

## June 2021 - Walk Schedule

<p>Thursday June 17 9:30 am</p>	<p><b>German Mills Meadow and Natural Habitat (German Mills Settlers' Park) – Nature Walk</b>  <b>Leader:</b> Theresa Moore  <b>Meeting spot:</b> Northeast corner of Leslie and Steeles.  This is a 2 hour circular walk covering approx. 5km over mostly paved surfaces which are flat with some gentle slopes. We will proceed north on Leslie to the meadow on the west side of German Mills Creek and will see a variety of songbirds as well as a few wildflowers and possibly insects. We will also discuss the collaboration between the walk leader, Settlers Park Residents Association and Town of Markham on a variety of projects to protect wildlife and habitat.  <b>What to bring:</b> Masks, binoculars, water, sunscreen, insect repellent, snacks.  <b>Seating:</b> Benches along the route and will be passed twice.  <b>Washrooms:</b> No washrooms are available.  <b>TTC info:</b> From the Finch subway station, take the 53B Steeles East to Markham bus. Go to Steeles and Leslie. Meet at the northeast corner of Leslie and Steeles.</p>
<p>Friday June 18 9:00 am</p>	<p><b>Don Valley Crothers Woods and Cottonwoods Flats - Nature Walk</b>  <b>Leader:</b> Ellen Schwartzel  <b>Meeting spot:</b> Northeast corner of Beechwood Dr and O'Connor Drive  This is a 2 hour circular walk covering 3.5km over mostly unpaved and uneven surfaces with some gentle slopes as well as steep slopes. We will meet at the northeast corner of Beechwood Dr and O'Connor Drive. We will walk down under the DVP, past the Police Dog Training Facility and to Cottonwood Flats, where TFN volunteers are contributing to a multi-year citizen science monitoring project. We will enjoy the cool shade of beeches, oaks and hickories in Crothers Woods. We may see Sarsaparilla. We then retrace our way back to Beechwood and O'Connor.  <b>What to bring:</b> Masks, binoculars, water, sunscreen, insect repellent, snacks and sturdy shoes.  <b>Seating:</b> No seating is available.  <b>Washrooms:</b> No washrooms are available.</p>
<p>Tuesday June 22 9:00 am</p>	<p><b>Betty Sutherland Trail North York - Nature Walk</b>  <b>Leader:</b> Zunaid Khan  <b>Meeting spot:</b> Corner of Leslie Street and Sheppard Avenue East, in front of the Leslie subway entrance.  This is a 2-3 hour circular walk covering 8-10km over mostly paved surfaces with gentle slopes as well as some steep slopes. We will walk along the Betty Sutherland trail starting at Sheppard &amp; Leslie following the Don River to Don Mills &amp; Duncan Mill Road and back, enjoying the beauty nature has to offer. Opportunities to observe a wide variety of birds including Red-winged Blackbirds, Baltimore Orioles, Eastern Kingbirds, and Yellow Warblers.  <b>What to bring:</b> Masks, binoculars, water, cameras, sunscreen, insect repellent, snacks.  <b>Stairs:</b> There are stairs. No railings.  <b>Seating:</b> No seating is available.  <b>Washrooms:</b> No washrooms are available.  <b>TTC info:</b> Take the subway to the Leslie subway stop on the Sheppard line, take the Leslie Street exit.  <b>Parking:</b> There is a parking lot on the northwest corner of Sheppard and Leslie, access is off Sheppard Avenue.</p>

<p>Thursday June 24 1:00 pm</p>	<p><b>Mount Pleasant Cemetery - Nature and Heritage Walk</b>  <b>Leaders:</b> Paul Overy and Kayoko Smith  <b>Meeting spot:</b> Inside the gates at the Yonge St. entrance, 4 blocks north of St. Clair Avenue.  This is a 2-hour linear walk covering 2.5 km over mostly flat, paved surfaces with some steep slopes. We will explore some of the rich natural history of the Cemetery, including the arboretum, which is home to rare tree species and areas where diverse birds and mammals can be found. We will also discuss the human history of the Cemetery and some remarkable features of this important space in Toronto. The walk will end just north of the entrance to the Moore Park Ravine, from which the South Leaside and Mount Pleasant buses have stops 2 blocks away.  <b>What to bring:</b> Masks, binoculars, water, sunscreen, snacks if you wish. Cameras - but see the note below about photo restrictions.  <b>Washrooms:</b> Washrooms are available along the way.  <b>TTC info:</b> Go to St. Clair Station on TTC Line 1 and walk north to the meeting point.  <b>NOTE:</b> <i>No photos of the headstones or monuments are allowed to be taken in the cemetery for privacy reasons; only family members can take photos. Photos can, however, be taken of the natural features of the Cemetery, such as the trees.</i></p>
<p>Saturday June 26 10:00 am</p>	<p><b>Kichigo Park Neighbourhood Walk - Nature and Heritage Walk - the lost shoreline of Ashbridges Bay.</b>  <b>Leader:</b> Joanne Doucette  <b>Meeting spot:</b> Southeast corner of Queen Street East and Coxwell Avenue  This is a 3 hour circular walk covering 8 km over mostly unpaved, flat even surfaces with some gentle slopes. The walk leader is part of an Indigenous Sharing Circle planning a new park called Kichigo Park after the Anishnaabe family who were there when the settlers arrived. We will start at the park and talk about nature as it was in 1792 and as it evolved over time. From the site of the future park, we will walk south through Woodbine Park to the remnant of Ashbridges Bay. We will then walk north through the old sewage treatment grounds, through Jonathan Ashbridge Park to the Ashbridge Estate where the walk will end.  <b>What to bring:</b> Masks, binoculars, water, cameras, sunscreen, insect repellent, snacks if you wish.  <b>Washrooms:</b> Washrooms are available along the way.  <b>TTC info:</b> The meeting is accessible by bus from the Coxwell Subway Station and by the Queen Street streetcars.</p>
<p>Wednesday June 30 9:00 am</p>	<p><b>Gates Gully to Guild Park (South Marine Park, Scarborough) - Nature Walk</b>  <b>Leader:</b> Charles Bruce-Thompson  <b>Meeting spot:</b> Corner of Kingston Rd and Ravine Drive.  This is a 3 hour circular walk covering 8 km over mostly paved, flat surfaces with some steep slopes. We'll walk down to Sylvan Park then along Sylvan Ave to the Guild Park. Then down to the Waterfront Trail to return via Gates Gully. Quite a lot of the walk is along a suburban Scarborough street that has its own charms.  <b>What to bring:</b> Masks, binoculars, water, sunscreen, insect repellent, snacks.  <b>Seating:</b> About half way through the walk there are places to sit in Guild Park and also just before ascending Gates Gully near the end of the walk.  <b>Washrooms:</b> Available along the way.  <b>TTC info:</b> Take the 102 Markham bus from Warden Station.</p>