



# Saskatoon Nature Society

## Newsletter

July-August 2017

Vol. 39 No. 6

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### Field Trips

Everyone is welcome to participate in any field trip. Bring your friends. Carpooling for out-of-town trips is arranged at the meeting place; there is no charge other than to share gasoline costs. Phone the trip leader if you have any questions. Participants are free to depart early if they wish. Members with FRS radios should bring them on out of town trips. Check our website at [www.saskatoonnature-society.sk.ca](http://www.saskatoonnature-society.sk.ca) for last minute changes or cancellations and to download checklists. Bus Information: 306-975-3100.

Many of our trip destinations are described in the 3rd edition of "A Guide to Nature Viewing Sites in and around Saskatoon" available from [www.saskatoon-naturesociety.sk.ca/books/nature\\_viewing\\_sites.html](http://www.saskatoon-naturesociety.sk.ca/books/nature_viewing_sites.html).

#### **Saturday, July 1, 9:15 AM - 2:00 PM** **Wild Orchids field trip**

We will drive to the Nisbet forest (north of Duck Lake) and look for lady-slippers and other wild orchids. Bring lunch, mosquito repellent and rubber boots. **Meet** at south-west corner of the Lawson Heights' Mall parking lot **Bus:** Route 30 Lawson Heights departs downtown terminal at 8:46 AM and arrives at Lawson terminal at 9:05 AM. Walk to SW corner of parking lot.

**Leader:** Bob Godwin (306-343-8590).

#### **Saturday, July 8, 8:45 AM - ?** **North American Butterfly Count**

Download checklist from SNS website. If raining, count will be postponed to July 9. **Meet** at the NW corner of the parking lot for the Centre at Circle and 8th Mall. **Bus:** Route 50 Lakeview departs U of S campus at 8:25 AM and arrives on 8th St adjacent to mall about 8:35 AM. Route 8/84 departs downtown terminal at 8:16 AM and arrives on 8th at mall about 8:30 AM. Walk to NW corner of parking lot.

**Leader:** Juhachi Asai (306-373-1969).

#### **Sunday, July 9 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM**

##### **Botany trip to Beaver Creek Conservation Area**

We will drive to Beaver Creek and then go for a walk looking for native wildflowers. Bring a water bottle and a hat. **Meet** by the grain elevator at the Western Development Museum parking lot on Lorne Ave. **Bus:** Route 1 Exhibition departs downtown terminal at 12:31 PM and arrives on Lorne Avenue next to WDM entrance about 12:50 PM. Walk to the old grain elevator.

**Leader:** Sara Bryson (306-261-6156)

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#### **Saturday, July 15, 7:00 AM – 5:00 PM**

##### **Douglas Park sand dunes hike**

An 8 km walk through mixed grasslands and sand dunes. We will look for tiger beetles plus other insects, wildflowers and birds. Bring comfortable walking shoes, sunscreen, a hat, snacks and plenty of water. **Meet** at the NW corner of the Circle Center Mall parking lot (8th Street and Circle Drive). **Bus:** Route 50 Lakeview departs U of S campus at 6:25 AM and arrives on 8th St adjacent to mall about 6:35 AM. Walk to NW corner of parking lot.

**Leader:** Joshua Erikson (306-270-5430).

#### **Sunday, July 16, 1:30 PM – 4:30 PM**

##### **Dragonfly and Damselfly Viewing**

We will visit a nearby wetland to look for dragonflies and damselflies. Rubber boots and repellent may be useful. **Meet** at the NW corner of the Circle Center Mall parking lot (8th Street and Circle Drive). **Bus:** Route 55 Lak-eridge departs U of S terminal at 12:53 PM and arrives on 8th St adjacent to mall about 1:06 pm. Route 8/81 departs downtown terminal at 12:46 pm and arrives on 8th by mall about 1:05 pm. Walk to NW corner of parking lot.

**Leader:** Lorne Ducek (306-249-0305).

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## President's Corner

Thanks to hard work of the organizers it was another successful Nature City Festival. SNS sponsored a speaker, several field trips and two courses. Thank you to the SNS Field Trip committee for organizing and promoting events that were well received and attracted new participants. This year, EcoFriendly Sask and the Nature City Festival sponsored the Nature City Volunteer Awards. The winners were announced at a reception held during the Festival. Congratulations to the winners, all members of the Saskatoon Nature Society. They include: Louise Jones (Individual - Swale Watchers), Renny Grilz and Lisa Prang-Grilz - (Business - Blazing Star Wildflower Seed Company), and Jan Shadick (Community Project - Living Skies Wildlife Rehabilitation).

The theme of this year's Festival was 'We Are Water: Explore Our Prairie Waterscape'. It is a timely theme too. As we explore and appreciate our diverse prairie wetlands, it is sad to see that a favorite slough has been drained, a favorite trail is flooded or the water quality of a lake or river has been compromised.

Recently, the World Wildlife Fund released its Watershed Reports. You can access the reports at <http://watershedreports.wwf.ca> According to the reports, the North and South Saskatchewan prairie watersheds are of particular concern. It's no surprise to learn too from the reports that the South Saskatchewan is one of Canada's most intensively used rivers. Saskatoon is defined by the river so SNS is monitoring the various projects being proposed so that we can provide informed input to decision makers as opportunities arise.

By way of update, in addition to our Kids in Nature Grants awarded in January, we have provided a grant to the University of Saskatchewan's Ecology Camps this year to support and promote nature awareness among children. Over 4500 children have attended this program since its inception in 1993.

Please check out the many field trips planned over July and August. Several people I met during Nature Saskatchewan's Spring Meet mentioned they were envious of the many and varied field trips SNS offers.

Have an enjoyable summer, and safe travels wherever they take you.

Valerie Martz

## Field Trips (continued)

**Sunday, July 23, 8:00 AM – 4:30 PM**

### **Shorebird trip**

We plan to drive for a few hundred km to a suitable wetland where fall migrating shorebirds may be found. Bring a lunch. **Meet** by the grain elevator at the Western Development Museum parking lot on Lorne Ave. **Bus:** No Bus Service. **Leader:** Robert Johanson (306-653-2610).

**Sunday, July 30, 2:00 PM – 4:30 PM.**

### **Botany walk to Sutherland Beach.**

We will walk across the North Circle Drive bridge and then along the river valley. **Meet** in Archibald Park North near intersection of Spadina Crescent and Prince of Wales Drive. **Bus:** Route 12 River Heights departs downtown terminal at 1:16 pm and arrives at Alexandra Avenue and Eddy place at 1:29 pm. Walk back alley to park and then to Spadina Cres.

**Leader:** Mary Jean Roy (306-665-0987)

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**Thursday, August 10, 6:30 PM – 8:00 PM**

### **Botany walk along the MVA trail.**

We will walk the trail looking for wildflowers in bloom. **Meet** at the north parking lot for the Diefenbaker Centre on campus. **Bus:** Route 4 Willowgrove departs downtown terminal at 6:16 pm and arrives on campus drive across from Diefenbaker centre about 6:25 pm. Walk past Diefenbaker centre to north parking lot.

**Leader:** Sara Bryson (306-261-6156)

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**Sunday, August 20, 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM**

### **Bird walk through Gabriel Dumont Park**

We will walk through this park watching for songbirds. **Meet** at the north end of parking lot **Bus:** Route 1 Exhibition departs downtown terminal at 1:31 PM and arrives at Herman Avenue and Taylor about 1:45 PM. Walk north along Saskatchewan Crescent to park.

**Leader:** Hilda Noton (306-374-0674)

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**Saturday, August 26, 8:00 AM – 11:00 AM**

### **Warbler Walk at the Forestry Farm Zoo.**

We will walk about the park watching for fall warblers. There is a \$2 fee / car to enter if you don't have a seasonal pass. **Meet** at south end of main parking lot at the Saskatoon Zoo.

**Leader:** Bob Godwin (306-343-8590)

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**Monday, September 4, 9:00 AM – NOON.  
Trip to Stuglin acreage**

We will drive to this bird-rich private acreage on the Pike Lake highway and walk the property. Meet by the grain elevator at the Western Development Museum parking lot on Lorne Ave. Bus: Route 1 Exhibition departs downtown terminal at 8:31 AM and arrives on Lorne Avenue next to WDM entrance about 8:50 AM. Walk to the old grain elevator.

**Leader:** Hilda Noton (306-374-0674)

**Saturday, September 9  
Fall Bird Count**

Help us survey the fall migrants in the Saskatoon area. Please contact Kyron before September 7 for assignment to a group. Survey times are flexible. Novices are welcome and will be assigned to an experienced leader.

**Organizer:** Kyron Giroux.

E-mail: [kyrongiroux@gmail.com](mailto:kyrongiroux@gmail.com)

Text: 306-281-6996

Phone: 306-955-2473.

**Sunday, September 10, 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM  
Birding trip to Buzz Lake**

Meet at NW corner of coop grocery star grocery store parking lot on Centennial Boulevard in Warman.

**Leader:** Gail Diakuw (306-239-2281)

**Saturday, October 7, 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM  
Whooping Crane field trip**

We will drive in search of any reported Whoopers within 100 km of the city. Bring a lunch, drinking water and warm clothing. **Meet** at the NW corner of the parking lot for the Centre at Circle and 8th Mall. **Bus:** Route 50 Lakeview departs U of S campus at 7:25 AM and arrives on 8th St adjacent to mall about 7:35 AM. Route 8/84 departs downtown terminal at 7:16 AM and arrives on 8th at mall about 7:30 AM. Walk to NW corner of parking lot.

**Leader:** Michael Williams (306-242-5383)

## Young Naturalists

The Young Naturalists is all about nature activities for kids and their families. Each program offers interesting activities geared for children aged 5 to 11 years. Children must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Enrolment is limited on most programs and often programs fill up over a month in advance, so register early. To register or for more information e-mail [saskatoonnaturekids@gmail.com](mailto:saskatoonnaturekids@gmail.com) (or call 306-975-3395). Visit the Young Naturalists' website for detailed information about the upcoming programs. [www.saskatoonzoosociety.ca/programs/young-naturalists/](http://www.saskatoonzoosociety.ca/programs/young-naturalists/)

### Upcoming Young Naturalists Programs:

- |              |                             |
|--------------|-----------------------------|
| July 14      | Butterfly Field Trip        |
| August 1     | Peregrine Falcon Field Trip |
| September 23 | Sandhill Crane Field Trip   |



## Golden Eagles

The Golden Eagles, a sub-group of Saskatoon Nature Society, invites retirees and partners who are interested in birds and the natural world to join our field trips. Participants should be members of the Saskatoon Nature Society and consider membership in Nature Saskatchewan, our provincial affiliate. If a trip involves a guided tour of a facility, participants may be asked to make a donation to the facility. Contact trip leader if you have any questions.

**Thursday, July 6, 7:00 AM**

### **Breeding Bird Atlas square bashing.**

Maps and sheets will be distributed to record all birds seen in short sections of roads in a 10 km x10km square SE of Saskatoon. We will then continue to Blackstrap park for general birding and lunch.

**Leader:** Stan Shadick (306-652-5975)

**Thursday, July 13, 8:00 AM**

### **Search for Prairie Lilies**

**Leaders:** Joan Weber (306-668-8270) and Hilda Voth (306-242-0198)

**Thursday, July 20, 8:00 AM**

### **MVA trail walk**

Some of us will walk along the new portion of the trail along the river between Cartwright St. and Diefenbaker park. Others may prefer to explore a shorter section of the trail within the park.

**Leader:** Hilda Noton (306-374-0674)

**Thursday, July 27, 8:00 AM**

### **The Quill Lakes**

A two-hour drive to Wynyard to see an amazing concentration of water birds in the area flooded by the increased water level of the Quill Lakes. Up to 6 species of herons and egrets might be seen. Morning stop at Lanigan park. Bring lawn chairs. Lunch on the closed portion of the grid road 640 beyond the barrier. Return about 4:00 p.m.

**Leader:** Stan Shadick (306-652-5975)

**Thursday, August 3**

**No trip**

**Thursday, August 10, 7:30 AM**

### **Shore Birds**

**Leader:** Guy Wapple (306-249-3280)

**Thursday, August 17, 7:30 AM**

### **Ferries on the South Saskatchewan River North of Saskatoon**

**Leaders:** Hilda Noton (306-374-0674) and Yvonne Cuttle (306-374-5228)

**Thursday, August 24, 7:30 AM**

### **Porter Lake and St. Denis Area**

We will explore back roads east of the city.

**Leaders:** John Patterson and Valerie Martz (306-249-0468)

**Thursday, August 31**

**No trip**

## Announcements and Reports



Please consider switching from a paper copy of the SNS newsletter to an electronic copy. You can create a folder in your email system to save your back issues of the newsletters.

You will help us save on paper, stamps, and volunteer time.

You will get information more quickly and get pictures in color.

**Please contact** Claire Bullaro [c.bear@sasktel.net](mailto:c.bear@sasktel.net) with your current email address to switch.

Thank you.



**Join SNS and the Saskatoon Food Bank & Learning Centre at the SFBLC Garden Patch**  
(3rd Ave N and Duchess St)  
on Wednesday, July 12 from 7:00 PM- 9:00 PM  
to help conduct a **mini-Bioblitz**

The purpose of the event is to establish a baseline of the species that call the Garden Patch home. The long term goal is increase biodiversity in the garden while maintaining productivity.

For more information please contact Sara Bryson at 306-261-6156 or Adrian Werner, Saskatoon Food Bank & Learning Centre's Urban Agriculture Program Manager at [adrian.w@saskatoonfoodbank.org](mailto:adrian.w@saskatoonfoodbank.org)



## ASTRONOMICAL EVENTS IN AUGUST

The annual Perseid Meteor shower is predicted to peak this year during the evening of Friday, August 12. In most years, the recommendation is to view it as late at night as possible in order to see the most meteors. Unfortunately, moonlight from the bright waning gibbous moon should wash out the numerous fainter meteors late at night. Therefore, this year's recommendation is to drive to a dark rural location with a clear, unobstructed view of the north-eastern sky and watch the entire night sky between 10:00 pm and 11:30 pm. You do not need a telescope or binoculars. Cover up to avoid any mosquitoes and to stay warm.

On Monday, August 21, Saskatoon residents will be treated to a very rare, partial solar eclipse. Because of the risk of blindness, you should check online and order some special eclipse viewing glasses well in advance of the date. Alternatively, you may join the lineup at the U of S Campus observatory, which is equipped with a safe objective solar filter for viewing the Sun. As pay parking is limited on campus, it is best to take the bus. The U of S bus terminal is across the street from the observatory.

The new moon will take the first tiny bite out of the Sun at 10:30 am and the event ends at 1:01 pm. Maximum eclipse occurs at 11:44 am, when about 3/4 of the Sun's disk will be covered by the moon. The campus observatory will be open to the public throughout this event.

If you wish to see the eclipse in full glory, you will need to plan to visit the narrow Total Eclipse Path in southern Wyoming or Idaho. See [eclipsophile.com](http://eclipsophile.com) on the internet for details

Submitted by Stan Shadick



# Saskatoon Nature Society

## Newsletter

### Mailing address:

Box 448, RPO University  
Saskatoon, SK S7N 4J8

### Website:

[www.SaskatoonNatureSociety.sk.ca](http://www.SaskatoonNatureSociety.sk.ca)

### Facebook:

[www.facebook.com/SaskatoonNatureSociety](http://www.facebook.com/SaskatoonNatureSociety)

The deadline for the September Newsletter is August 25. Please send any announcements or articles to Gordon Edwards (306-380-2442). The publisher would appreciate if articles are complete and submitted electronically.

email: [saskgord58@gmail.com](mailto:saskgord58@gmail.com)

## Chairs and Coordinators

Brochure	Mary Jean Roy.....	306-665-0987	
Coffee	Hilda Voth.....	306-242-0198	
Display	Greg Fenty.....	306-343-6943	..... <a href="mailto:greg.fenty@gmail.com">greg.fenty@gmail.com</a>
Facebook Editor	Dale Jefferson.....	306-371-8198	..... <a href="mailto:SaskatoonNatureSociety@gmail.com">SaskatoonNatureSociety@gmail.com</a>
Field Trips	Stan Shadick.....	306-652-5975	..... <a href="mailto:stan.shadick@usask.ca">stan.shadick@usask.ca</a>
Golden Eagles	Hilda Noton.....	306-374-0674	..... <a href="mailto:nottshill@sasktel.net">nottshill@sasktel.net</a>
Membership	Michael Williams.....	306-242-5383	
Nature Notes	John Patterson.....	306-249-0468	..... <a href="mailto:jrpatterson@shaw.ca">jrpatterson@shaw.ca</a>
Newsletter			
Publisher	Gordon Edwards.....	306-380-2442	..... <a href="mailto:saskgord58@gmail.com">saskgord58@gmail.com</a>
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Publications	Joan Feather.....	306-653-3160	..... <a href="mailto:jfeather@sasktel.net">jfeather@sasktel.net</a>
Publicity	Ron Jensen.....	306-665-8248	..... <a href="mailto:rjes@shaw.ca">rjes@shaw.ca</a>
Webmaster	Branimir Gjetvaj.....	306-220-5703	..... <a href="mailto:branimir@shaw.ca">branimir@shaw.ca</a>
Young Naturalists	Greg Fenty.....	306-975-3395	..... <a href="mailto:saskatoonnaturekids@gmail.com">saskatoonnaturekids@gmail.com</a>

## Board of Directors

President	Valerie Martz.....	306-249-0486	..... <a href="mailto:vmartz@shaw.ca">vmartz@shaw.ca</a>
Past President	Marten Stoffel.....	306-230-9291	..... <a href="mailto:asio.otus@sasktel.net">asio.otus@sasktel.net</a>
Vice President	Vacant		
Secretary	Sara Bryson.....		..... <a href="mailto:demeter187@hotmail.com">demeter187@hotmail.com</a>
Treasurer	Yvonne Cuttle.....	306-374-5228	..... <a href="mailto:cuttyg@shaw.ca">cuttyg@shaw.ca</a>
Director	Gordon Edwards.....	306-380-2442	..... <a href="mailto:saskgord58@gmail.com">saskgord58@gmail.com</a>
Director	Joshua Erikson.....		..... <a href="mailto:airrocksun@gmail.com">airrocksun@gmail.com</a>
Director	Robert Johanson.....	306-653-2610	..... <a href="mailto:robert.johanson@usask.ca">robert.johanson@usask.ca</a>
Director	Greg Fenty.....	306-343-6943	..... <a href="mailto:greg.fenty@gmail.com">greg.fenty@gmail.com</a>
Director	Stan Shadick.....	306-652-5975	..... <a href="mailto:stan.shadick@usask.ca">stan.shadick@usask.ca</a>
Director	Guy Wapple.....	306-249-3280	..... <a href="mailto:gswap@sasktel.net">gswap@sasktel.net</a>

The board of directors meets about once a month, usually in the week before the monthly meeting. If you wish to bring an item to the attention of the board, please contact the president.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
July						1 Wild Orchids
		2	3	4	5	6 GE: Breeding Bird Atlas
9 Beaver Creek Botany	10	11	12 Mini Bio-blitz	13 GE: Prairie Lillies	14 YN: Butterflies	15 Douglas Park
16 Dragonflies	17	18	19	20 GE: MVA Trail Walk	21	22
23/30 23: Shorebirds 30: Botany Walk	24/31	25	26	27 GE: Quill Lakes	28	29

August		1 YN: Perigrine Falcons	2	3	4	5
		6	7	8	9	10 MVA Botany Walk GE: Shorebirds
13	14	15	16	17 GE: Ferries	18	19
20 Gabriel Dumont-Bird Walk	21 Solar Eclipse	22	23	24 GE: Porter Lake	25	26 Zoo Warbler Walk
27	28	29	30	31		

**Membership Renewals**

All SNS memberships expire on December 31; failure to renew by then may interrupt delivery of your *Newsletter*. Check the upper right corner of your mailing label to see the year your membership expires. New memberships paid after July 1 will continue through the following year. Donations qualify for a tax receipt. Mail in your completed form or bring it to the next meeting.

## *Membership in the Saskatoon Nature Society*

The Saskatoon Nature Society publishes ten newsletters per year informing members of field trips and other activities. Except in the summer, monthly meetings present speakers on a wide range of nature related topics.

Please check:             Renewal                       New Member                       Change of Address

Membership Category:     Individual \$20/yr       Family \$30/yr                       Junior (<19yrs) \$5/yr

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name(s) (please print neatly): \_\_\_\_\_

(Names/Ages of Children): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to receive the SNS *Newsletter* electronically via email at the above address

Membership fee ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_ /yr x \_\_\_\_\_ year(s) (one to five) = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Donation (designate a fund if desired)

Kids in Nature       Conservation and Education       Nature Capital       General Fund

One-time donation: ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Monthly donation:..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_ /month

For a monthly donation, either (a) attach a cheque marked "VOID" and we will send you a Pre-Authorized Debit (PAD) form to be completed and returned to start the process, or (b) download the PAD form from our website (SaskatoonNatureSociety.sk.ca), complete the form and attach a cheque marked "VOID" and mail to the address below.

Option: Membership in Nature Saskatchewan (see below) ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL (please make your cheque payable to Saskatoon Nature Society)..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: Treasurer, Saskatoon Nature Society, Box 448, RPO University, Saskatoon, SK S7N 4J8

## *Membership in Nature Saskatchewan*

The Saskatoon Nature Society is affiliated with the provincial society, Nature Saskatchewan, but membership is separate and the fee schedule is different. Renewing your provincial membership through SNS earns us a \$2 commission. Nature Saskatchewan is a strong advocate for conservation and education in the province. Benefits of membership include the quarterly journal *Blue Jay*, and spring and fall meets at various locations in the province. More information is available on their web site: [www.naturesask.ca](http://www.naturesask.ca). **Note: multi-year Nature Saskatchewan memberships are no longer available**

<u>Category</u>	<u>Electronic</u>	<u>Print</u>	
Individual	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25	<input type="checkbox"/> \$40	
Family	<input type="checkbox"/> \$30	<input type="checkbox"/> \$45	<input type="checkbox"/> New Member
Student	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25	<input type="checkbox"/> \$35	
Senior (>64yrs)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25	<input type="checkbox"/> \$35	<input type="checkbox"/> Renewal
Foreign	<input type="checkbox"/> \$30	<input type="checkbox"/> \$60	
Organization	<input type="checkbox"/> \$30	<input type="checkbox"/> \$60	