

October 2023 Schedule

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| <p>Wednesday October 4 10.00 AM</p> | <p>Exhibition Place, Scadding Cabin, Garden of the Gods - Public Walk</p> <p>Leader: Richard Longley</p> <p>Meeting Point: Princes Gates, at the foot of Strachan Ave.</p> <p>Walk Details: A 3-hour, 8 km circular walk, mostly over paved, flat surfaces</p> <p>Walk Description: Explore some of the most diverse and interesting buildings in Toronto: Mid-century modern, 1920s grandeur, the monument to Fort Rouille when Toronto was French beside the city's oldest building: the Scadding cabin (now undergoing restoration). We'll visit Garden of the Gods, sculptures rescued from imprisonment at last and now displayed as they deserve. Think: how would you like Exhibition Place to develop in the future – along with Ontario Place?</p> <p>Washrooms are available along the way</p> <p>What to bring: Water, camera, munchies</p> <p>TTC: Take the 511 Streetcar from Bathurst Stn., the 509 Streetcar from Union Stn., or the 29 Bus from Dufferin Stn</p> <p>Dress for weather of the day</p> <p>Walk Leader's Cell Number: 647-354-5353</p> |
| <p>Thursday October 5 9.00 AM</p> | <p>The Spit Photography Walk</p> <p>Leader: Zunaid Khan</p> <p>Meeting Point: Park entrance at the foot of Leslie Street</p> <p>Walk Details: A 3-hour, 8 to 10 km circular walk over mostly unpaved but even surfaces with a few gentle slopes</p> <p>Walk Description: Starting from the meeting point we will walk towards the nature centre, then follow the gravel path that winds along the shoreline towards Cell 1 and 2. We'll explore both areas before heading over to Peninsula D, then loop back along Embayment D towards the road before heading back to our starting point. We will explore all nature has to offer in this beautiful park. This is a photography walk so we will be walking at a slow pace at times. Lots of opportunities to photograph a wide variety of nature subjects including winter bird migrants. Open to all photographers of all skill levels.</p> |

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| | <p>Dress for the weather conditions</p> <p>Washrooms are available at the beginning and at the end (and along the way)</p> <p>What to bring: Water, snacks, binoculars, camera of any kind including phones</p> <p>Getting there: The 83 bus from Donlands Subway Station will drop you at Commissioners and Leslie. It's a 500 m walk south from there to the park entrance. The parking lot (off Unwin Ave.) is free and has some spectacular potholes</p> <p>Walk Leader's Cell Number: 416-716-6464</p> |
| <p>Friday October 6 10 am</p> | <p>The Meadoway Walk and Seed Collection</p> <p>Leader: Sarah Kotsopoulos</p> <p>Meeting Point: 19 Daventry Road, Scarborough (Daventry Garden Plots). TTC stop 360/370</p> <p>Walk details: A 2.5-hour, 2 km circular walk over mostly paved, flat surfaces with a few gentle slopes</p> <p>Walk Description: Come and learn about The Meadoway, and the meadow restoration processes that are being used to transform this corridor into a biodiverse area for pollinators. Participants will have the opportunity to help collect native wildflower seed to help restore new areas (while learning about proper seed collection methods).</p> <p>Long pants and closed toe shoes are recommended, especially if participants want to go into the meadow</p> <p>Washrooms are available at the beginning</p> <p>What to bring: Camera, binoculars</p> <p>Walk Leader's Cell Number: 4164564844</p> |

Saturday
October 7 1.00
PM

Chorley Park Switchback Accessible Nature & Heritage Walk

Leader: Elizabeth Reid and Alexander Cappell

Meeting Point: The bus stop on the southeast corner of Glen Road and Douglas Drive

Walk Details: A one hour, 1.5 km circular (with a linear option, see below) walk over mostly paved surfaces with a few gentle slopes. There are stairs, but they can be bypassed

Accessibility: This will be a slow-paced walk with a bench at the beginning and part way along the route. The trail accommodates rollators/walkers et al. and is wheelchair accessible

Walk Description: We will talk briefly about the history of Chorley Park, then walk down the Switchback to the Beltline Trail and return to the top. If you do not wish to walk back up, you can continue an accessible walk along the Beltline Trail and through the Don Valley Brickworks Park, taking a bus home from there. The Switchback has been planted with much native vegetation, from grasses to trees. We will show you photos taken two weeks after it was opened on August 1, 2018 – what a difference now! It was landscaped by TFN member Stephen Smith, whose website, ufora.ca, has photos of the plantings in late 2018 and in 2019.

No washrooms, the nearest being at the Brick Works for those taking the linear option

What to bring: binoculars would be useful but not necessary

Getting there: Take the 82 Rosedale bus from the Rosedale subway station on Line 1 or the 75 Sherbourne bus from the Sherbourne subway station on Line 2. If returning from the Don Valley Brick Works Park (and Evergreen Brick Works), take the 28 Bayview South bus to the Davisville subway station on Line 1 or the Evergreen Shuttle Bus to the Chester subway station on Line 2 (being rerouted from the Broadway subway location until November due to a road closure)

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| <p>Saturday October 14 10.00 AM</p> | <p>Annual Hurricane Hazel Anniversary Walk</p> <p>Leader: Madeleine McDowell</p> <p>Meeting Spot: Old Mill Subway Station</p> <p>End Point: Lambton House, 4066 Old Dundas Street, York, ON M6S 2R6</p> <p>Walk Details: This a 3-hour linear walk covering 3 to 4 km. Some steep slopes and stairs. Mostly paved.</p> <p>Walk Description: From Old Mill Station we'll walk along Bloor Street and down the steps by the bridge to the ravine below. We'll proceed along the river and road to Old Mill Bridge, then along the road west and north before returning to the floodplain. Then along the road and grass lands, north to Dundas Street, over the bridge and down to Lambton House (4066 Old Dundas Street)</p> <p>We will see the Humber and its flora and fauna and numerous 1954 photos of 'this was where you are' including Fisher's Mill ruins. Maybe some salmon leaping</p> <p>Washrooms available at the end</p> <p>What to bring: water, binoculars, camera - and snacks, if desired</p> <p>TTC: accessible by Subway at beginning and #55 Warren Park bus at end</p> <p>Other information: The Leader will be using a wheelchair. There will be a second Hazel event later that will be of interest, with possible carpooling to get there</p> <p>Walk Leader's Cell Number: 416.767.7633</p> |
| <p>Sunday October 15 10.00 AM</p> | <p>Upper Beach: Miles Hearn Memorial Walk</p> <p>Leader: Bob Kortright</p> <p>Meeting Point: Main St station exit on Main St</p> <p>Walk Details: A 2.5-hour, 3 km linear walk over mostly unpaved but even surfaces with both gentle and steep slopes. There are stairs</p> <p>Walk Description: We'll walk south on Main St over the rail corridor and residential streets to steps down to Glen Davis crescent ESA. Then we'll continue along residential streets to St John's Norway cemetery to pay our respects where Miles is buried. From Glen Davis Crescent, the Serpentine, a tributary of Small's creek, once flowed past the St. John's cemetery into Small's Pond in what is now Orchard Park on the south side of Dundas between Kingston Rd and Coxwell before flowing out to Ashbridge's Bay at the old east end of Eastern Ave one block west of its current end at Kingston Rd. We will observe urban plants along the way.</p> |

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| | <p>Washrooms are not available</p> <p>What to bring: curiosity and binoculars</p> <p>Walk Leader's Cell Number: 416 699-8842</p> |
| <p>Tuesday 17th October 9.30 AM</p> | <p>Cottonwood Flats. A 100th anniversary walk - Public Walk</p> <p>Leaders: Lillian Natalizio, Charles Bruce-Thompson & Zunaid Khan</p> <p>Meeting Point: The junction of Beechwood Drive and O'Connor Drive</p> <p>Walk Details: A 2-hour, 4 km circular walk over mostly unpaved but even surfaces. There is one steep descent (and ascent) from Beechwood to the valley floor. Parking at the foot of Beechwood, where you can wait for the rest of the group, is an option</p> <p>Walk Description: We'll descend Beechwood Drive, having a look at Beechwoods Wetlands on the way before arriving at Cottonwoods Flats. Cottonwood Flats is the site of an ongoing monitoring project to determine plant and animal biodiversity of the area over time; it is also the site for a TFN-staffed stewardship program with the City of Toronto's Natural Environment and Community Programs (NECP), all of which we'll discuss as we circumnavigate this small spot of meadowland and wetland. A stewardship session will be underway when we reach Cottonwood Flats, Jason Ramsay-Brown will be on site and share his thoughts on the area & TFN's work with the group. If time allows we'll explore the lower reaches of Sun Valley as well.</p> <p>This is a public walk</p> <p>Washrooms are not available</p> <p>What to bring: Camera, binoculars</p> <p>Other information: Take the 100 bus north from Pape Station to O'Connor Drive. Walk 0.25 km to the meeting point</p> <p>Walk Leader's Cell Number: 416.778.5340</p> |

Friday October
20 10.00 AM

Corktown Common and Distillery District

Leader: Ellen Schwartzel

Meeting Point: The Distillery District, outside Balzac's Coffee Shop at 1 Trinity Street, beside the very large abstract sculpture "Still Dancing"

Walk Details: A 2.5-hour, 3 km circular walk over mostly paved surfaces with a few gentle slopes. There are stairs

Walk Description: We will stroll from the cobblestones of the Distillery District east along Mill Street to Corktown Common; a delightful city park painstakingly transformed from an industrial wasteland into a green urban gem planted entirely with native trees, shrubs and forbs.

Corktown Common is typically ablaze with fall asters, goldenrod and other autumn colour at this time of year. The tiny marsh features cattails, pickerel weed and arrowhead. Fall migrant birds may be lingering. Corktown Common's main job is to function as a flood protection berm, designed to withstand a 500-year flood, but the park also offers wonderful natural habitats as well as children's play areas and lawns for picnicking. We will double back to the Distillery District, with the option of lunch together at the Mill Street Brew Pub

Lunch at Mill Street Brew Pub is an option

Washrooms are available at the Distillery District and at Corktown Common Pavilion

What to bring: sun hat/ rain gear, water and a snack.

TTC: there are several options for getting to Distillery District; for example, bus #65 south along Parliament from Castlefrank Subway Station. Get off at Mill Street.

Walk Leader's Cell Number: 647 463-5562

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| <p>Saturday October 21 1.00 PM</p> | <p>The Creeks of High Park</p> <p>Leader: Paul Overy</p> <p>Meeting Point: Just south across Bloor St. and west across Parkside Drive from the Keele subway station, on Line 2. Parking is limited in the High Park area on weekends; you may need to use the Green P lots north of Bloor St. between Keele and Dundas St. W.</p> <p>Walk Details: This will be a linear, 2-hour walk, approximately 4 km, on a mix of soil and paved paths, ending near the High Park subway station. There will be a drop-out point at the Queensway. This walk will be of moderate difficulty, with many hills and a few steep slopes (which we'll avoid if the ground is wet).</p> <p>Walk Description: We will explore the courses of Spring Creek and Wendigo Creek, which helped shape High Park. We'll also explore the presence of the Laurentian Channel, one of the remaining ancient rivers in southern Ontario, which continues to flow today, and informs us about how High Park, and much of the Toronto region, evolved. We will also explore some of the unique natural features of the park, as well as Indigenous and settler human history of the High Park area.</p> <p>Washrooms are available along the way</p> <p>What to bring: Curiosity, water, binoculars and a snack if you like.</p> <p>Other information: Please wear appropriate footwear with treads to walk safely on soil paths. The route we choose will be decided based on walking conditions and accessibility considerations.</p> <p>Walk Leader's Cell Number: 647-229-1191</p> |
| <p>Tuesday October 24 10.00 AM</p> | <p>Earl Bales Park Nature Walk - Public Walk</p> <p>Leader: Zunaid Khan</p> <p>Meeting Point: In front of the Earl Bales community centre, 4169 Bathurst St. North York, ON M3H 3P7</p> <p>Walk Details: A 2.5-hour, 3 to 4 km circular hike over mostly flat paved surfaces, with a few steep slopes along the way</p> <p>Walk Description: From our meeting point in front of the community centre (https://maps.app.goo.gl/HPgDK9gMVQdcUXaC9) we will head east into the park and towards the Don River via a steep sloped and paved path. We will then follow the trail along the river towards the retaining ponds, the largest of which is shared with the Don Valley golf course. We will stop at a lookout over the large retaining pond to discuss a proposal from a coalition of groups, including TFN, for the construction of a year round, multi-use trail connecting the park to York Mills subway station via the golf course. From there we will proceed around the pond up into a ravine before returning back the way we came to the community centre. We</p> |

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| | <p>enjoy what nature has to offer in the park and the possibly see some migrating birds</p> <p>Dress for the weather. Wear comfortable walking or hiking footwear</p> <p>Washrooms are available at the beginning and along the way</p> <p>What to bring: Water, snacks, binoculars and/or camera.</p> <p>TTC info: Line 1 to Sheppard subway station then take 84 Sheppard West bus to Bathurst Street then walk south on the east side of Bathurst to the park and into the park to the meeting spot.</p> <p>Parking: There is parking in the park.</p> <p>Walk Leader's Cell Number: 416-716-6464</p> <p>This is a public walk</p> |
| <p>Thursday October 26 10.00 AM</p> | <p>Ghost Walk</p> <p>Leader: Linda Mccaffrey</p> <p>Meeting point: Northeast corner of Bay and Bloor</p> <p>Walk Details: A 2-hour, 5 km circular walk, with stairs, over mostly paved, flat surfaces. No washrooms</p> <p>Walk Description: The Ontario Legislature and the University of Toronto host some interesting ghosts, there are lovely heritage buildings and there are lots of trees for birds to live in.</p> <p>What to bring: water</p> <p>Comfortable shoes recommended</p> |