

September 2021 - Walk Schedule

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| <p>Monday September 6 10:00 am</p> | <p>Newtonbrook Ravine - nature walk Leader - Ellen Schwartzel Meeting spot: On the sidewalk at the southeast corner of Bayview Ave and Finch Ave., near a cluster of townhomes called “Rainbow Creekway”. Location: Newtonbrook Ravine – Finch and Bayview This is a 2 hour circular walk covering 3.5 km over mostly unpaved and uneven surfaces with gentle slopes as well as some steep slopes. A morning walk in a shady Willowdale ravine, with a few steep hills. Wetland patches of cattails alternate with areas of meadow and open woodland. We'll see berries (nannyberry and highbush cranberry) and native forbs like white vervain, jewelweed and thimbleberry. Local volunteers (and TFN members) have been protecting snapping turtle nests in this area. Depending on the group's interest, we could continue past Forest Grove and down into the next stretch of ravine. Then we will double back and end back at Finch and Bayview. What to bring: Masks, binoculars, water, sunhat, sunscreen, insect repellent, snacks. A walking stick would be useful. Washrooms: No washrooms are available. TTC: From Finch subway station, take any Finch East bus to Bayview. Note that TTC will operate on holiday service schedule on September 6. We will start walking south on Bayview and immediately take a path on the left to the northern dead-end of Burbank Drive. Parking: If driving, you may want to park on a side street nearby. Walk Leader Cell Number: 647.463.5562</p> |
| <p>Wednesday September 8 9:00 am</p> | <p>Thompson Memorial Park - nature and heritage Leader - Charles Bruce-Thompson Meeting spot: The first parking lot 100 metres north of Lawrence Ave on the right side of Brimley Rd. NOT the main parking lot a bit further north. Location: Thomson Memorial Park in Scarborough. This is a 2 hour circular walk covering 6 km over mostly flat, paved surfaces with some gentle slopes. A walk through Thompson Memorial Park, the historic property of the Thompson family – the first European settlers in Scarborough Township, continuing alongside West Highland Creek. We'll see a bit of the Scarborough Butterfly Trail — the pilot project for The Meadoway – in all it's floral glory. What to bring: Masks, binoculars, water, sunhat, sunscreen, insect repellent, snacks if you wish. Washrooms: No washrooms are available. TTC: A 15 minute walk from Lawrence East station on Line 3. Walk Leader Cell Number: 416.778.5340</p> |

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| <p>Saturday September 11 10:00 am</p> | <p>Broadview – Don Jail – Broadview loop - heritage walk Leader: Richard Longley Meeting spot: Broadview Station, the parkette/meeting place to the north Location: Riverdale Park, Broadview Avenue This is a 3 hour circular walk covering 7 km over mostly paved, flat surfaces with some gentle slopes. Discover architecture, multi-cultural history and nature around the perimeter of a ravine that is packed with all three. For those interested, we will relax at the Edmund Burke pub on Danforth Ave at the end of the walk. What to bring: Masks, camera, water, snacks if you wish. Dress appropriately for the weather. Sneakers are OK if the conditions are not muddy. Washrooms: Available along the way. TTC: Take the subway to Broadview station. Parking: Driving is NOT recommended for this walk. Walk leader cell number: 416.961.2766</p> |
| <p>Thursday September 16 9:00 am</p> | <p>Betty Sutherland Trail - nature walk Leader: Zunaid Khan Meeting spot: Outside the Leslie subway entrance on the corner of Leslie St and Sheppard Ave East. Location: Betty Sutherland Trail This is a two-hour circular walk covering 5-8 km over mostly paved, flat surfaces with some gentle slopes. We will walk along the Betty Sutherland Trail starting at Leslie St and Sheppard Ave East and go from the Don River to Duncan Mills Road and back through a forested area, wildflower meadow and a section of newly planted trees. There will be opportunities to observe a number of different birds including some potential migrants as fall migration will be well underway. Stairs: There are stairs What to bring: Masks, binoculars, camera, water, sunhat, sunscreen, insect repellent and snacks and wear comfortable shoes. Washrooms: No washrooms are available. TTC: Take the subway to the Leslie Street station. Parking: It is mostly likely the parking lot on the northwest corner of Leslie and Sheppard will be closed due to construction in the area. If that is the case, the closest parking would be at the Canadian Tire store off Sheppard Ave just west of Leslie Street. Walk Leader cell number: 416-716-6464</p> |

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| <p>Sunday September 19 9:00 am</p> | <p>Centennial Park and Etobicoke Creek - nature Leader: Lillian Natalizio Meeting spot: Parking lot at the north end of Elmcrest Rd Location: Centennial Park in Etobicoke This is a 2 ½ -hour circular walk covering 5 km over mostly unpaved, uneven flat surfaces with some steep slopes. We will walk west through Centennial Park to the Etobicoke Creek, proceeding north to Eglinton Ave and back, taking in the sights of remnant woodlands, a ravine cliff with exposed shale bedrock, and a manufactured wetland. What to bring: Masks, binoculars, water, sunhat, sunscreen, insect repellent, snacks if you wish. Washrooms: Available near the parking lot and also inside the conservatory. TTC: Take the #48 Rathburn bus from Royal York subway station to Rathburn Road and Elmcrest Rd. Parking: The parking lot is at the north end of Elmcrest Rd. where we will meet. Walk leader cell number: 416.577.7618</p> |
| <p>Sunday September 19 10:00 am</p> | <p>Two Ravines and Mt Pleasant Cemetery - nature and heritage Leader: Richard Longley Meeting spot: Rosedale subway station Location: Rosedale – Yellow Creek Ravine – Mt Pleasant Cemetery – Mud Creek Ravine – Upper Sherbourne This is a 3 hour linear walk covering 8 km over mostly unpaved, uneven and flat surfaces with some steep slopes. Rosedale heritage, Yellow Creek Ravine (somewhat steep, rugged), Mt Pleasant cemetery (interesting graves), Mud Creek Ravine (downhill, smooth), Brickworks (break for washrooms, food and beverages). Bailout available at Brickworks: take the bus to Broadview Stn. End of walk: alternatives: through more Rosedale heritage to Sherbourne Station (leader's route) – or return to Rosedale TTC from foot of Milkman's Lane (easy, hard to get lost, directions will be given). What to bring: Masks, binoculars, water, sunhat, sunscreen, insect repellent, snacks if you wish (may be necessary if the Brick works cafe is closed). Hiking boots or rugged sneakers are advised. Otherwise, dress appropriate for weather conditions. Stairs: There are stairs Washrooms: Available along the way TTC: Go to the Rosedale subway station on line 1. Parking: The Mud Creek section of the walk starts at the east end of Roxburgh at Mt Pleasant. Suggest to park in Chestnut Park, a few metres west of the end of Roxburgh. Wait for the group at the east end of Roxburgh. We should arrive around 10:30 am. Return to this start at the end of the walk. Walk leader cell number: 416.961.2766</p> |

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| <p>Friday September 24 1:00 pm</p> | <p>James Gardens in Etobicoke - nature and heritage Leaders: Anne Heber and Kayoko Smith Meeting spot: Meet at the giant turtle beside the duck pond in the parking lot. Location: James Gardens, 99 Edenbridge Dr., Etobicoke This is a 2 ½ hour circular walk covering approx. 7 km over mostly unpaved, uneven surfaces with gentle slopes as well as some steep slopes. Find out about the beginnings of James Gardens and the James family who were the original owners of the property. The golf club on the opposite side of the Humber River is on a flood plain where Hurricane Hazel passed in 1954. After walking around the gardens and seeing the residence, we will walk along the Humber Trail to the railway bridge and back to the parking lot and discover nature in the area. Stairs: There are stairs to the James residence, but there is a detour to avoid the stairs. What to bring: Masks, water, binoculars, camera, sunscreen, sunhat, and insect repellent. Snacks if you wish. Washrooms: Available in the parking lot at the beginning and end of the walk. TTC: From Royal York station, take Royal York bus 73 (north) to Edenbridge, walk east on Edenbridge to James Gardens. Parking: There is a large parking lot at the entrance to the gardens off Edenbridge. Walk leaders cell numbers: Anne Heber 647.705.8450 and Kayoko Smith 647.633.3687</p> |
| <p>Thursday September 30 9:15 am</p> | <p>Toronto Island Eastern Half - nature Leader: Ellen Schwartzel Meeting spot: Toronto Island Ferry Terminal. Make sure to buy your ferry ticket online the day before. Here is the link to buy tickets: https://secure.toronto.ca/FerryTicketOnline/tickets2/index.jsp Please arrive at Ferry Terminal by 9:15 am, in case the ferry departs early. We'll meet inside the ferry terminal, near the women's washroom. We will take the ferry to Ward's Island, scheduled to leave at 9:30 am. Location: Toronto Islands; Wards and Centre Island This is a 2-3 hour linear walk covering approx. 3 km over mostly unpaved, even, and fairly flat surfaces. We may walk in sandy areas not suitable for wheels such as strollers. Starting on Ward's Island, we will check out the Wards Island Environmental Significant Area (ESA), then make our way to Centre Island, arriving at the ferry dock likely before 1:00 pm. The ferry leaves Centre Island hourly. Option to finish after the Wards ESA and return on the ferry from Wards at 11 am or noon. Jenny Bull, long-time Island resident naturalist, hopes to join us. We may see fall migrant birds, green frogs, cottonwoods coppiced by the beaver, several interesting grasses, and various herbaceous plants such as grey goldenrod, wormwood, evening primrose, and the regionally rare bushy cinquefoil. We will have lunch in a shady spot. What to bring: Mask, binoculars, sun hat, sun screen, rain gear (if forecasted), insect repellent (ticks possible), water and lunch. Washrooms: Washrooms available at the ferry dock, Ward's Island and on Centre Island. Walk Leader Cell Number: 647.463.5562</p> |