

NATURE NEWS

From Nature Calgary

www.naturecalgary.com



President: John McFaul
403-289-9517
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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: Jan 17, 2020

Mailing address:
Nature Calgary, Box 981 Stn. M
Calgary, AB T2P 2K4

Find us on 

facebook.com/naturecalgary

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

Speaker Series

Wed Dec 18: Annual General Meeting, Christmas quiz, members' photos, and refreshments! Attend to help keep your society's affairs in order. If you have a few photos you would like to show contact John McFaul at info*@*naturecalgary.com or call 403-289-9517.

Revised bylaws will be voted on. The revisions were sent to members earlier this month (by email or Canada Post) as required under our current bylaws.

A new Board of Directors will be elected. Contact John McFaul if you are interested.

Tue* Jan 14: Butterflies of Southern Alberta with Dr. Ted Pike. Dr. Pike is a Ph.D. in Paelaeobiology and is currently Acting Chair of Biology for Ambrose University. His current research is documenting the distribution, presence and absence of insect species in Alberta and investigation of potential hybrid zones in Alberta.

Nature Calgary's monthly meetings are held at 7:30pm the 3rd Wednesday of the month (except for Jan 14, 2020) at Cité des Rocheuses, 4800 Richard Rd SW. Free for members, \$5 for non-members.*

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

Issues, Events & Updates

Thanks to all who attended the Annual Fall Banquet at the Irish Cultural Centre. Dr. Robert Berdan delivered an informative and interesting slideshow on wildlife photography that intrigued us all.

Special thanks to Laura Taylor who donated artwork and Gweny Schwartz who donated gift cards.

Many many thanks to our volunteers: John McFaul, Bernie Diebolt, Janet Gill, Gayle Linden, Gwendy Schwartz, Jamie Podluney and Suzanne Visser, and to the volunteers who helped put the tables away.

This was another very successful banquet.

Confederation Park Nature Kids Walk On Sunday, October 20th we joined local naturalist, Judy Marsh, for a walk in beautiful Confederation Park. While golden leaves danced through the blue sky and with the earthy smell of Fall surrounding us, Judy introduced us to the many trees of this park. Through interactive activities and games we learned about the structure of trees, how they grow and how they protect themselves from insects. Children were delighted as they made a “journey stick” filled with treasures to remind them of their interesting and fun day in the woods. Special thanks to Judy of Outdoors, In, Connecting Open Minds to Nature for sharing her passion and knowledge of the environment with us.

Bird Study Group

Wed Dec 4: Birds, Bats and Buildings: Navigating the Concrete

Jungle with Kathleen Johnson & Dr. Scott Lovell. Two of the Co-Founders of Calgary Migratory Species Response Team (CMSRT) will introduce their new citizen science group in Calgary. The objective of CMSRT is to determine whether or not a high number of birds and bats are striking Calgary's downtown windows or structures during Spring and Fall migration. During our presentation, we will introduce how we came to be where we are today, what we have found in our Fall 2019 data, the implications and where we go from here.

Wed Jan 8: Christmas Bird Count.

Phil Cram and others will present the results of the Calgary and area Christmas Bird Counts.



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)



Happy Holidays



and a healthy 2020 to all of our members! Thank you to all the dedicated volunteers who have contributed to Nature Calgary over the past year - looking forward to another great year!.



Rare Bird Alert:

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



City of Calgary Christmas Bird Count – Sunday, December 15, 2019

- Following the count (from 5 pm on) all participants including Feederwatchers, are warmly invited by Jim Washbrook to compile results and have supper at the Prairiesky co-housing complex at 403-31 Ave NE. Park on the north side on 31st Ave NE, go up stairs to the centre courtyard, and turn right to the common house. Jim would be pleased to hear from anyone who can contribute any side dishes, salads, or desserts (jwashbrook1*[*gmail.com](mailto:jwashbrook1@gmail.com)).
- Please count mammals as well as birds.
- New participants wanting to join Feederwatch, please contact Bob Lefebvre at wbird7*[*gmail.com](mailto:wbird7@gmail.com)
- New participants should contact a Route Coordinator (North: John McFaul, 403-289-9517; East: Terry Korolyk, 403-254-1878; West: Jim Washbrook, 403-282-8849; South: Dan Arndt, 403-836-7405) .
- We encourage voluntary donations to cover the cost of the dinner, as well as contributing to Nature Calgary and Bird Studies Canada. (Bird Studies Canada no longer collects a \$5 fee for the count). To donate: before the count, please send a cheque to Nature Calgary, P.O. Box 981, Station M, Calgary AB T2P 2K4. Mark the cheque “Donation for Christmas Bird Count”. Donations over \$20 will receive an official CRA tax receipt. You may also donate online; please include in “Special Instructions for Seller” that it is for the Christmas Bird Count. You may also bring your donation to the supper.

DATE	LOCATION	CONTACT	EMAIL
Dec 14, 2019	Banff/Canmore	Heather Dempsey	bvn* *bowvalleynaturalists.org
Dec 15, 2019	Calgary	Phil Cram	crampj* *telusplanet.net
Dec 15, 2019	Chestermere	Don Cassidy	cassidyd* *telus.net
Dec 17, 2019	High River	Greg Wagner	peyto601* *gmail.com
Dec 21, 2019	Horseshoe Canyon	Mike Harrison	tringa* *telus.net
Dec 27, 2019	Sheep River	Doug Collister	collistr* *gmail.com
Dec 29, 2019	Cochrane Wildlife Reserve	Suzanne Visser	svisser* *ucalgary.ca
Jan 1, 2020	Fish Creek Provincial Park	Jim Washbrook	jwashbrook1* *gmail.com
Jan 4, 2020	The Snake's Head (Sundre)	Doug Collister	collistr* *gmail.com
Jan 4, 2020	Exshaw (Bowkan Birders)	Cliff Hansen	cm_hansen* *shaw.ca
Jan 4, 2020	Priddis	Gavin McKinnon	gmckinnonbird* *gmail.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. 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.

Sat Nov 23 9:00am: Birding West of Calgary. Bring lunch. Expect to be back around 4:00. Meet at Assumption School, 34 Av NW (just N of TCH #1, at Sarcee Tr). Leader Howard Heffler, 403-804-2489 (cell). Please email hheffler*[*shaw.ca](mailto:hheffler@shaw.ca). Registration required.

Sat Nov 30, 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 Dec 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 or gyaki*@*calcna.ab.ca to ensure vehicle space for return. Registration required.

Sun Dec 8, 8:00am: Scouting Xmas Bird Count territory in Elboya-Stanley Park, Rideau, Roxboro. Meet at 420 Brunswick Av SW. Return for hot lunch at noon. Please call or email in advance. Leader Gus Yaki, 403-243-2248 or gyaki*@*calcna.ab.ca Registration required.

Sat Dec 28, 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.

Calgary Birding Challenge 2020

– Jan 1, 2020 –



The start of the "big year" challenge, BirdYYC2020.

Visit naturecalgary.com for all the details.

Free and open to all.

Thu Jan 2, 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 or gyaki*@*calcna.ab.ca to ensure vehicle space for return. Registration required.

Sat Jan 11, 9:30am to approx 4:00pm: Annual Snowy Owl Pre-Prowl. This is the precursor to the annual February Snowy Owl Prowl; a quest for the much sought after visitor from the north. Bring lunch. Meet at the W end of the Deerfoot City Mall parking lot. Register with leader Terry Korolyk by email at piidpiper*@*hotmail.ca or by phone: 403-254-1878. Registration required.

Thu Jan 16, 9:00am to 11:30 am: Carburn Park. Look for winter birds in the trees and on the river. Meet in parking lot. Carburn Park is reached by turning S from Glenmore Trail onto 18 St SE, right onto Rivervalley Dr SE and then left onto Riverview Dr SE. Please register with leader Andrew Hart, andrewhart*@*shaw.ca or 403-980-1538, to ensure notification in the event of a weather-related cancellation or rescheduling. Registration required.

Sat Jan 25, 8:30am to noon: Bird Shannon Terrace. Look for winter birds. Meet at parking lot. Travel to W end of Anderson Rd, S on 37 St S, left (east) on 130 Av, right on Wood Path Rd. Leader Howard Heffler, 403-804-2489 (cell). Please email hheffler*@*shaw.ca. Registration required.

Sat Feb 1, 8:15am: 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 or gyaki@calcna.ab.ca to ensure vehicle space for return. Registration required.

Be sure to visit NatureCalgary.com for updates and additional trips

 = registration required