Sat Apr 27, 2pm for 2-3 hours: 12-mile Coulee, Tuscany (City Nature Challenge).** Hundreds of Townsendias and other plants. From Stoney Tr NW, go W on Tuscany Blvd to Tuscany Way. Turn S (left) and go 1.9kms until road becomes Tuscany Ravine Road. Park in open area under power line. Carpool another 1/4kms. Walk down a fairly long steep hill (not advised for anyone with walking difficulty). Leader Karel Bergmann, 403-285-2380.

**Sat Apr 27, any time after 2pm & 6pm: Gus' Garden (City Nature Challenge).** 300 plant species and insects, 420 Brunswick Av SW. Leader Gus Yaki, 403-243-2248.

**Sun Apr 28, 9am to late afternoon: Bird Frank Lake.** Bring lunch. Meet at the first parking lot in the Glennfield area of east Fish Creek PP (at the SE corner of the Canyon Meadows Drive-Macleod Trail intersection, accessed via Bannister Road). Leader Tony Timmons, 403-256-0754.

**Sun Apr 28, 9am for 2-3 hours (City Nature Challenge) Confluence Park.** Plants. Located W of Deerfoot Tr, E of the Airport. Go N on Deerfoot Trail. After 64th Av, exit onto Beddington Tr. It crosses over Deerfoot Tr.. At 1st light, at Beddington Blvd, turn right into parking lot. Leader Karel Bergmann, 403-285-2380.

**Sun Apr 28, 9am for 2-3 hours: (City Nature Challenge) Carburn Park.** Birds, plants, butterflies. Meet in main parking lot at 67 Riverview Dr SE. Leader Gus Yaki, 403-243-2248.

**Sun Apr 28, 2pm for 2-3 hours: (City Nature Challenge) Carburn Park.** Birds, plants, butterflies. Meet in main parking lot at 67 Riverview Dr SE. Leader Gus Yaki, 403-243-2248.

**Sun Apr 28, any time after 6pm: Gus' Garden (City Nature Challenge).** 300 plant species and insects, 420 Brunswick Av SW. Leader Gus Yaki, 403-243-2248.

**Mon Apr 29, 9:15am for 2-3 hours: North Glenmore Park (City Nature Challenge).** Birds, butterflies, snakes. Meet in Weaselhead parking lot, 37 St SW & 66 Av SW. Leader Gus Yaki, 403-243-2248.

**Mon Apr 29, any time after 2pm: Gus' Garden (City Nature Challenge).** 300 plant species and insects, 420 Brunswick Av SW. Leader Gus Yaki, 403-243-2248.

**Mon Apr 29, 6:15pm for 2-3 hours: Britannia Slopes (City Nature Challenge).** Plants and insects. From Elbow Dr, go W on 47 Av SW; turn left at Crescent Blvd. Park on Britannia Dr SW. Leader Gus Yaki, 403-243-2248.

**Wed May 1, 7:00am: 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.