

August - 2024 Schedule

	<p>Outings Etiquette</p> <p>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:</p> <p>Ethical Nature Viewing</p> <p>Ethical Nature Photography</p>
Tuesday August 6 10:00 AM	<p>Secret Gardens of Christie Street - Public Walk</p> <p>Leader: Ellen Schwartzel</p> <p>Meeting Point: Wychwood Barns, 601 Christie Street, just outside the dog park</p> <p>Getting there: TTC - From Christie Subway Station, exit onto street and take Bus #126 northbound: 7 stops. You may need to wait up to 20 minutes for this bus, in which case it makes sense to just walk.</p> <p>Walk Details: A 2 hour 3.5 km linear walk along mostly paved surfaces with gentle slopes and some steep slopes. There are stairs on route. Washrooms at the beginning, along the way and at the end.</p> <p>Walk Description: Christie Street's front gardens are often modest; some scarcely 6 ft deep. You might assume there is little green to see, but you would be mistaken. We will walk southwards and mostly downhill along Christie Street, with short detours to peek at lovingly maintained greenspaces along the way, including the LEAF Learning Garden, Hillcrest Park, the Mashkiki;aki'ing Garden, the Frankel Lambert Community Garden and a secluded pond. We will end at Christie Pits Park, beside the subway, where we can share a meal in a shady green spot, so feel free to bring lunch.</p> <p>Washrooms: at Wychwood Barns, at Hillcrest Park and at Christie Pits</p> <p>What to bring: water, hat, sunscreen, binoculars, a snack or lunch.</p> <p>Walk Leader's Cell Phone: (647) 463-5562</p>

<p>Wednesday August 7 10:00 AM</p>	<p>Garrison Creek - Public Walk</p> <p>Leader: Richard Longley</p> <p>Meeting Point: Christie Pits (NW corner Christie and Bloor)</p> <p>Getting there: TTC - Line 2 to Christie station then walk to the meeting point.</p> <p>Parking lots located at 745 Bloor Street West and 726 Bloor Street West.</p> <p>Walk Details: A 2.5 hour 7 km linear walk along fairly flat and most paved surfaces with no stairs. There are no impediments to those using mobility devices, however, this is a long walk.</p> <p>Walk Description: The route for this walk will begin at Christie Pits followed by Bickford Ravine, Trinity Bellwoods Park, Stanley Park, Garrison Crossing, Bentway, City Place, Victoria Square, and ending at Queen/Spadina.</p> <p>What to bring: Footwear, clothing, appropriate for the weather of the day. WATER. Camera.</p> <p>Walk Leader's Cell Phone: (647) 354-5353</p>
<p>Tuesday August 13th 10:00 AM</p>	<p>Taylor Creek Park</p> <p>Leader: Brian Wendler</p> <p>Meeting point: 260 Dawes Rd. - Taylor Creek parking lot</p> <p>Getting there: The meeting spot is about a 10 minute walk northwest of the Victoria Park subway station on line 2. Or, from Main Street subway station, take the #23 bus to Dawes Road and Crescent Town north side. It is about a 2 minute walk to the park entrance.</p> <p>Walk Details: A 3 hour, 8 km circular walk over fairly flat and mostly paved surfaces with no stairs. The unpaved north side of the creek has some uneven areas and holes which would be an impediment to anyone using a mobility device. Washrooms at the beginning and the end.</p> <p>Walk Description: Enjoy some forest bathing as we walk along one side of Taylor Creek westbound and the other side eastbound, beginning and ending at the entrance to Taylor Creek Park at Dawes Rd. New bridges have been installed at Stan Wadlow park. Optional walk to Victoria Park station at the end of the hike past the wetlands east of Dawes.</p> <p>What to bring: binoculars, water, camera and snacks if you wish.</p> <p>Walk Leaders Cell Phone: (647) 688-1191</p>

<p>Wednesday August 14 11:30 AM</p>	<p>Park Lawn to Montgomery's Inn</p> <p>Leader: Lillian Natalizio</p> <p>Meeting point: southeast corner of Bloor St W and Prince Edward Dr S.</p> <p>Getting there: Subway to Royal York station, Grenview Entrance, walk 300 m east.</p> <p>Walk Details: A 2 hour, 4 km linear walk over mostly paved flat surfaces with some gentle slopes and stairs. Washrooms along the way and at the end. Parts of the trail can get very muddy following a heavy rainfall which could make it difficult for those with mobility devices.</p> <p>Walk Description: The walk starts at Park Lawn Cemetery, above King's Mill Park and the Humber. We'll meander through this 75 hectare green space, enjoying the mature shade trees, including a few remnant black oaks. From there we'll head west through the well-treed Kingsway neighbourhood, towards Tom Riley Park and Mimico Creek. The walk will head north along the creek to historic Montgomery's Inn, stopping at one of the Then and Now photo locations and visiting the Inn's pollinator garden. At the Inn, you can stick around for the farmer's market, opening at 2 pm, for fresh produce, stone-oven baked bread, live music, and other goodies.</p> <p>What to bring: Water, binoculars, snack</p> <p>Walk Leaders Cell Phone: (416) 577-7618</p>

<p>Tuesday August 20 8.00 AM</p>	<p>Tommy Thompson Park (Leslie Spit)</p> <p>Leader: Charles Bruce-Thompson</p> <p>Meeting Point: Outside the pavilion at the park entrance, which is at the foot of Leslie St.</p> <p>Getting there: 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>Parking (off Unwin Ave.) is free - and full of potholes</p> <p>Walk Details: A 3-hour, 7 km circular walk over mostly - but by no means all - paved, flat surfaces. Participants can drop out and return easily at any point if they so wish.</p> <p>Washrooms are available</p> <p>Walk description: We will walk next to the east shoreline as far as Cell 3, then return via the banding station, which should be open, and Embayment D. to explore this globally significant Important Bird Area.</p> <p>Every week brings something new to the Spit, both floral and faunal; it never disappoints - unless there's torrential rain, of course.</p> <p>What to Bring: :Binoculars, water. Long pants and a hat strongly recommended - it's August and there's not lot of shade</p> <p>Walk Leader's Cell Number: 416.778.5340</p>
<p>Wednesday August 21 10:00 AM</p>	<p>Facadism</p> <p>Leader: Richard Longley</p> <p>Meeting Point: St George subway, Bedford exit</p> <p>Getting there: TTC - Line 1 or 2 to St. George station.</p> <p>Walk Details: A 2.5 hour 7 km linear walk along fairly flat and mostly paved surfaces. There are no stairs. Washrooms along the way. There are no impediments to those using mobility devices, however, the sidewalks are likely to be crowded and this is a long walk.</p> <p>Walk Details: 1 Bedford, ROM. Yorkville, Yonge St, Granville, Bay, College, University to University/Queen (Osgoode subway). To see examples of facadism.</p> <p>What to bring: Dress & footwear appropriate for weather of the day, WATER. Camera.</p> <p>Walk Leader's Cell Phone: (647) 354-5353</p>

<p>Saturday August 24 10:00 AM</p>	<p>Wet by Design: Exploring Floodplains and Why We Get Floods</p> <p>Leader: Joanne Doucette</p> <p>Meeting Point: Mortimer Avenue and Broadview Avenue.</p> <p>Getting there: TTC - Line 2 to Broadview station. You can walk to the meeting spot from there or take one of three buses. The Don Mills 25A, Cosburn 87A or Flemington Park 100A and get off at the Broadview and Mortimer stop.</p> <p>Walk Details: A 4 hour 6 km linear walk over mostly unpaved and uneven surfaces with gentle slopes & some steep slopes. Some stairs and wet areas along the route. Washrooms at the beginning and end.</p> <p>Walk Description: We will explore how rivers work and the nature of floods and floodplains, including meanders, currents, oxbows, silt, sand, gravel, etc., as well as enjoy the birds, bees, flowers, trees and everything else the Don has to offer.</p> <p>What to bring: water, lunch, hat, insect repellent (if desired), sunscreen (if desired), binoculars</p>
<p>Thursday August 29 7:00 PM</p>	<p>“Meet the Four Horsemen of the Prairies”</p> <p>Leader: Joanne Doucette</p> <p>Meeting Point: The Bloor Street Entrance to High Park, 1873 Bloor Street West</p> <p>Getting there: Subway: Get off at High Park station on the Bloor-Danforth subway line between Keele and Runnymede stations. The park's north entrance is a two-minute walk from the station. Streetcar: Take the 508 Lakeshore streetcar and get off at the Parkside or Colborne Lodge stops or take the 506 Carlton streetcar all the way to the High Park loop by Parkside Drive and walk to the Bloor Street entrance. Parking at High Park is free. The two main parking lots are by the restaurant atop Hillside Gardens and by the zoo but parking spaces are available alongside the roads as well. Parking can be hard to come by on busy days in the park. https://www.highparktoronto.com/ Map of High Park: https://www.highparktoronto.com/images/highpark_map.jpg</p> <p>Walk Details: A 2 hour 5 km circular walk over mostly flat unpaved and uneven surfaces with some gentle slopes. Some stairs. Sandy areas, tall grass and other plants, uneven ground which would be an impediment to those using mobility devices. Washrooms at the beginning and end.</p> <p>Walk Description: This is a chance to learn about the Four Horsemen of the Prairies: the dominant grasses of tall grass prairies and oak savannahs: big</p>

bluestem (*Andropogon gerardii*), Switchgrass (*Panicum virgatum*), Indiangrass (*Sorghastrum nutans*), and Little bluestem (*Schizachyrium scoparium*) as well as other unique plants of these endangered ecosystems. It's a casual wander using magnifying glasses to get up close and personal with these wonderful species at a casual pace. We will look for butterflies, birds and other wildlife on the way.

What to bring: water, a magnifying glass if you have one (the leader has some extras), binoculars.