

# NATURE NEWS

From Nature Calgary

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



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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: May 10, 2019

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## Speaker Series

**Wed May 15: Keeping Alberta Wild: It's in Our Nature with Anne-Marie Syslak**, the Executive Director of the Southern Alberta Chapter of the Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society (CPAWS). Anne-Marie has a background rooted in science and education (B.Sc, B.Ed, M.Sc), and has worked in the municipal and the environmental non-government organization (ENGO) sectors with respect to conservation for the past 20 plus years. Since she joined CPAWS in 2004, the organization has won an Alberta Emerald Award and a national award of excellence for contributions to environmental learning in Canada from the Canadian Network for Environmental Education and Communication. Anne-Marie's strong ecological principles and enthusiasm for conservation and education translate through her leadership. Her recent work has concentrated on parks, particularly the national parks in and around Alberta. Outside of the office, Anne-Marie can be found on the x-country ski and hiking trails, wondering over wildflowers or camping with her family.

*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 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!

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.

### 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.**

Visit [www.citynaturechallenge.org](http://www.citynaturechallenge.org) for workshops leading up to the competition. 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.citynatureeyc.ca](http://www.citynatureeyc.ca) or visit us at [www.facebook.com/citynatureeyc](https://www.facebook.com/citynatureeyc).

**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.**



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



Look for City Nature Challenge events at  
[www.naturecalgary.com/field-trips/](http://www.naturecalgary.com/field-trips/)



#### Rare Bird Alert:

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



## Bird Study Group

**Wed May 1: California Birding for Albertans** presented by Caroline Lambert. Caroline started her birding life in California and birded there for six years before moving back to Alberta. In this talk she will give an overview of similarities and differences between birds in Alberta and California, including a description of the different bird habitats and birding hotspots found there. She will also discuss differences between being a birder in California and Alberta.



Nuttall's Woodpecker (left)  
Greater Roadrunner (right)  
© Caroline Lambert



Caroline is an enthusiastic birder who travels across the US and Canada for birding adventures, takes the occasional photograph, but mostly enjoys supporting citizen science efforts by participating in many projects in Alberta, such as multiple Christmas Bird Counts, eagle migration counts, May species counts, bird banding, nightjar surveys, and Breeding Bird Surveys.

*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.**

**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.

**Tue May 7, 6:30pm: Meadowlark Meander at Confluence Park.** Meet in the parking lot at Beddington Blvd and Beddington Trail NE. Leader John McFaul, 403 289-9517.

**Sat May 11, 9:30 to 11am: Bird the Bow River Pathway,** S side of Bow River, opposite Bowmont Park. From inner city, follow Bowness Rd W, turning right onto 67 St NW, just before RR tracks. 67th St becomes Bow Cres. Continue to end at Bow Village Cres. Leader Gus Yaki, 403-243-2248.

**Sun May 12, 7:30am to 7pm (approx): Bird Calgary Region 80 km Circle, Northeast Quadrant.** Be prepared to be out all day. Bring appropriate clothing, food and water. Meeting place will be in NE Calgary [TBA]. Registered participants will be advised of the meeting location to organise carpooling prior to the event. Email leader Andrew Hart, andrewhart\*@shaw.ca, by Wed, May 8. Registration required. **\*See note re: carpooling requirement on p4.**

## Nature Kids



**Sat, Apr 27, 11:00 - 12:00pm: Who Am I?** Due to low registration, this event has been cancelled. In its place, we are offering a **City Nature Challenge: 2019 "Scavenger Hunt"** for Saturday, April 27 from 10:00am to 12:00pm at Inglewood Bird Sanctuary (2425 9 Ave S.E., Calgary). Be part of this exciting Bioblitz to see how Calgary's urban biodiversity compares with over 190 cities around the world! It's easy to participate! Just bring your love for all nature, a dash of curiosity, your finest observation skills and something to take pictures or draw with. There is no limit to what can be documented. All observations are then sent to iNaturalist.org. Contact Joan Walker, 403-271-4578, for further information.

**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**

**Tue May 14 6:30pm: Inglewood Bird Sanctuary Evening Walk.** IBS is located at 2425 - 9 Ave SE. From Deerfoot Tr take Blackfoot Tr west, turn left onto 19 St SE then left again onto 9 Ave SE & drive 1 km east to Sanctuary entrance. Meet in the parking lot. Leader Nimali Seneviratne, 403-265-8750.

**Wed May 15, 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.

**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 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 car-pooling 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.**

**Wed May 22, 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. (no 37st access). Leader Penny Smith, 403 249-5997

**Tues May 28, 6:30pm: Carburn Park.** Turn south from Glenmore Trail 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 June 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 02, 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 car pooling 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.**

**Sat Jun 8 [tentative], 7:30am to 7:00 pm: Bird Calgary Region 80 km Circle, Southwest Quadrant.** Be prepared to be out all day. Registered participants will be advised of the meeting location to organise car-pooling prior to the event. Leader Bob Lefebvre, 403-370-0556. Registration required. **\*See note re: carpooling requirement.**

 = 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.**

