

NATURE NEWS

From Nature Calgary

www.naturecalgary.com



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VOLUNTEER

Volunteer*@naturecalgary.com
for general inquiries.

FIELD TRIPS

To suggest a location or lead a trip
email 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

[Join or renew online.](#)

GET IN TOUCH

Nature News is published 8 times per year. Send suggestions to:
newsletter*@naturecalgary.com.
Next deadline: June 13, 2019

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Speaker Series

Thanks to everyone for another great season! From photographers, to educators, to dedicated scientists this year had something to offer everyone. Our series will resume in September, 2019.

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

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 with your name, interest and background information.

Issues, Events and Updates

In recognition of years of dedicated service, Andrew Hart has been granted Honourary Membership to Nature Calgary. Over the years, Andrew has occupied many roles within the organization, including:

President of the society: 2012 to 2016 (4 years)
Vice-President: 2011(1 year)
Secretary: 2009 to 2010 (2 years)
Board member: 2007 - 2019 (12 years)
Bird Study Group Chair: 2010 - 2019 (10 years)
Lead Annual Waterton National Park Weekend Trip: 2008 - 2017 (10 years)
Upload 100,000 CFNS bird records to eBird.
Led numerous birding field trips.

Thanks to Andrew for everything he has done and congratulations on this recognition!



The City Nature Challenge 2019 was a resounding success! Despite the spring blizzard, participants came out in droves and Calgary placed 2nd out of all Canadian cities. 140 participants recorded 4,489 observations and 629 species (over half the species recorded were plants).

Globally, Cape Town finished first with a whopping 53,763 observations and more than 4,588 species. San Francisco boasted the most participants at 1,947.

All in all, it was a great initiative and a big thanks to everyone in Calgary who braved the weather to participate.

Bird Study Group

Thank you to Andrew Hart who has retired from leading the Bird Study Group after 9 years of organizing and hosting speakers for the group. Anne Belton has stepped up to take his place from September on. Please contact Anne at birdstudy@naturecalgary.com with ideas or suggestions for future speakers.

There are no meetings for June, July or August.

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

Kids Birding Camp is back! Perfect for youth between 9 – 14 years of age who have shown interest in birds and birding. Youth can practice identifying local birds by size and shape, colour pattern, behaviour and habitat. Camp runs Tue, July 2 to Fri, July 5 from 8:00am to 2:00pm and is \$100 per participant.

By participating in the Learning Naturally Kids Bird Camp program, you are not only providing an amazing learning opportunity for your child, but are also helping Calgary kids to make meaningful and life changing connections with nature.

Registration fees for the Learning Naturally Kids Bird Camp will be matched up to 50% by Shaw Birdies for Kids presented by AltaLink (BFK), and used to support Learning Naturally educational programs in Fish Creek!

For more information and to register visit www.friendsoffishcreek.org/event/birdcamp



Nature Kids

Sat, June 29, 10:00 - 12:00pm: Come and join us as we “Take Time to Smell The . . . Dandelions?” Well, they are not quite roses, but they are a perfect flower and easy to find. After closely naming and examining this plants special parts, we will go for a stroll to observe some interesting and unusual wildflowers growing right in our city. Meet at Griffith Woods Park, 160 Discovery Ridge Boulevard Southwest. Contact Joan Walker (403-271-4578) for further information.



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



Field Trips

Participants are responsible for bringing food, water, sunscreen, bug spray and other equipment or supplies the trip may require. Field Trips involving carpools 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.

Sat May 18, 9:30am: Votier's Flats. Birding Fish Creek PP for resident and migrant songbirds and others. May go as far west as Marshall Springs. Meet in the Votier's Flats parking lot at the South end of Elbow Drive. Registration required. Either phone leader Terry Korolyk at 403-254-1878, or e-mail him at piidpiper*@hotmail.ca.

Sat May 18, 9:00am: Common Mosses and Liverworts of Calgary. South Glenmore Park. If you know trees and flowers, it's time to learn the common bryophytes (Mosses and Liverworts) of our area. This outing will be presented by Sandra Davis, a local Bryologist. The course will run 3-4 hours. Participants need to bring a 10X hand lens, and there is a 10-person limit. Meet at: South Glenmore Park, far west parking lot, [90th Ave and Oakmount Dr. SW]. Register with leader Sandra at Rockhill29*@shaw.ca or 403-862-8984. [Follow-up courses will also be offered on June 8th at North Glenmore Park and August 10th at Griffith Woods.]

Mon May 20. 5:30am to 7:00pm: Victoria Day – Annual Nature Calgary Big Day. See over 100 species at various locations within Calgary. Registered participants will be advised of the meeting location to organise carpooling prior to the event. Email Bob Lefebvre, wbird7*@gmail.com, by Thu, May 15. Leaders Rose Painter and Bob Lefebvre. Registration required. ***See note re: carpooling requirement.**

Tue May 21, 6:30pm: Pearce Estate Park. A mid-week evening walk. Bird Pearce Estate Park (Sam Livingston Fish Hatchery). Meet in parking lot. 1440 17A St SE, N off Blackfoot Trail. Leader Phil Cram, 403-815-0784.

Fri May 24, 10:00am: Nose Hill – Spring Wildflowers. Meet at parking lot 64th Ave & 14th Street NW. Leader John McFaul, 403-289-9517.

Sat May 25, 8:30am to approx. 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.

Tues May 28, 6:30pm: Carburn Park. Turn south from Glenmore Tr onto 18 St SE, right onto Riverglen Drive and then left onto Riverwood Road. Meet in parking lot. Leader Janet Gill, 403-230-5671.

Sat Jun 1, 6:40am: 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 Jun 2, 5:30am to 7:00 pm: Bird Calgary Region 80 km Circle Northwest Quadrant (Water Valley area). Be prepared to be out all day. Registered participants will be advised of the meeting location to organise carpooling prior to the event. Register by email with leader Howard Heffler, hheffler*@shaw.ca by Wed, May 29. Registration required. ***See note re: carpooling requirement.**

Tue, Jun 4, 6:30pm: Confederation Park. Meet in 10 St. NW Parking lot. From 16 Ave NW, drive north on 10 St NW to the parking lot (first left turn after 23 Ave NW). This area has proven to be a favourite for migrating warblers & other songbirds. Leader Janet Gill, 403 230-5671.

Sun Jun 9, 7:30am to 7:00 pm: Bird Calgary Region 80 km Circle Southwest Quadrant. Be prepared to be out all day. Bring appropriate clothing, food and water. Registered participants will be advised of the meeting location to organise carpooling prior to the event. Leaders Bob Lefebvre and Andrew Hart. Contact Bob Lefebvre, wbird7*@gmail.com or 403-370-0556 by Thursday, June 6th to register. Registration required. ***See note re: carpooling requirement.**

Tue Jun 11, 6:30pm: Inglewood Bird Sanctuary. Evening walk. IBS is located at 2425 - 9 Ave SE. From Deerfoot Trail take Blackfoot Tr west, turn left onto 19 St SE then left again onto 9 Ave SE & drive 1 km east to sanctuary entrance. Or follow 9 Ave SE east through Inglewood. Meet in the parking lot. Leader Nimali Seneviratne, 403-265-8750.

Sat Jun 15, 8:30am to approx. 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

Sun Jun 16 7:00am Northwest Of Calgary (Water Valley area). For warblers and sparrows. Be prepared to be out all day. Bring appropriate clothing, food and water. Registered participants will be advised of the meeting location to organise carpooling prior to the event. Register by email hheffler*@shaw.ca by Thursday June 13. Leader Howard Heffler. Registration required. ***See note re: carpooling requirement.**

Tue Jun 18, 6:30pm: Bird Lafarge Meadows, FCPP. Meet at boat launch parking lot, S. end of Bow Bottom Tr SE. Leader Anne Belton. 403-201-1570 or 587-233-7339.

Tue Jun 25, 6:30pm: Bird Burnsmead, FCPP. Meet at the parking lot for Burnsmead, east end of Fish Creek Park. To get there, take Bow Bottom Trail south, turning left on next road after Deer Run Dr SE. Park in the first lot on your right. Leader Anne Belton, 403-201-1570 or 587-233-7339.

 = registration required

* Nature Calgary for the previous two years has offered a series of birding field trips from mid May to mid June to explore Calgary and the surrounding areas in the Calgary 80 km birding circle. In 2019 these trips will be led by Bob Lefebvre, Rose Painter, Andrew Hart, and Howard Heffler. These are all full day trips, many to locations with limited safe parking. Carpooling will be required, if you cannot agree to car pool please do not come on these trips. Registration is required for each trip.



General Interest

Calgary Wildlife Rehabilitation Society is Hosting their 2nd Annual Wildlife Baby Shower at Bow Habitat Station. They are hoping to build a mountain of supplies and donations to help them provide the best care possible to baby patients! June 1, 10am to 2pm. \$5 admission. For more information and to review the donation wishlist visit: <http://calgarywildlife.org/2019/04/30/2nd-annual-wildlife-baby-shower-june-1-2019/>

Porcupine Hills Spring Hike hosted by Alberta Wilderness Association. Rolling hills with a bountiful tapestry of wildflowers is a great way to experience spring in its full glory. Situated between the Rockies and the Grasslands, the Porcupine Hills are a Montane landscape in Alberta that has plenty to offer any outdoor enthusiast. Vivian Pharis and Conservation Specialist Grace Wark will be guiding this wonderful hike, so **register today!** June 20, 10am. \$25 for members, \$50 for non-members.



Family Birding Course at Fish Creek PP. This course is perfect for children between the ages of 4 to 8 years of age, and there is a limit of 20 children. Registration required and fees apply. For more information visit www.friendsoffishcreek.org/event/bird. Sundays June 2, 9 and 23 from 9:00am to 11:00am.

Public engagement for the future of Waterton Lakes National Park is open until July 3rd. Complete the survey at letstalkmountainparks.ca to have your say in the planning and vision for the smallest of our Rocky Mountain Parks.