

April 2022 - walk schedule

<p>Friday April 8 9:00 am</p>	<p>East Don Parklands - nature walk Walk Leader: Zunaid Khan Location: North York Meeting spot: Northwest corner of Leslie St and Sheppard Ave.</p> <p>This is a 2-3 hour circular walk covering 5-8 kms over mostly paved, flat surfaces with some gentle slopes.</p> <p>We will walk along the Don River trail from Leslie Street and Sheppard Ave East through the East Don Parklands to Finch Ave East and back. We hope to see signs of spring - both plants and birds. An opportunity to see the work the city is doing to improve the Don River water quality and areas where they have removed invasive species and planted native species.</p> <p>Stairs: No stairs. Washrooms: Washrooms are not available. What to bring: Binoculars, snacks, water. This is a mostly paved trail which should be clear of any snow and ice at this time of year. Wear comfortable walking shoes or boots. TTC: Take the subway to the Leslie station on Line 4. Parking: Note that the city parking lot at the beginning of this trail is closed due construction. The closest free parking is at the IKEA located at 15 Provost Drive off Sheppard Ave East. There is also a paid parking lot at the Leslie subway station. Walk Leader Cell Number: 416.716.6464</p>
<p>Tuesday April 12 8:00 am</p>	<p>Leslie Street Spit - nature walk Walk Leader: Charles Bruce-Thompson Location: Tommy Thompson Park Meeting spot: Meet at the entrance to Tommy Thompson Park, 1 Leslie Street.</p> <p>This is a 3 hour circular walk covering 7 kms over mostly paved, fairly flat surfaces.</p> <p>We'll walk along the north side of the Spit at least as far as the pedestrian bridge and return via the wetlands of cells one and two. Among other things, we'll have a look at the new tern rafts on Embayment D. We may spot some early migrants, but no guarantees. Something interesting always shows up on the Spit!</p> <p>Stairs: No stairs. Washrooms: Washrooms are available at the beginning. What to bring: Binoculars, snacks, water. A bird guide might come in handy to settle disputes over nomenclature. It can get muddy, so sturdy, waterproof footwear is recommended. If anyone has the Merlin app on their phone, it would be a good opportunity to try it out. TTC: From the Donlands subway station on line 2, take the #83 Jones bus to Commissioners Street. From there, it's a 7-minute walk to the end of Leslie St. Parking: There is a free parking lot at the entrance to Tommy Thompson Park. Walk Leader Cell Number: 416.778.5340</p>

<p>Wednesday April 13 10:00 am</p>	<p>Edwards Gardens, Wilket Creek Ravine and surrounding area - nature and heritage Walk Leader: Kayoka Smith Location: Edwards Gardens Meeting spot: In front of the Toronto Botanical Garden gift shop</p> <p>This is a 3 hour circular walk covering 4 kms over mostly unpaved, even flat surfaces with some steep slopes.</p> <p>We will walk Edwards Gardens and the Wilket Creek trail to Sunnybrook Park looking for signs of spring, wych hazel, snowdrops in bloom and skunk cabbage poking out from icy water. We will visit the table land of the Wilket Creek Ravine looking for what's in bloom and hope to spot spring migrants, nature and a touch of history of the area.</p> <p>Stairs: There are stairs. Washrooms: Washrooms are available at the beginning. What to bring: Binoculars, snacks, water. Dress appropriately for the weather. Walking poles and hiking boots would be helpful. TTC: From the Eglinton Station on line 1, take the #51 or #54 bus to Lawrence and Leslie. Or from the Lawrence Station on line 1, take the #162 bus to Lawrence and Leslie. Parking: There is a large paid parking lot at the Toronto Botanical Garden. Walk Leader Cell Number: 647.633.3687 NOTE: LIMIT THE NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS TO 10 PEOPLE INCLUDING THE WALK LEADER.</p>
<p>Saturday April 16 9:30 am</p>	<p>High Park in April - nature walk Walk Leader: Ellen Schwartzel Location: High Park Meeting spot: Meet at the park entrance at Bloor St W and High Park Ave – south side of Bloor Street, close to the High Park subway station.</p> <p>This is a 3 hour circular walk covering 3.5 kms over mostly unpaved and uneven surfaces with gentle slopes and some steep slopes.</p> <p>We will gather on the high tablelands of High Park and imagine times past when this open savannah landscape covered much of the Toronto region. We will head south along Wendigo Creek to Grenadier Pond, where we may see ducks, swans, cormorants and muskrat lodges. Sassafras and black cherry grow along the way. We may see hawks, warblers and turtles. We will walk to the duck ponds and end up at the Grenadier Café, where take-out food is for sale on weekends. Sharing lunch with other TFNers at nearby picnic tables would be a nice option before heading back to the High Park subway station.</p> <p>Stairs: There are stairs. Washrooms: Washrooms are available at the Chess House at Bloor Street near our starting point, and probably also at the Grenadier Café, where portables might be available in the parking lot. What to bring: Binoculars, layered clothing, a bagged lunch or money for take-out lunch at the Grenadier Café. Wear sturdy shoes as it might be muddy. TTC: Take the subway to the High Park subway station on line 2.</p>

	<p>Parking: Note that High Park is closed to vehicles on weekends, therefore no access to any of the parking lots within the park. Walk Leader Cell Number: 647.463.5562</p>
<p>Wednesday April 20 10:00 am</p>	<p>Ashbridge's Bay - nature and heritage Walk Leader: Robert Kortright Location: Ashbridge's Bay Park Meeting spot: South side of parking lot at Woodbine bus loop at Lake Shore Blvd</p> <p>This is a 2 hour circular walk covering 3 km over mostly paved, fairly flat surfaces.</p> <p>We will circumnavigate the park, noting shoreline changes over the last 110 years, recent and current projects in the park and at the wastewater treatment plant, the trees, and birds.</p> <p>Stairs: No stairs. Washrooms: Washrooms are available at the beginning. What to bring: Binoculars, water, snacks. Dress appropriately for the weather. TTC: From the Woodbine subway station on line 2, take the #92 Woodbine southbound bus to the loop at Lake Shore Blvd. Parking: There is a parking lot at the Woodbine bus loop. Walk Leader Cell Number: 416.699.8842</p>
<p>Friday April 22 3:00 pm</p>	<p>Edwards Gardens early spring flowers - nature walk Walk Leader: Martin Chen Location: Edwards Gardens, 755 Lawrence East Meeting spot: In front of the gift shop at the Toronto Botanical Garden (in the parking lot).</p> <p>This is a 1.5 hour circular walk covering 4 km over mostly paved, fairly flat surfaces.</p> <p>An early look at the garden. We will walk from Lawrence to Eglinton following Wilket Creek.</p> <p>Stairs: No stairs. Washrooms: Washrooms are available at the beginning and midpoint. What to bring: Binoculars, snacks, water. Dress appropriately for the weather - it's still April. TTC: From the Eglinton Station on line 1, take the #51 or #54 bus to Lawrence and Leslie. Or from the Lawrence Station on line 1, take the #162 bus to Lawrence and Leslie. Parking: There is a large paid parking lot at the Toronto Botanical Garden. Walk Leader Cell Number: 416.854.4157</p>

<p>Saturday April 23 10:00 am</p>	<p>German Mills nature walk and Earth Day litter pick up - nature walk Leader: Theresa Moore Location: German Mills Meeting spot: Northeast corner of Leslie and Steeles</p> <p>This is a 2.5 hour circular walk covering 5 km over mostly paved, flat surfaces with some gentle slopes.</p> <p>We will look for signs of Spring as we walk up Leslie to the Park then along the east side of German Mills Creek to John Street and back through the Meadow habitat on the west side of the creek. We'll find many species of birds in this diverse habitat as well as a few early blooming wildflowers and will also discuss the park's history and conservation efforts. Members are also encouraged to participate in an Earth Day litter pick up along our route. Cotton gloves and plastic bags will be provided courtesy of the Town of Markham.</p> <p>Stairs: No stairs. Washrooms: No washrooms are available. What to bring: Binoculars, snacks, water. Dress appropriately for the weather. TTC: From the Eglinton station on line 1, take the #51 Leslie bus to the intersection of Leslie and Steeles Ave. Parking: Parking is permitted on Leslie above Steeles but beware of soft shoulders of the west side of the street. Unless you are opting out of the litter pick up, please meet the group at the corner of Leslie and Steeles rather than at the park entrance, as there will be many bird species and much litter on this first part of the walk. Walk Leader Cell Number: 416.493.3201 NOTE: LIMIT THE NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS TO 15.</p>
<p>Saturday April 23 2:00 pm</p>	<p>Lower Highland Creek Park - nature walk (wildflowers) Leader: Danielle Pellatt-Hall Location: Wilket Creek / Sunnybrook parks Meeting spot: Meet at West Hill, where the trail begins at the southeast intersection of Beechgrove Drive and Lawrence Avenue East.</p> <p>This is a 3 hour circular walk covering 4 km over mostly paved surfaces with gentle slopes.</p> <p>We will begin where the trail starts at the Southeast intersection of Beechgrove Drive and Lawrence Avenue East. There is public parking a little bit North of the meeting place, in Colonel Danforth Park, where you can park and walk to the meeting location. There is also limited street parking on Beechgrove Drive.</p> <p>This location features a lovely assortment of native spring ephemeral wildflowers. If the conditions are good, we can hope to see Bloodroot, Ontario wild ginger, Mayapples, Trilliums and more! We will walk down the trail until it meets the Lakefront. Upon arrival at the Lakefront, we will take a 20 minute break before starting the return journey to our original meeting location. This will be a slow paced walk as we will stop frequently to appreciate the finer details of the plants that we</p>

	<p>see. Bring your plant ID guides if you have any, and make sure your phone is charged if you prefer using plant ID apps!</p> <p>Stairs: No stairs.</p> <p>Washrooms: No washrooms are available.</p> <p>What to bring: Snacks, water, plant ID guide, camera. Dress appropriately for the weather as it may still be a little chilly at this time and 3 hours is a long time in the cold.</p> <p>TTC info: From the Eglinton station on line 1, take the #54 bus to Beechgrove Drive and Lawrence Avenue East.</p> <p>Parking: There is public parking a little bit north of the meeting place, in Colonel Danforth Park, where you can park and walk to the meeting location. There is also limited street parking on Beechgrove Drive.</p> <p>Walk Leader Cell Number: 647.444.2925</p>
<p>Thursday April 28 10:00 am</p>	<p>Col. Samuel Smith Park spring migrants - birding walk</p> <p>Leader: David Creelman</p> <p>Location: Col. Samuel Smith Park, 3145 Lake Shore Blvd W, Etobicoke, ON M8V 4B6</p> <p>Meeting spot: Southeast corner of Lakeshore Blvd W. and Kipling Ave.</p> <p>This is a 3 hour linear walk covering 2-4 km over mostly unpaved, even, flat surfaces with some gentle slopes.</p> <p>A casual, but observant, walk through Col. Sam Smith Park, including areas adjoining Humber College. Spring migrants will be around, and we will search for them throughout the park. The TTC is always nearby if you need to leave early.</p> <p>Stairs: No stairs.</p> <p>Washrooms: Washrooms are available along the way.</p> <p>What to bring: Binoculars, water, snacks/lunch, layered clothing, appropriate footwear, cameras if desired. Even on a warm day, winds off the lake may make it colder when we are near the water. If there has been rain, grassy areas and some paths will be wet.</p> <p>TTC info: TTC 501 streetcar (or bus) running along the Lakeshore and the Kipling #44 and express #944 buses running from the Kipling subway station all stop at our meeting place.</p> <p>Parking: There are paid and unpaid parking lots around Sam Smith Park and the Humber College Campus.</p> <p>Walk Leader Cell Number: 647.772.1953</p>

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