June 2024 - Walk Schedule

Outings Etiquette

Please note that members are asked to follow our Naturalist's Code of Ethics on all outings in order to minimise our impact on nature. Please review them here. It is essential that all members behave ethically while using our green spaces and on our outings, in order to reduce our impact on the species that inhabit them, here are some additional resources how to do so:

Wildlife Disturbance: Why Now and Why Does It Matter?

Wildlife Disturbance & Ethics In Nature

Special Lecture: Ethical Nature Viewing

Tuesday June 4 6:00 PM

Urban Plant Evening Ramble

Leader: Danielle Pellatt-Hall

Meeting Point: Ed and Anne Mirvish Parkette

Getting There: By transit, take the TTC to Bathurst station. Exit the station and turn right to find the meeting location at the parkette. There is paid parking on Bathurst for those coming by car.

Walk Details: A 2-hour, 2 km circular walk over mostly paved, fairly flat surfaces. Will be walking down the sidewalk and frequently crossing roads at intersections. No Washrooms.

Walk Description: Join us in a walk around the neighbourhood North of Bloor and West of Bathurst. We will admire the trees and plants growing in the neighbourhood. Whether planned or unplanned, we will appreciate all that grows! This will be a slow, relaxed walk.

What to bring: Good shoes and drinking water

Walk leader's Cell Number: (647) 444-2925

Friday June 7 10:00 AM

2 Ravines, Mount Pleasant Cemetery - Nature & Heritage - Public Walk

Leader: Richard Longley

Meeting Point: Rosedale Subway Station.

Getting There: By transit, take the Line 1 to Rosedale station.

Walk Details: A 2.5 hour, 8 km linear walk along mostly unpaved and uneven flat surfaces with some steep slopes and some stairs. Washrooms along the way.

Walk Description: A familiar favourite, rich in heritage at either end, in nature and interesting people in between. Leader will end the walk at Sherbourne station. For those

	who want, will direct an alternate route back to Rosedale station. At the Brickworks there is a shuttle to Broadview station and a bus to Davisville station.
	What to bring: Water, binoculars, camera, strong shoes.
	Walk leader's Cell Number: 647-354-5353
Sunday June 9 10.00 AM	Wilket Creek Trail and Serena Gundy Park
	Leader: Zunaid Khan
	Meeting Spot: In front of the Toronto Botanical Gardens(TBG) main building.
	Walk Details: A 2.5 hour, 7 km circular walk over mostly paved, flat surfaces with some gentle slopes. There are some stairs. Washrooms at the beginning, along the way and at the end.
	Getting There: Transit: Line 1 to Eglinton station then take the Lawrence East 54 bus to Lawrence Avenue and Leslie Street and walk to the meeting spot. Or Line 4 to Leslie station and take the Leslie 51 bus south to Lawrence Avenue and Leslie Street then walk to the meeting spot. There is paid parking in the TBG lot.
	Walk Description: We head down to Wilket Creek Park, starting at the access trail that leads from the TBG parking lot. We follow the trail through the ravine, then veer towards Sunnybrook Park before accessing the trail leading into Serena Gundy Park. Then we loop around and head back to the Wilket Creek trail, returning to our starting point. Lots of opportunities to observe what nature has to offer in the ravine and park. Dress for the conditions with comfortable walking or hiking shoes/boots.
	What to bring: Drinks, snacks, binoculars and/or camera
	Walk leader's Cell Number: 416-716-6464
Monday June 10 10:00 AM	Historic Front Street West
	Leader: Richard Longley
	Meeting Spot: Union Station, inside booking hall, bench north side, facing information kiosk
	Walk Details: A 2.5 hour, 4 - 8 km linear walk along fairly flat, mostly paved surfaces with some stairs. Washrooms along the way.
	Getting There: Transit: TTC line to Union station, 509 or 520 streetcars to Union station. GO train or UPX train to Union station.
	Walk Description: Explore where Toronto began, where the oldest part of it is going and the stories that lie beneath.
	What to bring: Water, camera
	Walk leader's Cell Number: 647-354-5353

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Saturday June 15 10.00 AM	Lost Rivers: The Devil and Hastings Creek (The Pocket/Riverdale/Leslieville)
	Leader: Joanne Doucette
	Meeting Point: Outside the entrance to the Donlands Subway Station
	Walk Details: A 4-hour, 8 km linear walk over mostly paved surfaces with both gentle and steep slopes. Washrooms available along the way
	Walk Description: Hastings Creek began in springs just north of Danforth Avenue and flowed down between Jones and Greenwood Avenue to empty into Ashbridge's Bay. The Creek spilled down the hill, across the railway tracks and flowed south through Thomas Hastings' farm to enter the Bay between Leslie Street and Laing, west of where the Maple Cottage is now, cutting a small cove, called "the Gut", into the shoreline. We will walk through the Pocket with its views over the large clay pit that is now the TTC Subway yard. Then crossing under the railway line, we will head into the Devil's Hollow, a deep ravine, dug even deeper by brickmakers, south of the railway tracks between Jones and Greenwood. We will follow the creek south through Greenwood Park where it still makes its presence from time to time as "Greenwood Lake" and south to where it originally emptied into Ashbridge's Bay at what was known as "The Gut". We will stop there to have a hot drink and discussion.
	What to bring: Money, field guide, binoculars
	Other information: We will end the walk at Queen Street where people can take the streetcar or, if they have cars, the Greenwood or Donlands bus back to their vehicles. Please note that there are some very steep slopes on the way but the pace will be slow and I can offer a detour for those who prefer a less knee-crunching walk around the Devil's Hollow where the rest of the group can catch up to them.
	Walk Leader's Cell Number: 647-236-4980

Tuesday June 18 10:00 AM

High Park to Old Mill - 100th Anniversary Walk - Public Walk

Leaders: Zunaid Khan and Lillian Natalizio

Meeting Spot: Northwest corner of Parkside Drive and Howard Park Avenue

Walk Details: A 2.5 to 3-hour, 8 to 10 km linear walk over mostly paved, flat surfaces with some gentle slopes. There are some stairs

Getting There: TTC: Line 2 to Keele station then walk south 800 m to the meeting spot. Or Line 1 to College station then take the 506 streetcar to the High Park loop and walk to the meeting spot.

Walk Description: This is our final 100th anniversary walk. It is an attempt to recreate the first TFN walk, or "field trip" as it was called, which took place on April 26th, 1924 and was led by Stuart Thompson (nephew of E.T. Seton). From our starting point we walk south along the east side of High Park towards the lower ponds. We'll then head west along the southern end of the park towards Ellis Avenue, where we will head south along the waterfront trail following the trail across the Humber bridge. Then we'll walk up the Humber River, following the Humber River trail towards Bloor Street, to the Old Mill. There will be points along the way for attendees to turn back or catch transit. We will enjoy what nature has to offer and discuss the connection to the TFN outings program in this area.

This is a long walk, however, there are points where attendees can turn back or access transit to the leave the walk.

What to bring: Drinks, snacks, binoculars and/or camera

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

Sunday June 23 11.00 AM

Nature Arts: Seeing Trees through your Pencil

Leader: Joanne Doucette

Meeting Point: In the Arboretum parking lot of University of Guelph Arboretum, College Ave East, Guelph ON, Canada, N1G 2W1

How to get there: You can take the Kitchener GO Train from Union Station and get off at Guelph Central Station, or save half an hour and take the VIA Rail towards Sarnia and disembark at Guelph Central Station. There may be some opportunity for carpooling. Drivers let Joanne Doucette know ASAP.

If Driving: From the East take either Highway #7 or #24 into Guelph and turn left onto Victoria Road. Turn right onto College Avenue East and we are the first driveway on the left.

From the West take either Highway #7 or #24 to the Hanlon Expressway (Highway #6 South) and turn left onto it and then left again onto College Avenue. We are the last driveway on the right-hand side before the end of the road (it ends at Victoria Road).

Parking is free for visitors to The Arboretum in the parking lots designated (see their online map at https://arboretum.uoguelph.ca)

Walk Details: A 5 to 6-hour, 10 km circular walk over mostly unpaved, even, flat surfaces with a few gentle slopes. Washrooms available at the beginning

Walk Description: The Arboretum encompasses 400 acres adjacent to campus featuring plant collections, gardens, walking trails, natural woodlands, wetlands, and

meadows. Established in 1970, The Arboretum is home to more than 2000 different taxa of woody plants, in thematic collections such as a synoptic World of Trees, Native Trees of Ontario, and noteworthy collections of Oaks, Beeches, Maples, and Conifers all just waiting for you to draw them.

What You Expect Out of this Trip:

- 1) Drawing slows us down. With a camera it's usually one or two clicks, then move on. But with drawing you stand or sit and look. So, you see more, hear more, smell more, etc. and other beings around you from squirrels to butterflies are more apt to visit you up close. So be still and they will come.
- 2) Drawing teaches us to really look at what is in front of us. We begin to see things that we don't even have names for and that's why a field guide is an artist's friend. We get to know a plant, be it a tiny flower or tall tree, more intimately.
- 3) Drawing helps us connect to and appreciate nature. In drawing we see difference and nuances. We go from the general, "Oh, it's a tree" to the specific "Oh, it's a White oak" and to the very specific "it's very old, its bark looks like this, it's missing a branch..."
- 4) Drawing takes us out of ourselves and relaxes us in the same kind of relaxed, attentive way that meditation does, bringing mindfulness. It builds our capacity for sustained attention, improving our physical and mental health.

What to bring:pencils/pens/sketch pad; portable stool, lunch, money, binoculars, field guide

Walk Leader's Cell Number: 647-236-4980

Sunday June 23 2.00 PM

Northline Restoration & Trees

Leader: Lynn Miller

Meeting Point: Southwest corner of Bermondsey Rd and Sunrise Ave

Getting There: The 91 bus from Woodbine stops at Bermondsey Rd and Sunrise Ave. Parking available on the south side of Sunrise Ave.

Walk Details: A 1.5-hour, 2 km circular walk over mostly unpaved and uneven surfaces with some gentle slopes and steep slopes. No stairs

This walk is not suited for mobility devices or people with mobility restrictions.

No Washrooms

Walk Description: Walk through this little known and rarely visited section of the Don Valley. Learn how this land was converted from a waste dumping site to a natural area filled with native trees and home to deer and other wild animals. Hear about the ongoing stewardship work being done to combat invasive species and introduce native perennials.

Walk Leader's Cell Number: (647) 828-5966

If members have any questions about our outings please send an email to walks@torontofieldnaturalists.org.

The Outings committee is looking for volunteers to join the committee, lead walks and help support walk leaders on outings. If you are interested in helping please send an email to volunteering@torontofieldnaturalists.org