

December - 2023 Schedule

<p>Tuesday December 5 10.00 AM</p>	<p>Waterfront Trail – Inner Harbour to Trillium Park – 100th Anniversary Public Walk</p> <p>Leader: Zunaid Khan</p> <p>Meeting Point: The boardwalk just west of Jack Layton Ferry Terminal.</p> <p>TTC: Take Line 1 to Union Station, then take the streetcar to the Ferry terminal stop. Exit the station and walk towards the lake and the meeting spot.</p> <p>Walk Details: A 3-hour, 5 km linear walk over mostly paved, flat surfaces. Please make sure you dress for the weather. Grippers may be a good thing to bring along in case the trail is icy. Washrooms available along the way</p> <p>Walk details: From our starting point we will head west through Harbour Square Park towards the Harbourfront area. Then we will make our way along the waterfront towards Billy Bishop airport before following the waterfront trail through Coronation Park and into Trillium Park. We will do a loop around Trillium Park and, time permitting and if it is still accessible, we will also do a loop around the West Island of Ontario Place.</p> <p>Along the way we will discuss TFN's connection to this area while enjoying views of the lake, its shoreline, the islands and the city's skyline. We will enjoy all that nature has to offer, including opportunities to see winter ducks along the way.</p> <p>What to bring: Water, snacks, binoculars, camera.</p> <p>Walk Leader's Cell Number: 416-716-6464</p>
<p>Wednesday December 6 10.00 AM</p>	<p>2 Ravines. Mt Pleasant Cemetery: Nature and Heritage</p> <p>Leader: Richard Longley</p> <p>Meeting Point: Rosedale Subway Station</p> <p>Walk Details: A 3-hour, 10 km linear walk over mostly unpaved, uneven flat surfaces with some steep slopes. There are stairs. Washrooms are available at the Evergreen Brick Works</p> <p>Even on sunny days ravines can be icy when shaded; warm clothing, strong boots with rugged soles and icers are all strongly recommended</p> <p>Walk Description: We'll explore Yellow Creek Ravine and Mt. Pleasant Cemetery before descending Mud Creek Ravine to the Brick Works, where there is a cafe/restaurant for lunch if desired.</p> <p>From the Brick Works there are three options:</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Continue to Sherbourne subway station with the leader, or ● take the free shuttle bus to Chester subway station, or ● walk back to Rosedale subway station <p>What to bring: Munchies, water, camera</p> <p>Walk Leader's Cell Number: 647-354-5353</p>
<p>Tuesday December 12 1:00 PM</p>	<p>Moore Park Ravine Then & Now 100th Anniversary - Nature and Heritage</p> <p>Leader: Zunaid Khan</p> <p>Meeting Spot: 205 Moore Ave, Toronto, ON M4T 2K7</p> <p>Walk Description: A 2 hour circular walk along mostly even and unpaved surfaces with gentle slopes.</p> <p>Walk Details: From the meeting point will walk into the ravine then follow the trail towards Brickworks exploring all that nature has to offer along the way. When we get to Brickworks, there are multiple routes available should people not wish to return back to the starting point.</p> <p>Washrooms: At Brickworks.</p> <p>TTC: Line 1 to St. Clair station then take the 74A Mount Pleasant bus to Mount Pleasant and Moore Avenue. A 5 minute walk to the meeting point from there. Another option is to take the 88 South Leaside bus from St. Clair station to Moore Avenue and Brenda Road, it is a 2 minute walk to the meeting point from there.</p> <p>What to bring: Water, snacks, binoculars and/or camera. Bring traction devices such as microspikes or crampons just in case.</p> <p>Dress for the weather.</p> <p>Walk Leaders' Cell Number: 416-716-6464</p>

<p>Thursday December 14 10.00 AM</p>	<p>Name of walk: Thompson Memorial Park Pioneer Walk</p> <p>Leader: Linda McCaffrey</p> <p>Meeting Spot: Thompson Memorial Park main parking lot, 1005 Brimley Rd.</p> <p>TTC: Take the 21C bus from Kennedy station</p> <p>Walk Details: a 2-hour, 3 km circular walk over mostly paved, flat surfaces with a few gentle slopes. Washrooms available at the end. Warm clothing and sensible footwear both recommended</p> <p>Walk Description: The west branch of Highland Creek wends its way through Thomson memorial Park. Mary and David Thomson were the first pioneers to settle in Scarborough. We will wander through the park, crossing Highland Creek several times, then exit the park to St. Andrews Presbyterian Church and cemetery. The Thomsons gifted the land for the church and cemetery. Their memorial stones have been preserved. This tiny cemetery memorialises many Thomsons and McCowans and early Scottish settlers. At the end of the walk people can explore the tiny pioneer village. Cornell House, the McCowan cab in and the carriage works will be open. There is a memorial plaque to Rachel, mother of 37 children. Admission is free</p> <p>What to bring: Binoculars</p>
<p>Sunday December 17 1.00 PM</p>	<p>Winter Birds at Col Sam Smith Park</p> <p>Walk Leader: Lillian Natalizio</p> <p>Meeting Point: Southeast corner of Lake Shore Blvd W and Kipling Ave. The skating trail is open, so parking may be in short supply.</p> <p>TTC: take the #44 bus from Kipling station or 501 streetcar/replacement bus</p> <p>Walk Details: A 2-hour, 4 km circular walk over mostly unpaved, even surfaces with a few gentle slopes. Washrooms available at the beginning</p> <p>Dress for the colder weather by the lake. Icers may be necessary</p> <p>Walk Description: We'll walk along the lake shore and peninsula, observing the birds spending the winter here, and the habitats that they are using.</p> <p>What to bring: binoculars and hydration</p> <p>Walk Leaders' Cell Number: 416-577-7618</p>

Thursday
December 21
9.00 AM

The Spit Photography Walk

Walk Leader: Zunaid Khan

Meeting spot: Park entrance at the foot of Leslie Street by the washrooms.

TTC: Take Line 2 to Donlands station, then take 83 Jones southbound bus and get off at Leslie Street and Commissioner. Walk south to the park entrance

Parking: Free. There is a parking lot off Unwin next to the park entrance, and also street parking on Leslie and Unwin

Walk Details: A 5 to 8 km, 3-hour circular walk over mostly unpaved but even surfaces with some gentle slopes. Washrooms available along the way

Please dress for the weather conditions. I would suggest bringing grippers in case there is ice on the ground

Walk details: We will follow the spine road to the nature centre then veer off to the left to follow the gravel trail along the shoreline. We will follow this trail until it rejoins the road, which we will then follow with the lake on our left and the wetland cells on our right. We will have an option of routes to take as we follow the road, either through the wetland cells towards the bird research station, or continue along the road as it loops around Cell 3 then check out the East Cove and the Triangle pond. If we choose to head to bird research station then from there we would head to Peninsula D then loop back along Embayment D back towards the road then head back to our starting point. If we choose to follow the road then we would check out the East Cove followed by the Triangle pond. From there we will head back the way we came along the road to our starting point or perhaps continue towards the red pedestrian bridge before heading back, depending on whether or not the bridge is open.

We will enjoy everything nature has to offer, particularly the winter ducks and other wildlife on offer in this great park.

What to bring: Water, snacks, binoculars, camera, icers

Walk Leader's Cell Number: 416-716-6464

<p>Tuesday December 26 10.00 AM</p>	<p>Boxing Day on the Spit. Public Walk</p> <p>Leader: Charles Bruce-Thompson</p> <p>Meeting Point: Tommy Thompson Park entrance at the foot of Leslie Street by the washrooms.</p> <p>TTC: Take Line 2 to Donlands station, then take #83 Jones southbound bus and get off at Leslie Street and Commissioners; walk south to the park entrance</p> <p>Walk Details: A 3-hour, 8 km circular walk over mostly paved, flat surfaces</p> <p>Walk Description: We will walk next to the east shoreline as far as Cell 3, then return via the banding station (now closed) and Embayment D. Participants can drop out and return easily at any point if they so wish.</p> <p>A good way to work off holiday overindulgence and, at the same time, enjoy everything nature has to offer in winter, particularly the ducks and other waterfowl</p> <p>The Spit can get quite windy, and it is the end of December, so wrap up well. Grippiers are always a good idea if there's snow or ice on the ground</p> <p>Washrooms available at the beginning (and end)</p> <p>What to bring: Binoculars and something to munch on</p> <p>Walk Leader's Cell Number: 416-778-5340</p>
<p>Saturday December 30 10.30 AM</p>	<p>Winter Ducks at Colonel Samuel Smith Park. Public Walk</p> <p>Walk Leaders: Kayoko Smith and David Creelman</p> <p>Meeting Point: Southern parking lot, at the south end of Col. Samuel Smith Blvd.(a new meeting spot!) Check map at this link: https://w3w.co/drum.cloud.relaxing</p> <p>Walk Details: A 2.5 to 3 hour, 4 to 5 km circular walk over mostly unpaved, even, flat surfaces. Washrooms are available at the beginning and end</p> <p>Potential wind conditions and low temperature at the lake shore will likely require your best winter gear! Bring Icers/crampons if you have them. Packed down snow on paths, melted and refrozen multiple times to create a slippery ice surface, is typical in winter.</p> <p>Walk Description: We will search the lake and inner marina for ducks and other winter birds. We should find quite a few species. This is a chance to see, and learn, our wintering birds.</p> <p>The closest washroom is north of the parking lot meeting place, in the Power Plant building (note smoke stack). It will be open, as the adjacent skating rink will be open to the public. If you can't see it, you will hear the music and young skaters. Try to use before the walk, as our route is to the south of there.</p>

What to bring: Binoculars strongly recommended, scope if you like, camera, snacks/lunch

TTC, From Kipling subway, take the Kipling South bus 44 and get off at last stop. This is in the park, just a bit north of the south parking lot and Power Plant washroom.

Long Branch 507 streetcars can drop you at Kipling and Lakeshore Blvd W. That's a longer walk south, so transfer to the Kipling 44 if desired.

Cars can park in the south parking lot.

Walk Cell Number: 647 633-3687 // 647 772-1953

Location: Col. Samuel Smith Park, 3145 Lake Shore Blvd W, Etobicoke, ON M8V 4B6