

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: Apr 17, 2020

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

Find us on 

[facebook.com/naturecalgary](https://www.facebook.com/naturecalgary)

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

Notice to Membership

Dear members,

In accordance with the provincial government's increased vigilance around COVID-19, Nature Calgary will cancel all meetings (both Speaker Series and Bird Study Group) until further notice.

For now Nature Calgary will continue to support Field Trips for our members and the volunteers who still wish to run them, but we are imposing some restrictions:

- Any car-pool trips be cancelled due to the close quarters these entail
- All trips require pre-registration (in case follow-up communications are required)
- These trips be restricted to 10 participants

We ask that anyone who is feeling unwell or who has recently travelled outside of Canada refrain from attending any trips.

Nature Calgary will continue to abide by any updated provincial guidelines as this unfolds. For more information on the province's guidelines and recommendations, visit <https://www.alberta.ca/release.cfm?xID=6980324A5B1B0-BC2C-40A8-A6AD9E30E3189425>

Thank you for your patience and understanding.
Stay well!

The Nature Calgary Board

Issues, Events and Updates

Nature Calgary is pleased to give an Honourary Membership to Gus Yaki for his contributions to our society, for his years of editorial work on PICA (our former club magazine) and especially for his many years of being our field trip coordinator and leading hundreds of trips. We thank him for all his work in promoting natural history education and appreciation for Calgarians. Congratulations Gus!



City Nature Challenge 2020: Calgary Region

Ask yourself, where does nature exist within my city? It's not only in our parks, but in our backyards, streets, gardens, and even downtown! City Nature Challenge 2020 celebrates biodiversity within our remarkable urban landscape and aims to document everything that calls the city home.

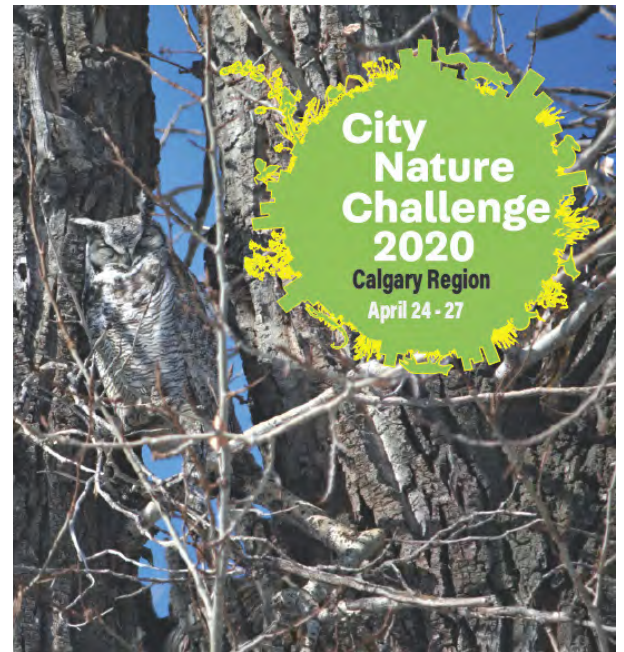
Join us at events or go rogue with friends and family to explore your city under a new lens. Look for flora and fauna anywhere within Calgary, Airdrie, Okotoks, Cochrane, and Chestermere April 24-27. Take photos and post your observations to inaturalist.ca or on the app by May 3.

Cities from around the world will compete to see which can contribute the most observations, find the most species, and engage the most citizen scientists. Prizes will be available for the local iNatters that excel in these categories. Canadian cities are competing head-to-head in a friendly competition to showcase their incredible urban nature. Will you join the challenge?

Vote for a National Lichen! A group of scientists passionate about the importance of lichens in Canada is asking Canadians to vote on a proposed national species. Voters can choose from a list of seven candidates up until March 20 by visiting nature.ca/lichenvote.

The candidates are:

- Boreal Oakmoss Lichen
- Common Freckle Pelt Lichen
- Concentric Ring Lichen
- Elegant Sunburst Lichen
- Horsehair Lichen
- Star-tipped Reindeer Lichen
- Yellow Map Lichen



Learn more about News and Events:

www.citynatureeyyc.ca

Facebook: @citynatureeyyc



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 their own food, water, sunscreen, bug spray, hand sanitizer and any other equipment or supplies that 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. ** Reminder that if you feel unwell or have recently travelled outside of Canada, please do not attend. **

Sat Mar 21, 9:00am to 11:30am: Birding Inglewood Bird Sanctuary to look for early Spring migrants. The sanctuary is located at 2425 9 Av SE. Meet in parking lot. From Deerfoot Trail, take Blackfoot Trail westbound exit to 19 St SE, then turn left onto 9 Ave & drive about 1km to park entrance. Please register with leader Janet Gill (gillannjanet*[gmail.com](mailto:gillannjanet@gmail.com) or 403 230-5671 or 403 831-7828).Registration required.

Sat Mar 28, 9:00am: Dale Hodges Park, NW Calgary. From 16th Avenue NW take Home Road north to 52nd Street NW, turn left and the first right into the parking lot behind Marantha Church. This Park opened in June 2019 and already has 75 species recorded on Ebird, I will be attempting to get as complete a record of birds present in the first year of operation and would welcome others to join in the effort. Please register with leader: Dave Russum at russumd*@telusplanet.net or 403-284-4775. Registration required.

Tue Apr 7, 6:30pm to approx. 8:30pm Bird Burnsmead, FCPP. Meet at the parking lot for Burnsmead day use area. East end of Fish Creek PP. Take Bow Bottom Trail turning left, S of Deer Run Dr SE. Email Leader: Anne Belton, (587-233-7339) at ibelton*@telus.net to register. Registration required.

Tue Apr 14, 6:30pm to approx. 8:30pm Bird Lafarge Meadows, FCPP. Meet at boat launch parking lot, far south end of Bow Bottom Tr SE. Please register with leader: Anne Belton at ibelton*@telus.net or 587-233-7339. Registration required.

Fri Apr 17, 9:00am to approx. 11:00: Inglewood Bird Sanctuary. Located at 2425 - 9 Av SE. From Deerfoot Tr take Blackfoot Tr W, 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 through Inglewood. Meet in the parking lot. Please register with leader John McFaul, at alpnglo*@telus.net or 403 289-9517. Registration required.

Sat Apr 18 9:30am to approx. 4:00pm. Calgary and area for spring arrivals. Waterfowl, raptors, gulls, and more. In view of the COVID 19 risk, Nature Calgary has adopted a policy to restrict carpooling. We will sort out vehicle logistics at the meeting spot. Bring lunch, etc. Register with leader Terry Korolyk at 403-254-1878, or by email at piidpiper@hotmail.ca. Meet at the Fish Creek PP Visitor's Centre parking lot off Bow Bottom Trail SE at the entrance to the Park. Registration required.

Tue Apr 21, 6:30pm to approx. 8:30pm Bird Votier's Flats, FCPP. Meet in the Votier's Flats parking lot at the south end of Elbow Drive. Please register with leader: Anne Belton at ibelton*@telus.net or 587-233-7339. Registration required.

Wed Apr 22, 9:00am to approx. 12:00 Bird Mallard Point. Look for early migrants. Meet in parking lot far east end of Canyon Meadows Dr. SE. Please register with leader Tony Timmons at tonytimmons*@shaw.ca or 403-256-0754. Registration required.

Wed Apr 22, 10am to approx. 12:00pm: Earth Day Nose Hill Earth Day Crocus Cruise trip. We will meet at the 64th avenue and 14 Street NW entrance. Please register with leader John McFaul, at alpnglo*@telus.net or 403 289-9517. Registration required.

Sat Apr 25, 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. Registration required.

Tue Apr 28, 6:30pm to approx. 8:30pm Bird Bankside, FCPP. Meet at the parking lot for Bankside. East end of Fish Creek PP. Take Bow Bottom Trail turning left, S of Deer Run Dr SE. Please register with leader: Anne Belton at ibelton*[*telus.net](mailto:ibelton*@telus.net) or 587-233-7339. Registration required.

Wed Apr 29 9:00am to approx. 12:00 Bird Lafarge Meadows, FCPP. Meet at boat launch parking lot, far south end of Bow Bottom Tr SE. Please register with leader Tony Timmons at tonytimmons*@shaw.ca or 403-256-0754. Registration required.

Tue May 5, 6:30pm to approx. 8:30pm Bird Mallard Point. Look for early migrants. Meet in parking lot east end of Canyon Meadows Dr. SE. Email Leader: Anne Belton, (587-233-7339) at [ibelton*\[*telus.net\]\(mailto:ibelton*@telus.net\)](mailto:ibelton*@telus.net) to register. Registration required.

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For full details of all field trips listed, visit [Naturecalgary.com/field-trips/](https://naturecalgary.com/field-trips/)

Calgary Birding Challenge 2020

We have almost completed the first quarter of the BirdYYC2020 challenge. There are over 60 active participants. The leaders have reported up to 70 species within the Calgary city limits since January 1st. The collective species list is likely over 80. There have been several highlights; such as, Gyrfalcon, Steller's Jay, Clark's Nutcracker, and Varied Thrush. Participants are sharing their checklists on eBird and the special sightings are being shared on a WhatsApp group giving everyone a fair chance to find these rarities.

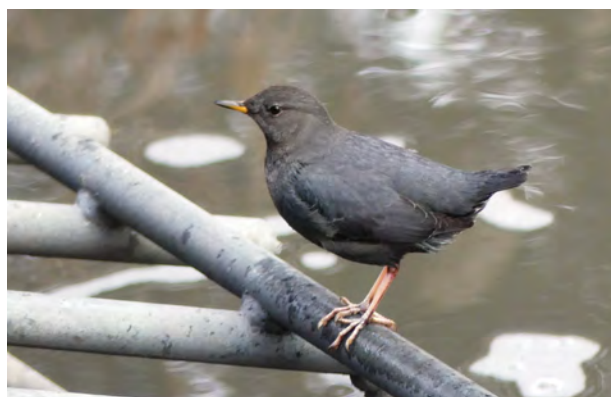
It's not too late to join the fun. There are many, many new birds to be found now that spring is just around the corner. See Nature Calgary website at: www.naturecalgary.com/calgary-birding-challenge-2020/ and follow the adventures at: www.birdscalgary.com.

General Interest

Reminder to show your Nature Calgary membership card and receive a discount! The Wild Bird Store and Wild Bird Centre (located inside Fairplay Pet Supply) offer a 10% discount and Golden Acre Home and Garden Centre offer members a 15% discount.



Clark's Nutcracker by Howard Heffler



American Dipper by Howard Heffler