

May 2022 - walk schedule

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| <p>Sunday May 1 2:30 pm</p> | <p>U of T downtown campus: its nature and development - nature and heritage Walk leaders: Paul Overy and Ellen Schwartzel Location: From Queen's Park Circle to College and St. George St. Meeting spot: NE corner of Queen's Park Circle and Wellesley St.</p> <p>This is a 2 hour linear walk covering 2 km over mostly paved flat surfaces with some gentle slopes.</p> <p>An exploration of the St. George campus of the University of Toronto. With a focus on the University's natural setting, past, present and planned, we'll see some splendid trees and perhaps spring blossoms too! We'll also discuss some key environmental initiatives on campus and its development as an institution of higher learning.</p> <p>What to bring: Bring curiosity, water, a mask (for crowded situations) and a snack if you like. Washrooms: Washrooms are not available Stairs: No stairs. TTC info: There are 2 main options to travel to the start point by TTC: the 94 Wellesley bus from the Ossington, Castle Frank or Wellesley stations, or the 13 Avenue Road bus south to the stop beside Hart House, then walk east to the start point. Parking: Street parking is available near both the start point and the end point. Walk Leader's Cell Number: 647.229.1191 NOTE: LIMIT MAXIMUM OF 10 WALKERS PLUS TWO WALK LEADERS.</p> |
| <p>Saturday May 7 1:30 pm</p> | <p>CANCELLED - Trilliums and nature in spring - nature walk Leader - Mary Taylor Meeting spot: Northwest Corner of Eglinton Ave. East and Leslie St. Location: Wilket Creek / Sunnybrook parks</p> <p>This is a 3 hour circular walk covering 4 km over mostly unpaved, even flat surfaces with some steep slopes and some stairs.</p> <p>Trilliums by the gazillions! This area features several surprisingly large and robust populations of our beautiful Provincial flower, the White Trillium. There is also a good range of other spring ephemeral wildflowers; and the area is a spring migration bird "hotspot". We will look at the distinctive characteristics of nature in Spring, among other topics.</p> <p>Stairs: There are stairs. Washrooms: Washrooms are available along the way. What to bring: Binoculars, camera, water, snacks. TTC: Take the #34 A,B or C Eglinton East bus from the Eglinton subway station on line 1. Or take the #51 Leslie or 54 Lawrence buses from Eglinton station on line 1. Parking: Parking lot #2 for Wilket Creek is located at the southwest side of Eglinton and Leslie. There are other parking lots located throughout the park. Walk Leader Email Address: marytaylor_go@yahoo.ca</p> |

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| <p>Sunday May 8 1:00 pm</p> | <p>Lambton House - Aggie's Wildflowers - nature walk Leader: Madeleine McDowell Location: The Wildflower Specimen Garden in front of the Historic Lambton House Meeting spot: Lambton House, 4066 Old Dundas St.</p> <p>This is a 2 hour circular walk covering approximately 3 km over sidewalks and woodland paths. There is one stretch of sidewalk with a gentle slope.</p> <p>'Aggie's Wildflowers' 22nd Annual Mothers' Day Walk, starting and ending at the Wildflower Specimen Garden in front of the Historic Lambton House - 4066 Old Dundas Street, by the Humber. The Specimen Garden is based upon 1867/68 wildflower illustrations by Agnes Moodie Fitzgibbon and we will visit some that remain locally in the yards, ravine, woods and along the River.</p> <p>What to bring: Water, snacks, camera. Washrooms: Washrooms are available at the beginning and the end at Lambton House. Stairs: At the midway point, there are six steps up to a road crossing. TTC info: The #55 Warren Park Bus from Jane Station stops at the door. Parking: Limited street parking only. Walk Leader's Cell Number: No cell. The telephone number for Lambton House is 416.767.5472</p> |
| <p>Tuesday May 10 9:00 am</p> | <p>Toronto Island Bird Walk - birds Walk Leader: Charles Bruce-Thompson Location: Toronto Island Meeting spot: Meet at the Jack Layton Ferry Terminal at 8.45 AM in time to catch the 9.00 AM ferry to Hanlan's Point.</p> <p>This is a 2.5 hour circular walk covering 6km over mostly unpaved, even and fairly flat surfaces.</p> <p>Depending on the weather and what we see, we'll catch the 11:45 Hanlan's ferry back. It is recommended to buy your ticket online in advance of the walk at: https://secure.toronto.ca/FerryTicketOnline/tickets2/index.jsp</p> <p>What to bring: Binoculars, water, snacks, a bird guide if you have one. Washrooms: Washrooms are available along the way. Stairs: There are no stairs. TTC info: Take the subway to Union Station. From there, take the streetcar to the Ferry Docks or walk south on Bay Street. Parking: Parking is available in the surrounding area. Walk Leader's Cell Number: 416.778.5340</p> |
| <p>Sunday May 15 9:00 am</p> | <p>Cedarvale Ravine - Birds, insects and plants Leader: Rachel Gottesman Location: Cedarvale Ravine Meeting spot: Heath Street exit from St. Clair W subway station on line 1.</p> |

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| | <p>This is a 2.5 hour circular walk covering 4km over mostly unpaved, even and flat surfaces with some steep slopes.</p> <p>We will look for migrating and nesting birds, insects, spring wildflowers, and trees. Coffee, lunch and washrooms available in Loblaws at St Clair W exit of subway on St Clair W.</p> <p>What to bring: Binoculars and field guides if desired, water, snacks. Washrooms: Washrooms are available in the Loblaws at the St Clair W exit of the subway on St Clair W. Stairs: There are no stairs. TTC info: St. Clair West subway station on line 1. Walk Leader's Cell Number: 416.699.8842</p> |
| <p>Wednesday May 18 9:30 am</p> | <p>Marie Curtis Park and Lower Etobicoke Creek - spring ramble Walk Leader: Lillian Natalizio Location: Marie Curtis Park to Etobicoke Valley Park Meeting spot: North end of parking lot at Marie Curtis Park (2 Forty Second St)</p> <p>This is a 2.5 hour circular walk covering approximately 6 km over mostly unpaved, but even flat surfaces with some gentle slopes.</p> <p>We'll visit some of the diverse habitats of Marie Curtis Park while looking for spring arrivals, then head up the Etobicoke Creek to see some interesting features in the ravine. Note that poison ivy is present in some areas.</p> <p>What to bring: Water, snacks, binoculars, camera. Dress appropriately for the weather. Washrooms: Washrooms are available at the beginning and in the park. Stairs: No stairs. TTC info: Long Branch Loop via 501 Queen or 123C Sherway Bus from the Kipling subway station. Parking: There is a parking lot at Marie Curtis Park located at the meeting spot at 2 Forty Second St. Walk Leader's Cell Number: 416.577.7618</p> |
| <p>Tuesday May 24 11:00 am</p> | <p>West Don River (Edwards Gardens to Ontario Science Centre) - nature and heritage Walk Leader: Linda Klevnick Location: Toronto Meeting spot: SW corner of Lawrence Ave E and Leslie.</p> <p>This is a 2.5 hour linear walk covering 4-5 km over mostly paved, flat surfaces with some gentle slopes.</p> <p>Some historical information will be provided about the communities of Don Mills and Flemingdon Park. We will walk though Edward Gardens, then south along the West Don through Wilket Creek Park, and E. T. Seton Park to end at the Ontario Science Centre. There is a long uphill walk (paved surface) from the ravine to the Science Centre and Don Mills Road.</p> <p>What to bring: A hat, sunscreen, water and a lunch or snack.</p> |

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| | <p>Washrooms: At the beginning. Washrooms should be open at the Botanical Gardens and possibly at the Science Centre.</p> <p>Stairs: No stairs.</p> <p>TTC info: The Lawrence 54 bus and the Leslie 51 bus stop at the corner of Leslie and Lawrence Avenue E.</p> <p>Walk Leader's Cell Number: 416.570.7429</p> |
| <p>Wednesday May 25 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</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> |
| <p>Thursday May 26 10:00 am</p> | <p>Trillium Park, Ontario Place – Toronto Oculus - heritage walk</p> <p>Walk Leader: Richard Longley</p> <p>Location: Trillium Park, Ontario Place, Lakeshore, Humber Bay, Toronto Oculus return via Exhibition Place</p> <p>Meeting spot: Princes' Gates, CNE, Strachan at Lakeshore</p> <p>This is a 3 hour circular walk covering 12 km over mostly paved, flat surfaces with some gentle slopes.</p> <p>The walk will be joined by Walter Kehm of LANDinc, landscape architect of Tommy Thompson and Trillium Parks who has been commissioned to landscape the public realm of Ontario Place. He'll walk us through Trillium Park (transformed from a parking lot, opened 2017) and through Ontario Place. As we move through Ontario Place, Walter Kehm will describe the challenges faced by a landscape architect in the parts that will not be occupied by the Live Nation, Ecorecreo and Therme Group.</p> |

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| | <p>For a preview of what is envisaged by these projects, go to: https://www.ontario.ca/page/ontario-place. (Scroll down to find maps and renderings of what the re-developments will entail.)</p> <p>The Cinesphere and its five over-water pods are the only original parts of Ontario Place that are protected from re-development. Visions for the pods include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provincial government proposal: collaboration in scientific pursuits with the Ontario Science Centre (that will be one terminus of the Ontario Line (the other will be Ontario Place). • Independent proposal: creation of a climate-change focussed environmental centre linked to Lake Ontario in at least one of the five pods. <p>(A major concern is the need to keep Ontario Place open year-round, if serving it year-round by the Ontario Line is to make economic sense.)</p> <p>Walter Kehm has other proposals regarding how the lakeshore west from Ontario Place to the Humber Bridge might be revitalized, in ways that would continue his achievement at Trillium Park, with at least as much reference to First Nations presence in the Toronto region, prior to European settlement.</p> <p>For more about Walter Kehm see <i>Accidental Wilderness</i> (winner of the 2021 Heritage Toronto book award) his collaboration with photographer Robert Burley about the “development” of Tommy Thompson Park - that was not as accidental as it looks.</p> <p>Note about walk length: The proposed walk from the Princes’ Gates to the Toronto Oculus (north of the Humber Bridge) and back via Exhibition Place is interesting but quite long. If walkers choose to shorten it, possible shortcuts include;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Return to start (and TTC connections) back through Ontario Place and Trillium Park or over Lakeshore Boulevard via the Ontario Place bridge into Exhibition Place • Return to the city from the Humber Bridge (without visiting the Oculus) on foot or by taking 501 (Queen) streetcar along the Queensway • Return after seeing the Oculus by taking streetcar along the Queensway. <p>Stairs: No stairs. Washrooms: Washrooms are available along the way. What to bring: Camera, snacks, water. TTC info: Several buses and streetcars stop at Princes’ Gate - 509 Harbourfront, 511 Bathurst streetcars, 29 Dufferin, 121 Ft York Esplanade buses. The nearest subway stations are Christie and Union Station. Parking: Parking is available at Exhibition Place and Ontario Place. Walk Leader Cell Number: 647.354.5353</p> |
| <p>Thursday May 26 6:30 pm</p> | <p>Early butterflies, bees and birds and the plants they love in Highland Creek - Birds, insects and plants Walker Leader: Anne Purvis and Salima Pirani(TNS Lead Steward at this location)</p> |

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| | <p>Location: Highland creek at Greenvale Terrace to Centennial Hospital and back Meeting Spot: The parking lot at the end of Greenvale Terrace</p> <p>This is a 2 hour circular walk covering 4 km over mostly paved, flat surfaces with some gentle slopes.</p> <p>We will hike down the wooded bank of the west branch of Highland Creek, traversing the creek valley, and crossing the creek a couple of times. There is a loop at the north end of our route, just south of Centennial Hospital, that will allow us to return the same way. We are on a paved trail and there are many opportunities to turn back. We will be excited to see native woodland flowers, shrubs and trees beginning to bloom, and particularly notice the insects that use them—early Butterflies, and bees. We will experience the tail end of the songbird migration and observe breeding and nesting behavior of birds using this area for the summer. There is a significant invasive species problem here and we will learn about the new TNS initiative to tackle this.</p> <p>Stairs: No stairs. Washrooms: Washrooms are not available. What to bring: Binoculars, water, snack. Wear sturdy shoes and dress appropriately for the weather. TTC info: From the Kennedy Station on line 2, take the #86C bus and get off at Celeste Dr and Kingston Rd. It is a 10 minute walk to the end of Greenvale Terrace. Parking: Park in the parking lot at the end of Greenvale Terrace (meeting spot). Walk Leader Cell Number: 647.855.7588</p> |
| <p>Friday May 27 1:00 pm</p> | <p>WALK IS RESCHEDULED TO JUNE 3 DUE TO THUNDERSTORMS Lambton Woods - Wildflowers Walk Leader: Danielle Pellatt-Hall Location: James Gardens Meeting Spot: Meeting west of the main entrance to the James Gardens parking lot which is off Edenbridge Drive. Find the group in front of the public washrooms just inside the entrance.</p> <p>This is a 2.5 hour circular walk covering 4 km over mostly unpaved, even surfaces with gentle slopes.</p> <p>We will head south along the dirt trails from James Gardens to Lambton Woods, then north along the Humber River Recreational Trail. We will go as far north as time allows, then return to James Gardens. We will stop to look at the trees and the spring flowers as we tour the area and will also take 30 minutes at the end of the walk to look around James Gardens, although you may decide to skip this if it does not interest you. This will be a slow paced walk as we will stop frequently to appreciate the finer details of the trees and plants that we 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. Washrooms: Washrooms are available at the end. What to bring: Camera, a plant ID guide, water, snacks. TTC info: James Gardens is located approximately halfway between Royal York Road and Scarlett Road. Take the #73 Royal York bus northbound from the Royal</p> |

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| | <p>York subway station on line 2. Get off at Romney Rd. and walk north to the traffic light at Royal York and Edenbridge and walk east on Edenbridge to the entrance for James Gardens - approx. 10-15 minutes.</p> <p>Or take the #79 Scarlett Road bus from the Runnymede subway station on line 2 to Scarlett Road and Edenbridge. Walk west on Edenbridge to the entrance for James Gardens - approx. 15 minutes.</p> <p>Parking: There is a large parking lot at the main entrance to the gardens.</p> <p>Walk Leader Cell Number: 647.444.2925</p> |
| <p>Saturday May 28 10:00 am</p> | <p>Early butterflies, bees, and songbirds and the plants they need - birds, insects and plants</p> <p>Walk Leaders: Anne Purvis and Nada Sutic(TNS Lead Steward)</p> <p>Location: Prairie Dr Park and Gus Harris Trail</p> <p>Meeting spot: The parking lot at Prairie Dr Park - turn east off Pharmacy, just north of Danforth</p> <p>This is a 2 hour circular walk covering 4 km over mostly paved surfaces with gentle slopes and some steep slopes.</p> <p>We will start the hike in Prairie Dr park with a discussion of the invasive species growing there and the stewardship work going on. We will also discover the native species in the Warden Woods ESA that are poised to take over when the invasives are gone. We will notice the native shrubs and vines in bloom, and the ephemeral wildflowers as we hike down to the Gus Harris trail. Our focus will be to watch for insect species using native plants. We will also watch for late migrants and nesting songbirds. The hike will proceed north on the Gus Harris Trail to Pharmacy and St. Clair looking for early Butterflies, Bees and Songbirds. On the return trip, we may cross Taylor-Massey Creek to the west side to return to Prairie Dr. Park. This will depend on how wet the west bank is.</p> <p>Stairs: No stairs.</p> <p>Washrooms: No washrooms.</p> <p>What to bring: Binoculars, water/snack and your favorite app or guidebook. Keep an eye on the weather and bring rain gear if necessary.</p> <p>TTC info: From the Victoria Park subway station on line 2, it is a short walk to the meeting spot.</p> <p>Parking: The parking lot at Prairie Dr Park - turn east off Pharmacy, just north of Danforth (this is the meeting spot).</p> <p>Walk Leader Cell Number: 647.855.7588</p> |
| <p>Tuesday May 31 11:00 am</p> | <p>West Don River from Ontario Science Centre to the Brickworks - nature and heritage</p> <p>Walk Leader: Linda Klevnick</p> <p>Location: West Don River</p> <p>Meeting spot: Meet at the large illuminated sign at the Ontario Science Centre, 770 Don Mills Road.</p> <p>This is a 2.5 hour linear walk covering 4-5 km over mostly paved, flat surfaces with gentle slopes. Some information will be provided about the Flemingdon Park and Thorncliffe Park neighbourhoods and the industrial history of the Don River ravine.</p> |

Stairs: No stairs.

Washrooms: Washrooms are available at the end.

What to bring: Hat, water and a lunch or snack. Binoculars in case there are birds.

TTC info: From the Pape subway station on line 2, take the #25 Don Mills bus or the #925 Don Mills Express bus to the Ontario Science Centre.

This is a linear walk ending at the Brickworks where a free shuttle bus will take you to Broadview Station (on the Danforth line). Alternatively, the TTC 28 Davisville bus runs between the Brickworks and Davisville Station on the Yonge line.

Walk Leader Cell Number: 416.570.7429