



# Nature News

Volume 30, Number 8  
<http://naturecalgary.com>

Newsletter of the Calgary Field Naturalists' Society  
President Cliff Rhodes ph: 403-239-6444

July/August 2009  
[naturecalgary@cfns.fanweb.ca](mailto:naturecalgary@cfns.fanweb.ca)

A new speaker series  
will start on  
September 16  
- see you then

## Nature Calgary General Meeting

Next meeting will be on Wed Sept 16: Details in the September newsletter.

All general meetings are held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month (except June, July & August) at 7:30pm, in **The Burnswest Theatre, Fort Calgary**, and are open to the public. To suggest a speaker or topic please call John McFaul 403-289-9517 or email [naturecalgary@cfns.fanweb.ca](mailto:naturecalgary@cfns.fanweb.ca).



Sketch by Beryl Hallworth

### Calling All Photographers !!

The Nature Calgary web needs photographs!

If you are willing to allow your photographs to be used on the web, please contact Jan Brigden, email [jbrigden@telus.net](mailto:jbrigden@telus.net) or ph. 403-275-1582

## Nature Calgary Issues, Events and Updates

**There are still places for the Nature Calgary Waterton Weekend at Canyon Church Camp: Fri-Sun, June 26-28.** Accommodation in dormitory style cabins (sleeping bags required), all meals provided. Participants are responsible for travel to and from Waterton and park entrance fees. Cost is \$120 for members (this rate is subsidized by Nature Calgary with funds from the Kayak Foundation), \$160 for non-members. To confirm participation send a cheque to: CFNS, PO Box 981, Station M, Calgary, AB T2P 2K4. Mark the envelope "Waterton Trip" and provide contact details. Further details will be provided to confirmed participants. For more info, email [naturecalgary@cfns.fanweb.ca](mailto:naturecalgary@cfns.fanweb.ca) and put Waterton Trip in the subject line.

Mark your calendars for the **Nature Calgary Annual Banquet, Saturday, November 7 (6pm - 10pm)**, at the Best Western Village Park Inn, 1804 Crowchild Trail NW. Speaker: Dr. Stephen Herrero, Professor Emeritus of Environmental Science at University of Calgary, world-renowned expert on grizzly bear ecology, behaviour and conservation. **Note:** We are looking for assistance or ideas regarding door prizes for the banquet. Anyone wanting more information about the banquet could contact Linda and John Stewart at 403-244-0505 or [stewart3@telusplanet.net](mailto:stewart3@telusplanet.net).

**2010 Calgary Big Year Birding Competition!** Join us in 2010 in our Calgary-wide birding competition! It's free and open to all. There will be prizes, fun events, field trips and get-togethers throughout the year. Sign up now to be kept up-to-date with news about the competition and to be informed of events in which you can participate. For more information and to register see <http://birdcomp.fanweb.ca/2010/> and watch the web and Nature News for updates.



For details of these and other volunteer opportunities, email [naturecalgary@cfns.fanweb.ca](mailto:naturecalgary@cfns.fanweb.ca) or see the volunteers' page at <http://naturecalgary.com>

## Volunteer Opportunities

Nature Calgary is operated entirely by volunteers who generously give their skills and time. Volunteers have the opportunity to meet others with similar interests in a fun and rewarding experience. Would you like to participate?

**Nature Calgary Board members needed** - Publicity Director, Directors-at-Large, and Manager Volunteers - contact Jamie 403-243-7232 for details.

**Non-board positions** - Membership Promotion, Field Trip Leader and Welcome Table Volunteers - contact Nature Calgary for more information.

Albertabird  
<http://groups.yahoo.com>

**Adopt-a-Plant Program**  
Conservation of Alberta's  
rare native plants  
<http://ab.adoptaplant.ca>



**All Nature Calgary**  
field trips are free  
and open to all.

**Lead a field trip!**  
To share your  
knowledge of a  
favourite location  
call Gus at  
403-243-2248

**CFNS & Inglewood**  
**24hr Rare Bird Alert**  
**403-221-4519**  
Updated Mon & Thu

## Nature Calgary Study Groups

### Bird Study Group

**Next meeting will be on Wed Sept 2: Details in the September newsletter.**  
**Wed, Oct 7 - TBA**

*Bird Study Group meets 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of the month, Room 211, BioSciences Building, U of C except June through August when field trips replace the meetings. Contact Eric Tull 403-295-0830, [tull@ucalgary.ca](mailto:tull@ucalgary.ca).*

### Botany Study Group

**Thu June 18, 7pm: Big Hill Springs Provincial Park.** Meet in parking lot. Leader: Suzanne Visser.

**Thu June 25, 7:30 pm: Summer Solstice Orchid Walk.** Bow Valley Provincial Park. Leader: Jim Posey. Meet Bow Valley Provincial Park at the Many Springs Fen trailhead parking lot. Waterproof footwear is suggested. Participants must register with trip leader at [mipo@persona.ca](mailto:mipo@persona.ca) or 403-949-4926 before noon the day of the walk.

**Sat July 11, 8:00 am: Ptarmigan Cirque to look for alpine flowers.** Meet Assumption School parking lot 7311 34th Ave. N.W. We will car pool to Highwood Pass. Please phone Robin and Cedric Hitchon 403-271-8789 if planning to attend.

**Thurs July 16, 7:30 pm: Summer Flowers on Nose Hill.** Leader: John McFaul (403-289-9517). Meet at 14 Street and 64 Ave NW.

**Thurs Aug 13, 7:00 pm: Late Summer Flowers at Weaselhead.** Leader Heide Blakely. We will look for late summer blooming plants (asters, goldenrods & maybe the orchid-ladies tresses. Meet at North Glenmore Park on 37th St & 66 Ave SW.

*Botany Study Group meets during the summer months. Contact Suzanne Visser 403-288-0658 or [svisser@ucalgary.ca](mailto:svisser@ucalgary.ca) for further details.*

## Nature Calgary Field Trips

Check [http://www.naturecalgary.com/field\\_trips.html](http://www.naturecalgary.com/field_trips.html) for new trips and updates.

**Trips that are highlighted require pre-registration.**

... June

**Sat Jun 20, 3:30am: Dawn Chorus, Weaselhead.** Hear 40+ bird species. Meet parking lot, 66 Av & 37 St SW. Dress warmly. Leaders, Gus Yaki/Aileen Pelzer, 403-243-2248.

**Sun Jun 21, 7am: Sheep River Valley for Lazuli Buntings.** Meet Anderson LRT (Macleod Tr) S of pedestrian overpass. Bring lunch, Leader, Mike Harrison, 403-236-4700.

**Sun Jun 21, 8am: Birding Griffith Woods Park,** 2.5 km W from Sarcee Tr. on Hwy 8, then left on 69 St SW into Discovery Ridge. Continue straight at traffic circle, then left on Discovery link to parking lot. Leader, Grant Brydle, 403-720-4957.

**Sun Jun 21, 9am: See 30 of the largest or most unusual trees species within a 3 km radius in Calgary.** Meet at Stanley Park, 42 Av SW, two blocks W of Macleod Tr. Leader, Gus Yaki, 403-243-2248. Email [gyaki@calcna.ab.ca](mailto:gyaki@calcna.ab.ca) to register and receive advance information.

**Tue Jun 23, 6:30pm: Birding Bowmont Park.** Meet Maranatha Church, 2111 52 St NW (N end of Home Rd), Leader, Jan Roseneder, 403-286-5920.

**Wed Jun 24, 6:30pm: Visit private garden for 70 species of Cactus and succulents.** Meet at 4915-15 St SW. Host, Hugo Render. For more info, 403-243-2248.

**Sat Jun 27, 7:30am: Birding the Water Valley area.** Meet Assumption School, 34th Av NW (NW corner of Sarcee Tr, at Hwy #1). Bring lunch. Leader, Eric Tull, 403-295-0830.

**Sun Jun 28, 9:30am: Tour of the private Canadian Rocky Mountain Ranch** in the foothills southwest of Calgary to see Bison and Elk, including young, up close. Bring Lunch! Optional unguided hillside nature walk after lunch. Meet at Anderson LRT Stn (Macleod Tr), S of pedestrian overpass, to carpool. Hosts, Pat & Dr. Terry Church. Limit: 20 participants. To register, call 403-249-2641.

**Tue Jun 30, 6:30pm: Bird Griffith Woods Park,** 2.5km W on Hwy 8 from Sarcee Tr SW, then left at 69 St SW into Discovery Ridge. Continue straight at traffic circle, then left on Discovery Link into parking lot. Leader, Gus Yaki, 403-243-2248.

**Field trip leaders** please turn in signed **waiver forms**.

Mail to Nature Calgary, Box 981 Stn. M, Calgary, AB, T2P 2K4,

or hand in at the General and Bird Study Group meeting welcome tables.

Latest version of the **waiver form** is available on the Nature Calgary web <http://tinyurl.com/NCform>.

Please submit a list of bird species seen on trips to [brooke@webfoundations.com](mailto:brooke@webfoundations.com)

**For more nature activities in the Calgary area visit:**

**Canadian Parks & Wilderness Society (CPAWS)**

<http://cpawscalgary.org>

**Weaselhead & Glenmore Park Preservation Society**

<http://talkaboutwildlife.ca>

**Alberta Wilderness Association**

<http://albertawilderness.ca>

**Calgary Area Outdoor Council (CAOC)**

<http://www.caoc.ab.ca>

**Friends of Fish Creek**

<http://friendsoffishcreek.org>

**Cross Conservation Area**

<http://crossconservation.org>

## ...July

**Wed Jul 1, 6:30am: 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 leaders, Aileen Pelzer/Gus Yaki, 243-2248, to ensure vehicle space for return.

**Sat Jul 4, 8am: Birding Bebo Grove,** Fish Creek Provincial Park (FCPP), S end of 24 St SW. Leader, Al Borgardt, 403-281-4306.

**Tue Jul 7, 6:30pm: Bird Beaverdam Flats Park.** Meet S parking lot (Lynnview Rd & Lynnview Way, S of 62 Av SE). N from Glenmore Tr at 18 St SE, then left. Leader, Andrew Hart, 403-279-5209.

**Tue Jul 14, 6:30pm: Bird Fish Creek Provincial Park,** S. of Hwy 22. Meet at Boat Launch, S. end of Bow Bottom Tr SE. Leader, Nimali Seneviratne, 403-836-5146.

**Sat Jul 18, 8am: Bird Weed Lake & Wyndham/Carseland Prov. Park.** Meet at Carburn Park, S from Glenmore Tr E at 18 St SE to second stoplight, then right & follow signs. Bring lunch. Leader, Andrew Hart, 403-279-5209.

**Sat Jul 18, 8am: Bird Votier's Flats,** FCPP, S end of Elbow Dr SW. Leader, Al Borgardt, 403-281-4306.

**Sun Jul 19, 7:30am. Bird Bow Valley Provincial Park.** Meet Assumption School, 34th Av NW (NW corner of Sarcee Tr, at Hwy #1). Bring lunch. Leader, Eric Tull, 403-295-0830.

**Tue Jul 21, 6:30pm: Bird Weaselhead Natural Area.** Meet parking lot, 37 St/66 Av SW. Leader, Aileen Pelzer, 403-243-2248.

**Tue Jul 28, 6:30pm: Bird Bowness Park,** 48 Av, W of 85 St NW. Meet first parking lot. Leader, TBA, 403-243-2248.

## ...August

**Sat Aug 1, 7am: 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 leaders, Aileen Pelzer/Gus Yaki, 243-2248, to ensure vehicle space for return.

**Tue Aug 4, 6:30pm: Bird Mallard Point,** E end of Canyon Meadows Dr SE. Leader, Andrew Hart, 403-279-5209.

**Sat Aug 8, 8am: Bird Carburn Park.** Meet in parking lot. S from Glenmore Tr E at 18 St SE to second stoplight, then right & follow signs. Leader, Al Borgardt, 403-281-4306.

**Sat Aug 8, 9am: Bird E of Calgary for autumn migrant shorebirds,** etc. Meet at Inglewood Bird Sanctuary at E end of 9 Av SE. Bring lunch. Leader, Eric Tull, 403-295-0830.

**Sun Aug 9, 8am: Birding Griffith Woods Park,** 2.5km W on Hwy 8 from Sarcee Tr SW, then left at 69 St SW into Discovery Ridge. Continue straight at traffic circle, then left on Discovery Link into parking lot. Leader, Grant Brydle, 720-4957.

**Tue Aug 11, 6:30pm: Bird Inglewood Bird Sanctuary,** E end of 9 Av SE. Leader, Aileen Pelzer, 403-243-2248.

**Sat Aug 15, 8am: Bird Hull's Woods,** FCPP, for autumn migrating warblers, etc. Meet in first parking lot, E of Bow Bottom Tr after entering Park. Leader, Al Borgardt, 403-281-4306.

**Sun Aug 16, 8:30am: Bird Beaverdam Flats Park.** Meet S parking lot (Lynnview Rd & Lynnview Way, S of 62 Av SE). N from Glenmore Tr at 18 St SE, then left. Leader, Andrew Hart, 403-279-5209.

**Tue Aug 18, 6:30pm: Bird Carburn Park,** S from Glenmore Tr E at 18 St SE to second stoplight, then right & follow signs. Leader, Gus Yaki, 403-243-2248.

**Tue Aug 25, 6:30pm: Bird Edworthy Park,** Meet S side of Boothman Pedestrian Bridge accessed from Shaganappi Tr & Bowness Rd if N of river, or from W end of Spruce Dr if S of river. Leader, TBA, 403-243-2248.

## ...September

**Tue, Sep 1, 7:30am: 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 leaders, Aileen Pelzer/Gus Yaki, 403-243-2248, to ensure vehicle space for return.

## Of General Interest

### Watch out for:

#### 9th Prairie Conservation and Endangered Species Conference

February 25-27, 2010  
Winnipeg, Manitoba  
<http://www.pcesc.ca>

#### 36th Annual Natural Areas Conference

**Living on the Edge** - why Natural Areas matter  
September 15-18, 2009  
Vancouver, WA, USA  
<http://naturalarea.org>  
for conference info

**Biogeoscience Institute, University of Calgary, Spring Naturalist Weekend**, June 19-21, 2009 at the Barrier Lake Field Station in Kananaskis Country. Cost: \$100 + GST, includes 5 meals and accommodation for 2 nights. Hosted by Dr. Ed Johnson and sessions led by faculty from the University of Calgary. Specific topics will be in the May newsletter. More info: Judy Buchanan-Mappin, ph. 403-220-5355, email: [jmbuchan@ucalgary.ca](mailto:jmbuchan@ucalgary.ca).

**Calgary Horticultural Society Garden Competition**, July 25 & 26. Competitors are encouraged to enter their gardens in the 2009 Garden Competition in a variety of categories. It still only costs \$10 per category to enter and is open to amateur gardeners within Calgary's city limits. Deadline for entries: Friday, July 3rd at 12:00 NOON. More info: <http://www.calhort.org/events/gardencompetition.aspx?id=239>.

**Botany BC 2009 - Muncho Lake Park/Liard Hot Springs**, Wednesday July 15th through Saturday, July 18th, 2009, based out of Muncho Lake Provincial Park Campground and Northern Rockies Lodge approximately 200km northwest of Fort Nelson. Transportation from Prince George in vans will be available (leaving Tuesday July 14th returning Sunday July 19th). For registration form check the website: <http://members.shaw.ca/dmeidinger/botanybc/>

A request from Jennette Fox ([mjfox@fieraconsulting.ca](mailto:mjfox@fieraconsulting.ca))

#### Subject: **Volunteer Dragonfly Project**

Hi. I am helping coordinate a volunteer project surveying for dragonflies for the nature conservancy. We are looking for volunteers to do surveys all over the province and the rest of Canada as well. For more information you can check out the website: <http://www.jennettefox.com>. It has a basic methodology, information about the project and why it's so important plus all the resources the volunteers would use during the summer. The time commitment is 1 hour a week to walk around your favorite pond, for the entire summer. We also have a Facebook group: The Nature Conservancy Dragonfly and Damsel fly project. Please contact me if you are interested.

**Photo Contests 2009-2010** - The Natural Areas Adopt-A-Park program is looking for photos taken in Calgary's Natural Environment Parks taken by amateur photographers. For more information see <http://www.calgary.ca> and search on "photo contest", or contact Linda Vaxvick at 403-239-9434.

Bowmont NEP: deadline Oct 9, 2009

Twelve Mile Coulee NEP: deadline Feb 12, 2010

Weaselhead NEP: deadline Jan 10, 2010

[naturecalgary@cfns.fanweb.ca](mailto:naturecalgary@cfns.fanweb.ca)

Nature Calgary, PO Box  
981, Station M,  
Calgary, AB T2P 2K4

#### Nature Calgary Memberships

Individual \$20.00/yr  
Family \$25.00/yr

Contact Donna,  
403-276-7799

♻️ please recycle

#### Nature Calgary members receive discounts at businesses shown below (with membership card)

##### Campers Village (10% discount)

7208 Macleod Tr SE 403-252-3338

##### The Wild Bird Store (10% discount)

D3-8330 Macleod Tr S 403-640-2632

##### Calgary Honda (special discounted rates)

Anderson & Macleod 403-253-6531, x 4021

Nature Calgary (Calgary Field Naturalists' Society) publishes **Nature News** 8 times per year. Send copy to Brooke [brooke@webfoundations.com](mailto:brooke@webfoundations.com) ph: 403-295-0830 and Jan [jebrigden\\*@\\*telus.net](mailto:jebrigden*@*telus.net) (remove \*) ph: 403-275-1582.

**Deadline for the September issue is Friday August 14, 2009.**