

April 2023 Schedule

<p>Monday April 3 9.00 AM</p>	<p>Beare Hill Park Nature Walk</p> <p>Leader: Charles Bruce-Thompson</p> <p>Meeting Point: Beare Hill Park parking lot, 8145 Finch Avenue East, at the junction of Finch and Scarborough Pickering Townline. As of late February the parking lot was free (and small).</p> <p>Walk Details: A 2 ½-hour, 7 km circular walk over unpaved and sometimes uneven surfaces, with one steep climb</p> <p>Washrooms are not available</p> <p>Walk description: We'll walk around this former landfill site – now naturalised – to see the remedial work done by the TRCA and look for signs of early spring nature. There's a steep climb to the summit of Beare Hill, with a great sight as a reward. If time and regulations allow, we'll also briefly visit the Rouge Park wetlands.</p> <p>What to bring: Binoculars and something to munch on. A Merlin and/or INaturalist app would be useful</p> <p>If it's been raining recently parts of the trail can get quite muddy, so waterproof footwear is recommended</p> <p>Not TTC accessible; if you need a ride I'll do my best to accommodate. Email me at cbthomps@gmail.com or phone 416 778 5340</p> <p>Walk Leader's Cell Number: 416-778-5340</p>
<p>Saturday April 8 - 10.00 AM</p>	<p>Davisville Ave to Evergreen Brickworks: Nature and Heritage</p> <p>Leader: Ed Freeman</p> <p>Meeting Point: Davisville Subway Station</p> <p>Walk Details: A 2 to 2.5-hour, 2 to 2.5 km linear walk over mostly even, unpaved, flat surfaces with some steep slopes. There are stairs</p> <p>Washrooms: available at the end</p> <p>Walk Description: From Davisville station we'll walk to Mount Pleasant Cemetery and then descend down Moore Park Ravine to the Evergreen Brickworks. We will see remnants from the past, stream rehabilitation, historical plaques, and nature</p> <p>What to bring: lunch - or eat at the Brickworks Market or the Cafe</p>

	<p>Before leaving home check the weather to make sure you are adequately prepared for this walk.</p>
<p>Thursday April 13 10.00 AM</p>	<p>Woodlands at the Guild Inn / Clark Centre for the Arts</p> <p>Leader: Vera Bigall and Charles Bruce-Thompson</p> <p>Meeting Point: The bus stop on Guildwood Parkway in front of the Guild Park and Gardens. 210 Guildwood Parkway</p> <p>Walk Details: A 2-hour, 4 km circular walk over mostly unpaved, flat surfaces with a few gentle slopes</p> <p>Walk Description: A walk around the Guild Park and Gardens to look at the interesting flora, fauna and artefacts to be found there. We will end the walk with a tour of the new art gallery and explore some of the sculptures on the exterior of the building. Admission to the gallery is free and we will have a chance to view the current exhibits in the gallery.</p> <p>Washrooms available at the Clark Centre for the Arts</p> <p>What to bring: Binoculars, long pants tucked into socks (protection from ticks) water bottle, snack, there will likely be insects in the forest section</p> <p>TTC: Take the Morningside bus 116 from Kennedy Station</p> <p>Parking: There are several free public parking lots on the Guild Inn property</p> <p>Walk Leader's Cell Number: 416-369-0547</p>
<p>Saturday April 15 - 1.30 PM</p>	<p>Miles Hearn Memorial Walk in Earl Bales Park - Public Walk</p> <p>Leader: Bob Kortright</p> <p>Meeting Point: At the park's pedestrian entrance in the park's NW corner on Bathurst St., which is 180m south of Sheppard. Drivers: park in the lot at the end of Raoul Wallenberg Rd., west of the community centre – this is less than 200 m from the meeting point</p> <p>Walk Details: A 2.5-hour, 4 km circular walk over mostly paved, flat surfaces with some steep slopes</p> <p>Walk Description: A walk to celebrate the life of Miles Hearn: naturalist, musician, teacher and TFN walk leader. We will have a chance to exchange reminiscences of Miles at the beginning and as we walk around the park, spotting birds, trees, other plants and any butterflies or other insects that we can find. If the hill is slippery, we can stay on the tableland</p> <p>Washrooms: available along the way</p> <p>What to bring: binoculars</p>

	<p>TTC: Many options, including taking the #84 bus from Sheppard-Yonge Station to Bathurst St. and walking south to meeting point</p> <p>Walk Leader's Cell Number: 416-699-8842</p>
<p>Sunday April 16</p> <p>1.00 PM</p>	<p>Sunnydene Park Nature Walk</p> <p>Leader: Danielle Pellatt-Hall</p> <p>Meeting Point: The Bayview entrance to Sunnydene Park, on the West side of Bayview Avenue, South of Blythwood Road</p> <p>Walk Details: A 2-hour, 2.5 km circular walk over mostly unpaved, uneven surfaces. There some steep slopes and stairs</p> <p>Walk description: Sunnydene Park is connected to Sherwood Park. We will follow the trail to Blythwood Rd and then return along the same path. This is a lovely trail with a good patch of native Carolinian trees. We will stop to appreciate tree buds, tree bark, and the shape of trees without their leaves.</p> <p>This will be a slow-paced walk as we will stop frequently to appreciate the finer details of the 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>Washrooms: not available</p> <p>What to bring: Solid footwear, drinking water, a tree reference book</p> <p>The trail can get muddy, please be prepared with good footwear and a hat and gloves!</p> <p>TTC: take the #11 bus from Davisville station to Blythwood Rd and Bayview Ave and walk 300 m south to the park entrance</p> <p>Walk Leader's Cell Number: 647-444-2925</p>
<p>Tuesday April 18</p> <p>10.00 AM</p>	<p>A Spring Ramble to Welcome Spring in James Garden and Lambton Woods</p> <p>Leader: Patty Staite</p> <p>Meeting Point: The James Gardens parking lot of near the duck pond</p> <p>Walk Details: A 2-hour, 5 km circular walk over mostly unpaved, even surfaces with a few gentle slopes</p> <p>Walk description: There will be a general introduction before we start the walk in the vicinity of the duck pond. Perhaps there will be a wood duck mixed in with the mallards and black ducks. We will head south from the parking lot and walk along the nature trail and circle back on the bike path, watching for cyclists.</p>

	<p>We will be looking for returning migrating birds and early spring flowers. Ducks, herons and kingfishers may be spotted along the river. Trilliums and trout lilies may be seen starting to come up in the woods and skunk cabbage and marsh marigolds may be found in the wet areas.</p> <p>Washrooms: There is a washroom on the north west side of the parking lot, so participants can use it before or after the walk.</p> <p>What to bring: Binoculars, water and a snack may be helpful. The nature trail is often muddy in the spring so please wear boots. It is recommended that people dress appropriately for the weather. We will walk rain or shine.</p> <p>Getting there: James Gardens is between Scarlet Road and Royal York Road south of Edinbridge Dr. If travelling on Royal York Rd, turn east on to Edenbridge Dr and turn south into the parking lot for James Gardens / Lambton Woods</p> <p>TTC: Take the #73 Royal York bus northbound from Royal York station. Exit at Romney Rd. Walk one block north to Edenbridge Drive and turn right. Walk about 10 minutes to James Gardens / Lambton Woods Park at 99 Edenbridge Dr.</p> <p>Walk Cell Number: 416-239-2092</p>
<p>Saturday April 22 10.00 AM</p>	<p>Mount Pleasant Cemetery Nature Walk</p> <p>Leader: Ellen Schwartzel</p> <p>Meeting Point: At the Yonge Street Entrance to Mount Pleasant Cemetery, 1643 Yonge Street, about 4 blocks north of St. Clair Subway Station.</p> <p>Walk Details: A 2-hour, 2 km circular walk over mostly paved, gently undulating surfaces</p> <p>Walk Description: We will look for budding trees and early birds. Mount Pleasant Cemetery is listed among the top birding locations in Toronto; there may be migrating warblers and other spring songbirds. One e-birder recorded 30 species at Mount Pleasant on March 31st, 2020. No promises, though. Trees are also stars on this walk: the Mount Pleasant Arboretum boasts hundreds of species, including some of the finest heritage trees of Toronto.</p> <p>Washrooms are not available, but there is a small public washroom in the Loblaws at the NE corner of Yonge and St. Clair; ask staff for directions.</p> <p>What to bring: Binoculars are helpful. Feel free to bring a lunch; we'll find a picnic table to share, weather permitting.</p> <p>Other information: Read Nancy Dengler's excellent piece in the May 2021 Newsletter, p. 8: "How Do Trees Know When to Leaf Out?" https://newsletter.torontofieldnaturalists.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/2021-05-T-FN-Newsletter.pdf</p>

	<p>Walk Cell Number: 647-463-5562</p>
<p>Thursday April 27 11.00 AM</p>	<p>Spring Walk in High Park: Cherry Blossom and Warblers - Public Walk</p> <p>Leaders: Kayoko Smith and David Creelman</p> <p>Meeting Point: Northwest corner of Bloor St and High Park Ave</p> <p>Walk Details: A 2.5-hour, 3.5 km circular walk over mostly unpaved, even surfaces with a few gentle slopes</p> <p>Walk Description: Enjoy the signs of spring: plants, trees and early warblers. We'll discover Spring Creek on the park's east side, and wander through Wendigo creek to the west. We might see some lingering winter ducks on Grenadier Pond. The park's spectacular Cherry blossoms should be on the way</p> <p>Washrooms are available along the way</p> <p>What to bring: Binoculars, water and snack</p> <p>TTC: High Park subway station.</p> <p>Parking: Normally there is limited free parking available within the park on weekdays, but if the cherry blossoms are in bloom, the park will be closed to vehicles, and it will be a nightmare to find a parking space on neighbourhood streets.</p> <p>Walk Leader's Cell Number: 647 633 3687</p>
<p>Saturday April 29 9.30 AM</p>	<p>Bestview Woods and East Don Parklands: Signs of Spring Nature and Heritage Walk</p> <p>Leader: Theresa Moore</p> <p>Meeting Point:: By the Shoppers Drug Mart at 1515 Steeles Avenue East on the Southeast corner of Steeles and Laureleaf</p> <p>Walk Details: A 2-hour, 6 km circular walk on mostly unpaved, flat surfaces with a few gentle slopes. There are stairs</p> <p>Walk Description: We discuss the local heritage, we will look for signs of Spring—especially early wildflowers and returning birds. After meeting at the Shoppers Drug Mart, we will walk south on Laureleaf to the Bestview Park entrance. We will explore the Bestview Woods trails before joining the main East Don Parkland trail. We will turn back near the Finch Hydro Corridor and return to our starting point, where there is a coffee shop, pizza place, Subway, and noodle house. Those who wish to do so can drop out early at Cummer Avenue, continue on their own to Finch or Sheppard or head west along the Hydro Recreation trail rather than return to Steeles Avenue.</p>

Washrooms: available at the end

TTC: The 53B Steeles East (not the 53E Express!) runs from Finch Station all the way out to Scarborough and has a stop at Laureleaf.

What to bring: Binoculars

Other information: There are some tree roots on the woodland trails and, if there have been recent heavy rains, these trails can be a bit muddy and/or slippery

Walk Leader's Cell Number: 416-493-3201