



INGERSOLL DISTRICT NATURE CLUB / 2021 ACTIVITIES CALENDAR

Please note: *COVID-19 restrictions will dictate the number of activities that are planned, as well as limit opportunity to carpool. Where noted, we will still meet at the municipal lot behind the Ingersoll arena, but families will be encouraged to drive themselves to hiking locations. As well, our Lecture Series will resume in the spring or fall of 2021, dependent upon when the Library confirms they can accommodate us. All activities are subject to change. We will do our best to notify in advance.*

For as long as COVID-19 remains a threat, we ask that if you attend our outdoor activities you follow proper protocols as established by the provincial government, including masking and physical distancing. Thank you!

ACTIVITIES:

[W] January 16 – Embro Pond Conservation Area – Carpool Lot at 9:00 a.m.

This well-maintained trail is well travelled in winter and the trails are well marked. There are several loops so hikers can go as short or as long a distance as they desire. Follow County Road 6 to north of Embro and turn west onto County Road 16. Entrance on left about a quarter kilometre from intersection of the two County Roads. Plenty of parking. For information, **Contact: Ken, 519-539-5234**

[W] March 13 – Springwater Conservation Area and Maple Syrup Festival /Aylmer Swans

The Springwater Forest is a national rarity, a 150-hectare Carolinian Forest, which contains more endangered species than any other zone in Canada. The forest contains a diverse variety of interdependent animals and plants. We have often seen Pileated Woodpeckers do a fly-by. March also features the Maple Syrup Festival – great pancakes! Weather and time permitting, a stop at the Aylmer viewing stands to watch migrating swans and geese will follow. **Contact: Meg, 519-485-4220**

[W] April 17 – Backus Woods (Carpool Lot at 9:00 a.m.)

Join us on a day's outing to this well-known property under the jurisdiction of the Long Point Conservation Authority. Migration will be in full swing – birding at its best. This conservation area features some remnant Carolinian forest. Nature photographers are welcome to join us. **Contact: Terry, 250-423-M4844**

[W] May 15 – St. Williams Conservation Reserve – Carpool Lot at 8 a.m.

Visit and hike some of the trail system of this very large reserve located in the St. Williams /Turkey Point area. Great variety of trails and one or two will be selected prior to the trip down. Part of the Carolinian Forest area so the chance to see species that we don't normally see in the immediate Ingersoll area. **Contact: Ken, 519-539-5234**



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June 5 – Lawson Nature Reserve Clean-up Day / 9:00 a.m. at Reserve

Community members are welcome to join us for clean-up activities at the Reserve, including trail maintenance, garlic mustard extraction and painting. Bring gloves, bug spray and water proof boots. **Contact: Peter, 519-425-0429**

[W] June 26 – Pinery Provincial Park (Note: Early Departure from Carpool Lot at 7:30 a.m.)

Join us as we hike the Pinery to explore its Oak Savanna woodland, some of the only remaining in North America. The park's unique ecosystem can be explored on trails, beaches or quiet reaches of the old Ausable Channel. There are food outlets but bringing a picnic lunch is an alternative. **Contact: Ken, 519-539-5234**

[W+I] August 28 – Annual General Meeting and Walk / 4:00 p.m.

Meet at the Parker family farm at 363341 McBeth Road (west) for an informative walk of their field and trail system followed by a potluck at the Ingersoll Seniors Centre (tbc). Our AGM reviews the highlights of the year and is an opportunity to hear new ideas for the next. Guest speaker/photographer to be confirmed. Walk starts at 4:00 p.m. / Potluck meal at 5:30 p.m. with the Club providing beverages. **Contact: Peter, 519-425-0429**

[W] September 11 – Burgess Trail, Woodstock – Carpool Lot at 9 a.m.

This trail located in north-west Woodstock has been expanded considerably in the past few years. Trail now encompasses a woodlot and former pasture land further north of the Upper Trail as well as the more established trails along the north side of the river. If time permits, the Standard Tube Trail south of the river can be explored and especially how it has developed since the loss of many ash trees four to five years ago. **Contact: Ken, 519-539-5234**

[W] September 25 – Jackson – Gunn Old Growth Forest / Arthur Langford Nature Reserve - Carpool Lot at 9:00 a.m.

These properties are owned by the Long Point Basin Land Trust. Jackson-Gunn is one of the most spectacular old growth forests remaining in southern Ontario. Some trees have stood for almost three centuries. Located near the Lake Erie shoreline in Norfolk County and east of Port Burwell. Arthur Langford contains extensive forests, wetlands and restored grasslands with a number of rare and interesting species. **Contact: Ken, 519-539-5234**

[W] October 16 – Hodges Pond – Carpool at 9 a.m.

Take another look at the long- term project to clean up Cedar Creek and ultimately the Thames River. Hodges Pond and the surrounding 400 acres owned by the County of Oxford are in the process of being re-naturalized. The objective is the re-establishment of the natural Cedar Creek bed channel and the creation of multiple wetland areas. Joint project of the County, the



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Cowan Foundation, Stewardship Oxford, Ducks Unlimited Canada, the UTRCA, and the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry. The Club visited this property in October of 2019 but a lot has changed since then so it is time for another look. **Contact: Ken, 519-539-5234**

[I] November 27 – Festive Potluck / 1:00 p.m.

A grand opportunity to celebrate all the wonders of nature. Everyone is welcome to join our potluck and meeting at the Ingersoll Seniors Centre (tbc) and hear our guest speaker. Bring your own plate, cup and cutlery so we can reduce waste. **Contact: Sheila, 519-485-2645**

[W] December 28 – Christmas Bird Count / 9:00 a.m. at Lawson Reserve

Started in 1900, the Christmas Bird Count is North America's longest running citizen science project. Counts happen in over 2000 localities throughout the Western Hemisphere. Join the camaraderie – come out to the Reserve and help with the count. We work as a group – no bird identification experience necessary. **Contact: Terry, 250-423-4844,**

Legend:

* **[W]** Nature Walk - Carpool at the municipal lot behind the arena 9:00 a.m. unless otherwise noted.

* **[I]** Denotes an indoor event. Most will take place at the Ingersoll Seniors Centre on Whiting Street in Ingersoll

* Please recheck our website for changes and added indoor and outdoor events throughout the year

We welcome newcomers to participate in any and all of our activities. We are interested in the development and preservation of nature in Oxford County.

For more information about the Club and the Lawson Reserve go to:

www.ingersollnatureclub.com