

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.

LEAD A FIELD TRIP

To suggest a location or lead a trip
email fieldtrips*@naturecalgary.com

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

MANAGE MEMBERSHIP

Individual membership: \$40/year
Family membership: \$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: August 14, 2020

Mailing address:
Nature Calgary, Box 981 Stn. M
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From the President

Dear Nature Calgary members,

I hope that you have been able to get out and enjoy nature activities despite a cooler and wetter spring than average as well as dealing with the Covid situation. The Nature Calgary board at its June 11th board meeting spent some time discussing what actions to take regarding club activities in light of pandemic concerns.

It was decided to start up our field trips again, but with some restrictions which are delineated on our website and in the field trip section of this newsletter. Thanks to Howard Heffler, our field trip coordinator, and to the field trip leaders willing to lead trips for the club this coming summer.

We will also explore the possibility of having our Bird Study Group and Speaker series meetings begin in the fall. These would be held virtually via Zoom or a similar platform. Finally, we decided not to hold our annual banquet that had been scheduled for November 21st. It is too risky given the age of our membership combined with the difficulty of maintaining social distance in a banquet setting, especially with the possibility of a second wave of the virus coming this fall. The board wishes to thank Penny Smith for the work that she did regarding the now postponed banquet.

I do wish you well this summer and hope that you will be able to get out to enjoy the natural wonders that Calgary and region have to offer.

John McFaul,
June 20, 2020

Issues, Events and Updates

May Species Count – Birds Results

The weekend of May 30/31 saw 109 birders out scouring the wetlands, meadows and forests within a radius of 80 Kilometers of Calgary's Center Street bridge. This huge area extends from Exshaw to Standard and from Olds to Nanton. Their efforts paid off handsomely, despite some challenging weather, to produce 210 species of birds and 50,538 individual birds. An additional 10 species were seen during count week. Thanks to all those who took part and to Andrew Hart for dealing with 150+ lists that were submitted through eBird. The list of species seen will be posted on our website.

More Trip Leaders Needed On June 16, the Nature Calgary Board agreed to resume field trips – with COVID-19 restrictions of course. By the weekend we had a good list of trips to offer members and these were quickly over-subscribed. We anticipate the trips over the next few weeks will be popular. If you are willing to organize a field trip please contact: fieldtrips*@naturecalgary.com.

New trips are welcome at any time. Please visit www.naturecalgary.com/field-trips/leaders/ for details.

Field Trips - Restrictions & Guidelines

The Nature Calgary Board, in the interests of the health and safety of members and the public, have adopted the following guidelines for all outings:

- **Only in town outings where carpooling is not needed.**
- **Limited to a maximum of 10 participants.**
- **Pre-registration is required.**
- **The use of masks could be encouraged if social distance cannot be maintained.**

Nature Calgary now has an instagram

account! Find us @naturecalgary. We are looking for photo submissions for our feed and will give credit for any photos we use.

Please submit your pictures to:

<https://www.dropbox.com/request/xDqAScdcYJJgvBTGC4iD>

FileName:

- Name_Animal/Plant_DAYMONTHYEAR
- eg: JaneBirder_HerringGull_220320

Format:

- .jpg
- Resolution: 72dpi
- Size:
 - 1.19:1 (1080x608px)
 - 1:1 (1080x1080px)
 - 4:5 (1080x1350px)

Already edited (we will not do any editing)

Email any further details to:

communications*@naturecalgary.com

Include any information about the picture (animal/plant name, location, date) and any credits (either your name or Instagram handle).

By submitting your image to Nature Calgary you give permission to use it on Nature Calgary's social media. We will contact you if we would like to use the image for any other purposes.

Field Trips

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

 = registration required

Mon Jun 29, 8:00am: Bird Lafarge Meadows (from the south end), FCPP. Access from Macleod Trail east onto 194 Ave SE. Meet at parking lot at the east end of 194 Ave SE. Please register with leader: Anne Belton at ibelton*@*telus.net or 587-233-7339.

Tue Jun 30, 8:30am: Purple Martin Colony in Calgary. Meet in parking lot for New Brighton Athletic Park, 5801 130 Ave SE. We will walk to a couple of local wetlands. A nearby homeowner has established a Purple Martin nest box that may be the first successful nesting colony for this species in Calgary in over 80 years. Please register with leader: Tony Timmons at tonytimmons*@*shaw.ca.

Thu Jul 2 9:00 to 11:00am: Flowers of Nose Hill. Meet at 64 Ave and 14 Street NW. Leader John McFaul. 403-289-9517.

Fri Jul 3, 8:00am: Bird Mallard Point, FCPP. Meet in parking lot at far east end of Canyon Meadows Dr. SE. Please register with leader: Anne Belton at ibelton*@*telus.net or 587-233-7339.

Wed Jul 8 8:00am: to noon: Inglewood Bird Sanctuary. IBS is located at 2425 - 9 Ave. SE (from the Deerfoot Trail, take the Blackfoot Trail westbound exit to 19 St. SE, then turn left onto 9 Ave.) Meet in the parking lot. Please register with leader: Nimali Seneviratne at ntfern*@*telus.net or 403-836-5146.

Fri Jul 10, 8:00am: Bird Carburn Park. Carburn Park is reached by turning south from Glenmore Trail onto 18 St SE, right onto Rivervalley Dr SE and then left onto Riverview Dr SE (2nd left, ignoring cul du sac). Please register with leader: Anne Belton at ibelton*@*telus.net or 587-233-7339.

Sat Jul 11, 9:00am: Common Mosses and Liverworts of Calgary. North 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: North Glenmore Park, far west parking lot, [37th St and 66 Ave SW]. Register with leader Sandra at Rockhill29*@*shaw.ca or 403-862-8984.

Thu Jul 16 9:00 to 11:00am: Nature Walk - West Edworthy Park. Meet at the south parking lot down the hill from the end of Spruce Drive SW. Leader John McFaul. 403-289-9517.

Fri Jul 17 8:00am: Weaselhead Natural Area. Meet in the parking lot on the W side of 37 St at 66 Av SW. To get there, take Crowchild Trail S into Lakeview turning right onto 66 Ave SW & drive west to 37 St into parking area. Or, from Glenmore Trail take 37 St S exit. Please register with leader: Anne Belton at ibelton*@*telus.net or 587-233-7339.

Fri Jul 24 8am: Bird Lafarge Meadows FCPP. Meet at boat launch parking lot, S end of Bow Bottom Tr SE. Dress according to the weather. Please register with leader: Anne Belton at ibelton*@*telus.net or 587-233-7339.

Thu Aug 13 9:00 to 11:00am: Nature Walk Inglewood Bird Sanctuary. IBS is located at 2425 - 9 Ave. SE (from the Deerfoot Trail, take the Blackfoot Trail westbound exit to 19 St. SE, then turn left onto 9 Ave.) Meet in the parking lot. Leader John McFaul. 403-289-9517.

Sat Aug 29, 9:00am 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 or from 37 St. Please register with leader Penny Smith, 403 249-5997.

The Nature Calgary Board has asked that trips be limited to a maximum of ten participants and pre-registration is required.

For all Field Trip details, updates and additions visit
www.naturecalgary.com/field-trips

General Interest

Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society (CPAWS) has details on how you can defend Alberta parks from sale, forest harvest and resource extraction. 164 of Alberta's parks have had their protection removed, resulting in a loss of 37% of our parks. [Find details here.](#)

Weaselhead Pathways and River Cleanup will take place Sun, Sept 20 at 10am. Email pfinkleman@shaw.ca for details.



Shooting Star © Vince Piotrowski



Rare Bird Alert:

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

