



Langley Field Naturalists



To encourage nature appreciation, conservation and education

Langley Field Naturalists acknowledge we are in the unceded Indigenous lands of the Coast Salish (Stó:lo) people

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Newsletter

March 2025

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Phenology is the study of the timing and patterns of events in the natural world, and shouldn't be confused with phrenology - a once thought of science that figured your aptitude could be determined based on bumps on your skull. Maybe the most beautiful time to watch phenology in action is when the flowers start to bloom in the spring and summer.

When a plant decides to bloom it is based on many factors, such as sunrise, sunset and temperature. These triggers indicate when it is most optimum for a plant to get busy. Phenology can be used by farmers to indicate when seeds should be planted and by gardeners to create magnificent gardens that have something in bloom throughout the growing season.

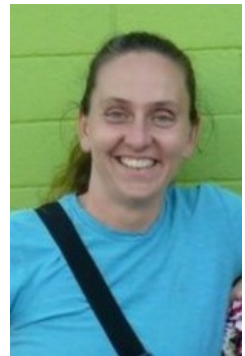
Since temperature can trigger blooms, it is safe to say climate change is impacting phenology. Folks are studying this and I recently came across a story about scientists today comparing the first blooms of plants now and those recorded 160 years ago by Henry David Thoreau. Bloom times today are significantly earlier and can actually be tracked because other naturalists, some of our first citizen scientists, also recorded first blooms in the 155 year gap that was left after Thoreau passed away.

Citizen science is a powerful tool that is being harnessed by many scientific studies. It simply isn't possible for a scientist and a few graduate students to be in 2000 places at once. But dedicated naturalists can!

Apps and websites like eBird and iNaturalist are helping scientists, decision makers, and land managers shape our world for the better, thanks to thousands of citizen scientists. There are over 14,000 birders in Metro Vancouver alone making observations for eBird. iNaturalist's website states that there are over 8,000,000 people signed up worldwide, and over 2,500 people right here in the Langley's. iNaturalist is a unique tool because you don't actually have to be out and about to be able to contribute. If you have knowledge of plants and animals you can be an identifier that confirms the species others have identified, in the comfort of your home instead of being out on a cold rainy day!

The idea of phenology and flowers in bloom reminds me of the bell curve associated with the observations of many plants on iNaturalist. I expect the curve might be related to blooms from first flower to the last because the colourful flowers beacon naturalists just a little further off the trails to snap their pictures.

April 25th - 28th is the City Nature Challenge hosted by iNaturalist. It is a friendly competition between communities all over the world to see which ones can find the most species. The following week the organizers need observations confirmed by volunteer identifiers. I will be out getting as many observations as possible (except April 26th ... that's the Earth Day celebration with Langley City!). I hope to see you along the trails contributing to citizen science!



Lisa Dreves

LANGLEY FIELD NATURALISTS 2024-2025

DIRECTORS

President: & webmaster	Lisa Dreves lisa.dreves@outlook.com
Vice President:	Vacant
Past President & Conservation/library	Bob Puls bob@puls.ca
Secretary:	Nora Truman lnsecretary@hotmail.com
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Membership:	Marianne Carefoot mcarefoot@yahoo.com
Programmes:	Anne Gosse corkie1@shaw.ca
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Publicity:	Lilianne Fuller/Garima Wilson
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BC Nature:	Eric Habisch eric.habisch@gmail.com
Member At Large:	Caren Porter, caporter@shaw.ca

REPRESENTATIVES & CONVENORS

Greeters:	Rebecca Tin Tun/Helen Thompson
Refreshments:	Lynda Lightfoot llightfoot@shaw.ca
Forslund-Watson:	Ryan Usenik rusenik@telus.net
NatureKids:	Anthea Farr nicomekl@naturekidsbc.ca
Member Participation:	Joanne Rosenthal jrose77@yahoo.com
Displays:	Vacant

Meetings are held on the third Thursday of each month from September to June, starting at 7.30 pm
Executive meetings are held on the first Wednesday of each month Sept - June

KATHY MASSE



Langley Field Naturalists are saddened by the loss of our long-time member, Kathy Masse, who passed away on December 23rd 2024.

Over her years, Kathy had a long list of volunteer activities. She had been a valuable member of our club and part of the LFN Executive for over 25 years. As a LFN member, she was always willing to pitch-in and help, with a warm smile, a kind heart and a positive attitude. Thinking of her grandchildren, she cared deeply about the environment and the natural world.

She had served as Conservation Chair (2006-2011), and as a BC Nature representative (2012-2024), as well as a member of the Membership Participation committee. As our BC Nature representative, she worked diligently to conveyed all important communications to our members. She also very capably organized our Christmas Bird Count for a couple of years - and with others, she braved the wind, rain and snow to count them.

She was very involved in the hosting of the Langley BC Nature Fall General Meeting 2010 and the BC Nature AGM 2023.

Kathy was also a member of the Yorkson Watershed Enhancement Society in Langley where she is fondly remembered as a person "they loved volunteering with", because of her positive attitude, kind smile, and passion to make things better. She represented both clubs in the B.C. Nature Federation. She also volunteered at Campbell Valley Regional Park Nature House each summer for 20 years, where she became a treasured friend to many. Yes, she was an awesome friend.

She played saxophone in the Langley Concert Band and was a talented watercolour artist. Her loss has made a huge void in our club - plus in our hearts. Yet, she left us with a garden of beautiful memories - of her laughter, her smiles, the fun - sprinkled with a million tears - but being better for just knowing her. She will be sorely missed by many.

A celebration of life is planned for May 19, 2025.

UNSUNG HEROES

For International Women's Day, Rotary called for nominations for unsung heroes who quietly work to make the world a better place. Two of our members have received nominations:

LILIANNE FULLER

Lilianne, with her skills as a Freelance Writer, has contributed in countless ways to the community of Langley. Lilianne submits notices to the local newspaper and media about multiple events to attract participants and bring in volunteers for events and fundraisers throughout the year.

Lilianne has spread the word about Rotary through dozens of articles to the local newspaper about Rotary Events, Speakers and Activities. Lilianne has engaged members and attracted new members by revitalizing the club website and posting club news and events on Facebook and Instagram.

Lilianne joined the Langley Field Naturalist Club of Langley about 10 years ago, and said she felt a bit intimidated at first by the nature lover terms, and bird and plant names. Lilianne is a quick learner and the club loved it when she volunteered to have bird and plant brochures reprinted and distributed to libraires and schools. The club had talked about writing a book about remarkable naturalists from the club, projects over the years, continuing walks, day trips and even overnight camps. Lilianne took the project on and coordinated, contributions from 11 members in the writing of the book "On the Trail, 50 Years of Engaging with Nature". Lilianne shares the story with a great presentation about bringing 11 writers and photographers together to write the book. The story encourages pride in our community and encourages citizens to volunteer, make a difference, preserve nature and perhaps mitigate some effects of climate change. The book has sold so well, there is a second printing ordered to meet demand. As the Lorax says, "Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, nothing is going to get better. It's not." Currently she is directing the updating of the club bird, plant brochures and designing a new butterfly brochure. Even the Langley Tourist Bureau is asking for the club brochures.

Lilianne also volunteers at a school lunch programme, with a programme to support those suffering from violence, and is happy to drive for seniors who need a ride.

LESLEY GOODBRAND

Lesley Goodbrand's contributions to our community vary widely, especially where flowers or food are involved!.

With Langley Field Naturalists, Lesley leads our interaction with the community by producing, organizing and manning a variety of interesting displays for public events. She has produced crafts for children, and interacted with adults to encourage them to enjoy and protect nature. Her creative work on displays has given us a targeted choice for individual events. Formerly she was membership secretary and welcomed members, new members and visitors to our meetings. When the club hosted the Province wide BC Nature conference, she organized the evening barbecue and the silent auction, as well as producing all the table flower arrangements.

At her church (St George's, Fort Langley), she has been very active: if food or flowers are involved she is usually team leader. Many (maybe even most) of the fundraisers see Lesley both supervising and providing in the kitchen, as well as doing the table decorations and leading wreath making workshops. She ensures that any surplus food is delivered to those in need.

Lesley has been a long-standing member of the Langley garden club, and over the years has been involved and initiated many projects. She has been especially involved in the floral arts division, and did a series of teaching sessions that encouraged many of our members to participate in our monthly floral presentations. Another great contribution was to hold a fall and spring potting day to supply plants for our annual spring show. This was a tremendous effort, she maintained over 200 plants throughout the winter months .

Lesley cares for seniors in the community by making sure they can attend events - going out of her way to offer car rides. Her creativity, dedication and kindness have helped many people.

Lesley really is an invaluable member of the community, the Langley Field Naturalists, the church and the Langley Garden Club. She is a perfect example of an involved, motivated volunteer who deserves to be recognized.

ALDERGROVE REGIONAL PARK SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 9TH



Ready for the walk

Photo: Keith Crystall

The park was quite quiet this morning with overcast skies and intermittent rain. Most sensible creatures were taking shelter, leaving the trails to the humans and their dogs. Chorus frogs and a few Mallards were enjoying the weather. We caught sight of a spawning salmon in Pepin Brook. The light was poor so we couldn't get a picture or try to identify the species.

The absence of birds was compensated for by the abundance of fungi along the trails. We had missed earlier blooms of mushrooms on the ground which were in their final stage of decay. But tree trunks and stumps were hosting a variety of fungi and jellies for those who stopped to look carefully. Many of these mushrooms are very small and easily missed if you're not paying close attention.

Pepin Brook itself had a bright green coating of duckweed in spots where the water was moving slower. It was a stark contrast to the muted tones of the surrounding forest. After taking a group photo on Pepin Brook Bridge, it was back to the parking lot as the rain was finally forcing the humans to shelter too.

Keith Crystall

SERPENTINE FEN SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 30TH

We enjoyed a delightful and surprising walk that was filled with interesting sightings. We entered Serpentine Fen from the northeast side and walked over 3.0 km (2.5 miles) with several stops to enjoy sightings that seemed to know no bounds. Soft "chews" sounds caught our attention and Wim called out 'Evening Grosbeaks' of which there were several. Beautiful birds and the more we walked the more we saw. One tree had 15 of them and another 8 and it kept adding up. I had not seen them in this area in about 20 years.

15 immature Red-winged Blackbirds were perched in a tree by the river where there were several species of diving and dabbling ducks, such as Lesser Scaups, Common Goldeneyes, Common



Evening Grosbeak

Photo: Perry Poulsen

Mergansers and one Hooded Merganser. And for dabbling ducks: Mallards, American Wigeons, Pintails and Green-winged Teals and one lonely Eurasian Wigeon. In the sky we saw Northern Harriers, mostly females with one male, uncommon this time of the year, spotted by Gareth. A Red-tailed Hawk perched in a tree and a Peregrine zoomed past up high and on a mission. A Sharp-shinned Hawk dove out of shrubbery - so fast they move, looking for prey on the other side of the road.



White-crowned Sparrow

Photo: Perry Poulsen

Before I could point it out the Peregrine was gone, harassing starlings perched on a barn roof - 4,000 to 5000 of them. Smaller birds were also to be seen, such as House Finches and Purple Finches in the road-side shrubbery - a Hawthorne tree I was told, and on the ground were White-crowned and Golden-crowned Sparrows, along with Song Sparrows and Spotted Towhees.

Many thanks to all who made it a great day and to Wim for his recording of all the sightings - most helpful. In total, according to eBird, we had 48 species. Sometimes too numerous to count or identify, almost overwhelming but a great birding day for all.

Viveka Ohman

BRYDON LAGOON SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7TH

Despite the rain, seven hardy individuals, including myself, braved the elements for a two hour ramble around Langley City's Brydon Lagoon. Soggy might be another way to express the day but no-one seemed to care. Most of the usual suspects were present, including twenty-five Common Mergansers, a high number anytime of the year. It must mean the lagoon has a healthy fish population, despite it never ever being stocked. Best sighting was perhaps the four Canvasback ducks that have been around for weeks.



Brown Creeper Photo: Perry Poulsen

In the forest was a small mixed flock of Golden-crowned Kinglets, Black-capped Chickadees and a single Brown Creeper. Eric flushed a Wilson's Snipe along McLellan Creek. Dark-eyed Juncos

were the most common passerine. There was a Bald Eagle or two, a Great Blue Heron, a dozen Hooded Mergansers, as well as the resident flock of Mallards and Wood Ducks, all decked out in their pristine winter plumage. A small flock of Golden-crowned Sparrows were a delight to watch as they picked up leftover grains and seeds from around the duck feeding area. The floodplain trail was under a metre of water following the previous evening's torrential downpour. Twenty-eight species of birds were identified during the two hour walk.

John Gordon

BLACKIE SPIT THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12TH

Although the day began under overcast skies, the rain held off, and five of us gathered for a walk through Blackie Spit Park. I was glad to see Viveka with her scope, as it allowed us to identify Red-breasted Mergansers, Loons, and Buffleheads far offshore near the pier. Scanning the beach to the north, we were thrilled to spot three Black Oystercatchers cracking clams.

Continuing to the point, we observed hundreds of Wigeon, including several Eurasian Wigeon, grazing on the grasses. Shorebirds were plentiful: Greater Yellowlegs, Black-bellied Plovers, a Marbled Godwit and thousands of Dunlin. A highlight was spotting a single Willet on a distant sandbank, along with seals resting on the beach across the bay.



Birds nest fungi

Photo: Gareth Pugh

Heading east toward the environmentally protected area, we noticed Mallard Ducks eating fallen apples beneath fruit trees. Gareth pointed out a patch of Bird's Nest Fungi, their tiny, nest-like structures resembling eggs. Along the way, Wim diligently recorded sightings of songbirds, Northern Flickers,

and two Anna’s Hummingbirds. At the pilings, we added Great Blue Herons, Double-crested Cormorants, and one Marbled Godwit to our eBird checklist.

The trail led us to the pump house, where we enjoyed more views of ducks, songbirds, and a Belted Kingfisher. From this vantage point, we witnessed two Bald Eagles flying over the bay, sending thousands of birds into the air—a reminder of the critical role Blackie Spit plays as a winter habitat for wildlife.

By the end of the outing, we had tallied 43 bird species and capped the day with a warm drink and shared stories at the local coffee shop

Perry Poulsen

**JACKMAN WETLANDS MUNICIPAL PARK
SATURDAY, JANUARY 25TH**



Under a blue sky...

Photo: Christine Bishop

On a clear Winter's day, eleven LFN members and others walked the trails of Jackman Wetlands. There was some ice on the park ponds, but a good number of waterfowl were still present. The highlight species seen was the Black Phoebe, which had been reported earlier on the Rare Bird Alert. Also of interest were a pair of Blue-winged Teal.

Good looks at a Red-tailed Hawk near the parking lot were had by all. Jackman Wetlands often has an abundance of off-leash dogs; however, on this occasion this was not the case, which made the walk more enjoyable.

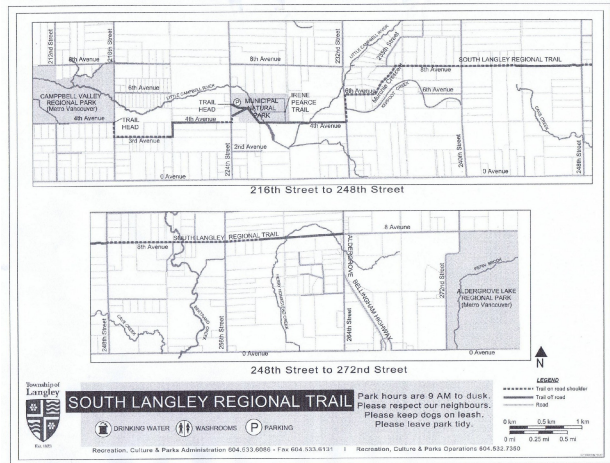
Ted Goshulak



Red-tailed Hawk at Jackman Wetlands

Photo: Christine Bishop

**SOUTH LANGLEY REGIONAL PARK
SATURDAY, JANUARY 18TH**



We started by passing around a printout of the planned new South Langley Regional Trail which runs from the east edge of Campbell Valley Regional Park, through the South Langley Regional Park and continues parallel to 8th Ave all the way to the west border of Aldergrove Regional Park at 272nd Street. Much of this trail already exists, but there are still sections to complete.



The walkers on the bridge

Photo: Nora Truman



Golden ear fungus

Photo: Nora Truman

Our walk began on the wide path heading east, flanked by large Western Cedar trees and Douglas Fir trees. There were many Fungi with bright colors along the way, including the brilliant Scarlet Cup fungi. Nora took delight in pointing out the various ferns, such as Western Sword Fern and Licorice Fern. The winter sun reflected off the frost coating the moss and leaf litter. We were also entranced by the rare Hair ice, emerging out of rotting logs.



Western sword fern

Photo: Anthea Farr



Scarlet cup fungus

Photo: Anthea Farr

The group photo was taken on the bridge that crosses the Little Campbell River. From there, we headed east to the Irene Pearce memorial Yellow Cedar tree, which was planted in Irene's memory. Anthea spoke about Irene's determination to have this forest preserved as a park with trails for horse riders and walkers to enjoy. From there we went into this magical forest full of green moss, Douglas Fir, cedars, and maples. Anthea helped us identify some of the trailside fungi: Turkey Tails, Golden Ear, Cat's Tongue and Crested Coral.

We took the longer trail and counted 20 bird species,

including Downy Woodpecker, Golden-crowned and Ruby-crowned Kinglets, Red-breasted Nuthatch and Brown Creeper. Eric pointed out the trees on the south border of the main trail with large piles of cone debris on the ground all around the tree trunk. Apparently, Douglas Squirrels go to the same tree with cones "in hand", eat the cones and drop all the debris around the base of the tree. Are they advertising their success, or reserving their favourite eating spot?

All in all, a lovely winter walk & pleasant company!

Nora Truman

CAMPBELL VALLEY REGIONAL PARK FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 7TH

Originally, we were going to walk with 10 of us, but there were quite a few cancellations due to the snow and/or some confusion about the day.

When I arrived at the parking lot on 8th Avenue, Perry was already there. It was a cold crispy morning with a bit of overcast sky in a crispy fresh temperature of minus 7°C. Luckily the wind was minimal.



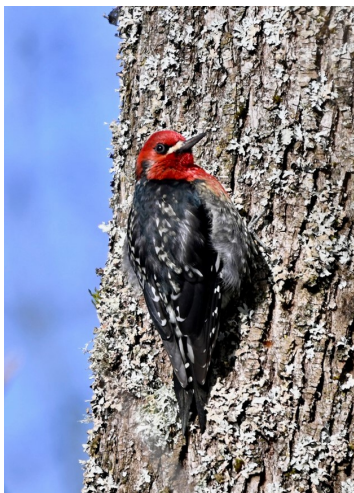
Pileated Woodpecker

Photo: Perry Poulsen

When I had tested the trails the day before, there were very walkable trails and a few areas very hard because of snow dunes on the Shaggy Mane trail, close to the street opposite the Annand Rowlett farm buildings.

While waiting for the others, we already heard the first Song Sparrows, Spotted Towhees and Dark-eyed Juncos. After a while a Pileated Woodpecker flew in to the wildlife tree across from the parking lot.

With the 4 of us waiting, I decided to start at 9:15 and went through the meadow towards the Ravine trail on the Tatalu (Little Campbell River) side. On our way we found Varied Thrush, Black-capped and Chestnut-backed Chickadees, Pacific Wrens and a Brown Creeper.



Red-breasted Sapsucker

Photo: Perry Poulsen

It was nice to spend the coldest part of the morning a bit sheltered. We took a short walk into the meadow next to

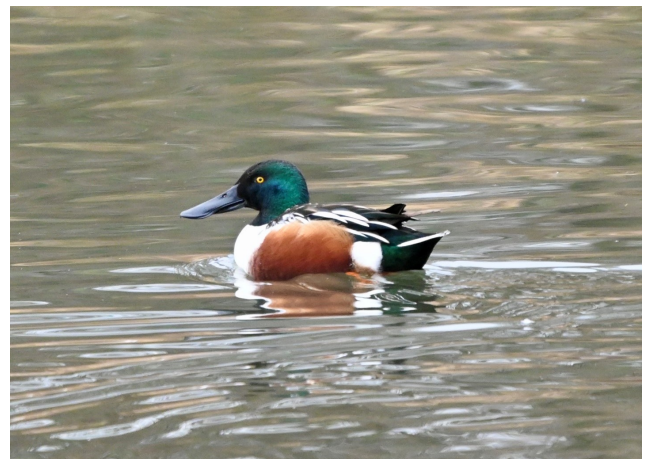
4th Avenue but there was no sign of the Kestrel and the Shrike that had been seen there a few times. It was a nice spot to see Mt. Baker with this clear sky. We then followed the Shaggy Mane trail for a little bit and switched to the perimeter trail. Along this part of the walk, we found a Red-breasted Sapsucker, which was surprisingly feeding on a deciduous tree in the winter. There must have been tiny insects on the trunk we thought.

We went back and crossed the meadow, avoiding the dunes on the Shaggy Mane trail, returning to the parking lot where some Red-breasted Nuthatches were feeding on the fir cones. The walk took less than 3 hours and was at 5.3 km, a bit more than the promised 5 km. After the walk, three of us went to the local pub for a coffee and a bite of lunch rather than sit in the snow.

Wim Vesseur

SURREY LAKE PARK SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15TH

On a cool winter morning, four LFN members participated in the Surrey Lake walk. The ground was frozen with some icy spots but fortunately much of the ice on the lake had receded, leaving open water for a large number of waterfowl. This past summer the City of Surrey had dredged the northern section of the pond, leaving large piles of soil along the shore in places.



Northern Shoveller

Photo: Perry Poulsen

A total of 30 species of birds were observed and reported to eBird. The only mammal observed was a black squirrel.

Ryan Usenik

WHITE ROCK PIER FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 21ST

Six hardy prepped-for-the-weather walkers gathered on a breezy drizzly morning at the White Rock Pier. We had a high tide to help with the opportunity of seeing some of the deep diving birds but unfortunately they were not to be found close to the pier or even on the inside of the breakwater on this day. There were Mallards, Pintails and some American Wigeons on the beach as we started out.



Long-tailed Duck

Photo: Perry Poulsen

They were foraging at the beach with a couple of species of gulls, one being a group of Short-billed Gulls. Fortunately we had two scopes to work with and, while at the end of the pier, we observed Long-tailed Ducks, Black Oystercatchers and, way off in the distance, a small raft of Ruddy Ducks.



Black Oystercatchers

Photo: Perry Poulsen

The group still had some time so we made our way west along the walkway. There on the water closer to shore, Surf and White-winged Scoters were present in good numbers for some really good looks. After scoping further to the west and seeing three types of loons, Common, Red-throated and Pacific, off in the distance, it was time to head back to the cars. The eBird count for the walk was 28 species.

Eric Habisch

PROGRAMMES

MARCH - JUNE 2025

Meeting at 7.30 pm at the Langley Community Music School, 4899 207th Street, Langley.

THURSDAY, MARCH 20TH BEHAVIOR & ECOLOGY OF NORTHERN FLICKERS, A KEYSTONE SPECIES IN FOREST ECOSYSTEMS

**Dr. Karen Wiebe, Professor Emeritus,
University of Saskatchewan**

Northern Flickers are common woodpeckers that many people recognize from their backyards and bird feeders. Dr. Karen Wiebe studied a population of Northern Flickers in central British Columbia from 1997-2014. She will discuss some of the fascinating behaviors of these woodpeckers, including patterns of parental care, as well as the important role they play in maintaining biodiversity on the landscape.

THURSDAY, APRIL 17TH ENCHANTMENT OF CROWS

**Dr. Rob Butler, SFU(MSc), UBC(PhD)
Ornithologist**

From a remote island to the urban jungle, the ever-popular Society of Crows will take you on a journey into the mind of the crow to explore its complex social interactions. Society of Crows delves into the latest research of the complexities of the social behaviour of the crow.

THURSDAY, MAY 15TH THE WILDLIFE OF LANGLEY AND BEYOND *Lou Fascullo, of Lou Fascullo Photography*

This presentation will cover the wildlife of the western provinces, spanning from Vancouver Island to Whitehorse, Yukon. We'll explore a variety of native and introduced species that inhabit this vast region.

THURSDAY, JUNE 19TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND SOCIAL TIME

LANGLEY FIELD NATURALISTS, FIELD TRIPS SCHEDULE, MARCH - JUNE 2025

Please Note: anyone wishing to carpool should email to make arrangements beforehand, otherwise please meet at the designated meeting place.

Please let the leader know to expect you. The walks are generally about two to three hours long and are open to all Naturalist Clubs & members of the public (adults & children, but no pets please). Please dress for the weather and bring water, binoculars and a snack (plus bug spray in summer).

Note these walks are weather dependent so if the weather is bad and no registrations are received then the leader will not show up. Unless otherwise noted, washroom facilities are available on these walks.

THURSDAY, MARCH 13TH HOUSTON TRAIL, DERBY REACH REGIONAL PARK. BIRDS & BRYOPHYTES!

Leader: Phil Henderson
Time: 9:00 am at the parking lot on Allard Crescent

Join biologist Phil Henderson to learn about bryophytes which include mosses and their relatives: tiny but beautiful plants that flourish in moist, shady sites. We will also drop down to the wetland water edge to have a look for waterfowl. Bring binoculars and hand lenses if you have them. This is a walk of about 4.3 kms with some hills.

E-mail strix@uniserve.com to register.

SATURDAY, MARCH 15TH FORT LANGLEY BIRD COUNT

Organizer: Phil Henderson
Leaders: Phil Henderson and others
Time: 8 am to noon

A great event for anyone interested in birds. You don't need to be an expert birder to join this fun event which covers Brae Island and Derby Reach Regional Parks. We encourage inexperienced birders, new birders, families, etc.; anyone curious and wanting to learn more about local birds. Participants will walk (a "birdwatcher's saunter") along one of six possible routes. Walks are longish but not physically challenging and all but one are on groomed, gravel Metro Vancouver paths. We will proceed in all but the nastiest weather (i.e., 2' of snow and / or -30°C).

E-mail strix@uniserve.com to register.

SATURDAY, MARCH 22ND SEEDY SATURDAY AT THE ARBORETUM

Leaders: Nora Truman and Lisa Dreves
Time: 11:00 am in the parking lot in the 21200 Block Fraser Highway

Come out to the annual Seedy Saturday event (runs from 10:00 – 2:00) at Derek Doubleday Arboretum and for an added bonus head out with our leaders, Nora and Lisa, to enjoy the solitude of the end of winter. Explore the gardens while discussing the need to practice "lazy gardening", where we leave the seed heads of perennials and annuals through the winter to feed our local birds and wildlife. Let's see if we can find any remaining seed heads and marvel at their beauty!

Note: if the parking lot is full, St. Andrew's church just across the road allows overflow parking.

E-mail lfnsecretary@hotmail.com to register.

SATURDAY, MARCH 29TH REDWOOD PARK

Leader: Tom Wildeboer
Time: 9:00 am in the parking lot, 17900 – 20th Avenue

Join Tom to walk the trails in this park and enjoy the variety of tree species from around the world planted by Peter and David Brown, including the largest collection of Giant Redwood Trees in Canada. This walk is about 3 kms on level trails.

E-mail t_wildeboer@hotmail.com to register

SATURDAY, APRIL 5TH NATHAN CREEK DYKE

Leader: Ryan Usenik
Time: 9:00 am at the bridge on River Road (88th Avenue), one block east of 264th Street

Join Ryan to walk along the Nathan Creek dyke and visit the Gatzen property. During the walk, the LFN Tree Swallow nest boxes will be cleaned out. This walk is about 2 kms on a level trail.

E-mail jrusenik@telus.net to register.

SATURDAY APRIL 12TH
TRINITY WESTERN UNIVERSITY

Leader: David Clements
Time: 9:00 am at the University, 22500
University Drive

Trinity Western University's Ecosystem Study Area (the ESA) is comprised of diverse riparian habitats surrounding waterways, including tributaries of the Salmon River, the Salmon River itself and MacMillan Lake, home to a diversity of plant and animal species. Many bird species can be seen, including numerous passerines, raptors, and waterfowl. There is extensive rearing habitat for Coho Salmon and the forested areas are also home to the endangered Oregon Forest Snail which has been studied extensively by Trinity Western researchers. The ESA serves as an excellent outdoor classroom for Trinity students and is also open to the public with an extensive network of recently upgraded trails. The walk will be about 3 kms and is of moderate difficulty.

E-mail clements@twu.ca to register and for instructions on where to park. Parking is \$5 for three hours.

SATURDAY, APRIL 19TH
GREAT BLUE HERON RESERVE,
CHILLIWACK

Leader: Wim Vesseur
Time: 9:00 am at the Reserve, 5200 Sumas
Prairie Road, Chilliwack (Hwy 1 Exit
109)

Join Wim to explore this Nature Reserve which has 325 acres of wetlands located on the un-dyked floodplain of the Vedder River. Managed by the Great Blue Heron Nature Reserve Society, this site is known for its large breeding colony of Great Blue Herons - as well as a wide variety of wildlife and vegetation. At this time of year the Herons should be nest building with lots of activity within the colony, while Wood Ducks, Pileated Woodpeckers and Bald Eagles are busy too. The reserve also has beautiful walking trails. The walk will be about 4 kms on level trails along the dyke and through the woods along the Vedder River.

E-mail vesseur@shaw.ca to register.

THURSDAY, APRIL 24TH
GEORGE C. REIFEL MIGRATORY
BIRD SANCTUARY, DELTA

Leaders: Anne Gosse and Joanne Rosenthal
Time: 9:00 am at Reifel

Join Anne and Joanne to walk the trails in this well-known nature reserve. Expect to see and hear lots of birds in the middle of the breeding season and a great variety of trees and shrubs. Please dress for the weather and wear proper footwear. There is a small admission fee. Bring lunch, snacks and refreshments. Meet in the Reifel Sanctuary parking lot. *E-mail corkie1@shaw.ca to register.*

SATURDAY, MAY 3RD
GLOUCESTER ESTATES,
WEST CREEK HEADWATERS WETLANDS

Leader: Ted Lightfoot
Time: 9:00 am at
5458 – 272nd Street, Aldergrove

Join Ted for a walk around this important wetland where salmon spawn, beavers build their dams and a variety of birds live and breed. Ted will show us the beaver dams and explain how they create such a valuable habitat in the midst of an industrial development. Dress warmly, bring a lunch and a warm drink. This walk is about 2 kms on a level trail.

E-mail tlightfoot@shaw.ca to register.

SATURDAY, MAY 10TH
SALMON RIVER NATURAL AREA,
FORT LANGLEY

Leader: Eric Habisch
Time: 9:00 am at the Trailhead on Billy
Brown Road closest to 96th Avenue

Join Eric on a leisurely walk around this natural wetland area nestled between the Fort Langley Golf Course, Bedford Landing neighbourhood and the Bedford Channel. Usually a good number of ducks, songbirds at the neighbours' feeders, a kingfisher out in the channel, springtime arrivals or maybe even the resident beavers. If time permits we can also meander a bit of the Fort to Fort Trail. Walking distance is 2.2 kms on gravel trails with a couple of inclines.

E-mail eric.habisch@gmail.com to register.

SATURDAY, MAY 17TH

SURREY BEND REGIONAL PARK

Leader: John Gordon
Time: 9:00 am in the parking lot 17775 – 104th Avenue

Join John for a walk through this park with its variety of habitats from wetland to woodland, a great time of year to see and hear the variety of birds that breed here. The walk is about 4 kms on level gravel trails. Bring a packed lunch to enjoy at the end of the walk.

E-mail johngordonone@gmail.com to register.

**THURSDAY MAY 22ND - SUNDAY MAY 24TH
BC NATURE AGM**

SATURDAY, MAY 31ST

SPARROW CREEK FARM

23000 Rawlison Crescent, Langley

Leader: Roy Cline
Time: 9:00 am, Park near the gate to the pond or come up the gravel driveway to park near the house or barn.

Join Roy for a walk to enjoy the ecosystem diversity of this 7-acre property. Explore a pond, wetland, a coniferous forest and a wild pasture. In addition there is a barn with 2 horses and 4 pet goats. There is an active amphibian habitat restoration project of the pond and the wetlands. A brisk walk would be 45 minutes or meandering of 2 hours.

E-mail clineroy@gmail.com to register.

THURSDAY, JUNE 5TH

GRANT NARROWS PROVINCIAL PARK

/ADDINGTON MARSH WILDLIFE

MANAGEMENT AREA

Leader: Viveka Ohman
Time: 10:00 am at the kiosk near the boat ramp

Join Viveka to look for the birds that use this large dyked marsh area, with its several viewing towers, which is on a major migration route for bird life and has the largest tidal lake in the world. Dress for the weather and bring a packed lunch.
e-mail vohman@shaw.ca to register.

SATURDAY, JUNE 7TH

GLEN VALLEY SPRING BIRD COUNT

Leader: Lisa Dreves

Time: 6.30 am

Meet at Poplar Bar at 6:30 am to split into groups to cover several different areas. The count runs until about 12:00 when we return to Poplar Bar to enjoy a potluck lunch and compare results. Please contact Lisa so we know to expect you. It is early and we know sometimes people forget to set their alarm and we don't want to drive away if there is a possibility of extra help!

E-mail stewardship@leps.bc.ca to register.

THURSDAY, JUNE 12TH

CAMPBELL VALLEY REGIONAL PARK

Leader: Herman Vanderleest
Time: 9:00 am at 8th Avenue parking lot

Join Herman to walk the trails through this popular park with its great variety of trees, flowers, shrubs and birds. This is a moderately difficult trail with some ups and downs so please wear appropriate footwear. Walking distance is approximately 5 km. Bring a packed lunch to eat at a suitable spot at the end of the walk.

E-mail hermannus51@yahoo.ca to register.

WEDNESDAY JUNE 18TH

DERBY REACH REGIONAL PARK

Leader: Ted Goshulak
Time: 9:00 am at the main parking lot at 21801 Allard Crescent

Join Ted to walk the trail from the parking lot to Muench Bar to see the Purple Martins at the nest boxes installed by LEPS and LFN, then through the woods to 208th Street and back to the parking lot. This is an easy walk of about 4 kms on level gravel trails. *E-mail tgosh@twu.ca to register.*

SATURDAY, JUNE 28TH

MILASTER PROPERTY, ALDERGROVE

Leader: Eric Habisch
Time: 9:00 am at 7040 – 272nd Street

Join Eric to see this new park which is not yet open to the public but in which LFN are carrying out a bio-diversity study for the Township of Langley. Wear waterproof footwear as one part of the trail is very wet. This walk is moderately difficult and is about 2 kms. Please note there is not a washroom at this site.

E-mail eric.habisch@gmail.com to register.