

NATURE NETWORK

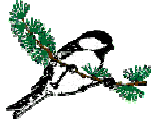
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Newsletter Sponsors

Edmonton Nature Club

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Nature Network

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Next submission deadline: October 15, 2008

**Club members and the public are
welcome to attend all events.**



August 23 - Tofield & Beaverhills Lake

We'll spend the day driving around the Beaverhills area looking for migrating shorebirds and waterfowl. We hope to find Snow Geese, Sandhill Cranes, and maybe a Bald Eagle.

- Leader: Gerald Romanchuk
- Meet: 8:30 am, Tim Horton's, Wye Road, Sherwood Park (2nd set of lights – near Safeway)
- Duration: Should finish by mid-afternoon (depends on the birding & the weather).
- Difficulty: Mostly driving, some short walks.
- Bring: Car pool money, lunch, liquids.
- Contact: Gerald Romanchuk 780-991-6521 or Brian Stephens 780-439-2841

August 30- St. Albert Fall Warblers

Terry will take us to some of his favourite warbler spots in St. Albert. We could spot as many as 16 warbler species, as well as many other songbirds.



- Leader: Terry Thormin
- Meet: 8:30 am, MacDonald's on St Albert Trail near Ron Hodgson's.
- Duration: Finish by mid-afternoon. Bring car pool money, lunch, liquids, and sturdy footwear.
- Difficulty: Some driving, some short walks.
- Contact: Terry Thormin 780-482-1389 or Brian Stephens 780-439-2841

September 6 - Joseph and Miquelon Lakes

We will spend the day looking for migrants, especially shorebirds, heading south for the winter.

- Leader: Gerald Romanchuk
- Meet: 8:30 a.m., Tim Horton's, Wye Road, Sherwood Park (2nd set of lights – near Safeway)
- Duration: Should finish by mid-afternoon (depends on the birding & the weather).
- Difficulty: Mostly driving, some short walks.
- Bring: Car pool money, lunch, liquids.
- Contact: Gerald Romanchuk 780-991-6521 or Brian Stephens 780-439-2841

September 13 – The Beaverhill Bird Observatory and Beaverhills Area

We will visit the Beaverhill Bird Observatory to see how the fall banding program is going. This is a great opportunity to see how detailed information on bird migration is gathered. We will also check out nearby areas for migrating shorebirds and waterfowl. Banding will not be occurring if there is rain.

- Leader: Brian Stephens
- Meet: 8:30 a.m., Tim Horton's, Wye Road, Sherwood Park (2nd set of lights – near Safeway)
- Duration: Should finish by late-afternoon (depends on the birding & the weather).
- Difficulty: A 2 km walk into the BBO along flat trails, otherwise mostly driving.
- Bring: Car pool money, lunch, liquids.
- Contact: Brian Stephens 780-439-2841

September 20 – St. Albert and Big Lake

We'll travel areas around St. Albert and Big Lake looking for migrating hawks and eagles, shorebirds, warblers, waterfowl. Terry and Stan should find several interesting birds and provide a few good stories. As noted elsewhere, a bench in memory of Dave Nadeau will be placed near Big Lake. Members of the ENC will have the opportunity to see the bench, the birds and remember Dave as part of this field trip. There will be a brief "dedication" ceremony at 10:00 a.m.

- Leaders: Terry Thormin & Stan Gosche
- Meet: 9:00 a.m. at the MacDonald's on St. Albert Trail near Ron Hodgson's.
- Duration: Should finish by early afternoon.
- Difficulty: Mostly driving, some short walks.
- Contact: Terry Thormin 780-482-1389 or Brian Stephens 780-439-2841



September 21 (Sunday) – Autumn Colours of the Athabasca River

This is a great area to witness the beauty of the various coloured leaves and also look for the tracks of Black Bear, Wolf, and herons. On the river, loons or mergansers may be seen. We'll also look for Barred Owls, eagles, woodpeckers, and kinglets in the woods.

- Leader: Jim Lange, ph. 780-455-7021.
- Meet: 7:30 a.m. McDonald's at Westmount Mall, 112 Ave and Groat Road (south side of building).
- Difficulty: Hike will be approximately 6-8 km return on easy trails, although there are very steep sections along the ski hill (good hiking boots recommended).
- Duration: Return to Edmonton at approx. at 8:30 p.m.
- Contact: Jim Lange 780-455-7021

September 27 – Elk Island National Park

We will explore several trails such as Amisk Wuche, Sandhills Fire Road, and Astotin Lake in search of fall migrants.

- Leader: TBA
- Meet at 8:00 am at the Information Centre at the entrance to the park.
- Difficulty: Several 2-5 km hikes.
- Duration: Late Afternoon
- Contact: Brian Stephens 780-439-2841

October 3 and 4 – Steaks and Saw-whets 2008

Join the Beaverhill Bird Observatory volunteers, staff and executive for an evening barbeque and netting of Northern Saw-whet Owls. Steaks, chicken, hotdogs, veggie burgers, corn, potatoes, and all the fixings are served. An assortment of home-made desserts is followed by setting up mist nets to capture saw-whet owls on migration. This annual event sells out quickly so please book early to ensure your spot!!



- Time: Dinner is served between 6:00 and 8:00 p.m. Nets go up at 8:00 p.m.
- Cost: \$25 for adults, free for kids under 12.
- Contact: For more information and to [register](#), contact Chuck Priestley at (780) 427-8124 or e-mail chuckp@strixenvironmental.ca.
- Supported by Alberta Conservation Association and Federation of Alberta Naturalists

October 18 - Eagle Migration & Misty Ridge Picnic



Misty Ridge is about 35 km north of Barrhead, along the Athabasca River near The Fort Assiniboine Sandhills Wildland Park. This is a great spot for monitoring Bald Eagle and Golden eagle migrations, as well as other raptors. Barred and

Pygmy Owls have been seen in the area as well.

- Leader: Jim Lange
- Meet: 7:30 am at the MacDonald's at Westmount Mall (south side of building).
- Duration: All day trip. We usually stop at Westlock for dinner on the way home.
- Difficulty: Mostly driving & an optional walk down into the valley.
- Bring: Car pool money, food for potluck picnic, appropriate clothing and footwear.
- Contact: Jim Lange 780-455-7021

The Edmonton Nature Club



is seeking nominations for all board positions, in particular President and Vice President. Contact Coral Grove 473-2540 or Marg Reine 430-7134 or any one of the executive members.

October 25 - Opal / Half Moon Lake

This area, north of the city, can be good for migrating waterfowl and raptors. If we're lucky we might even find a Great Gray Owl!

- Leader: Gerald Romanchuk
- Meet: 9:00 am, Tim Horton's, 97 St. & 160 Ave (east side of street – near Canadian Tire)
- Duration: Should finish by mid-afternoon (depends on the birding & the weather).
- Difficulty: Mostly driving, some short walks.
- Bring: Car pool money, lunch, liquids.
- Contact: Gerald Romanchuk 780-991-6521

November 8 - Wabamum Lake

On our annual trip to Wabamun we'll circle the lake looking for loon species, grebes, swans, mergansers, scoters, hawks, & eagles. We'll try to find something special such as a Pacific or Yellow-billed Loon.

- Leaders: TBA
- Meet: 9:00 am at the Spruce Grove Smitty's Restaurant.
- Duration: Should finish by mid-afternoon.
- Difficulty: Mostly driving, some short walks.
- Bring: Car pool money, lunch, liquids.
- Contact: Brian Stephens 780-439-2841

December 6 - Goldbar and Rundle Parks / Christmas Bird Count Warm Up

The open water produced by the Goldbar sewage plant attracts over-wintering waterfowl. A morning walk along the river may produce some interesting duck species. There are often Bald Eagles and other raptors in the area that are attracted by the ducks.

- Leader: TBA
- Meet: 10:00 a.m., Goldbar Park parking lot, east of the sewage plant.
- Duration: Should finish by early afternoon.
- Difficulty: Easy walking along trails.
- Contact: Brian Stephens 780-439-2841

