



HALIFAX FIELD NATURALISTS 2017 WINTER PROGRAMME

Except for July and August, HFN's illustrated presentations are held the first Thursday of every month in the auditorium of the Nova Scotia Museum of Natural History (NSMNH), 1747 Summer St., Halifax, 7:30 p.m. For **field trips** it *may* be possible for the contact person to organise car-pooling for an out-of-city event; a contribution towards fuel costs would be appreciated. For **talks**, there is free on-street parking after 6:00 p.m., and pay-parking in the Museum parking lot. Two hours is usually adequate. **All participants in HFN activities are responsible for their own safety. Always wear suitable clothing and footwear for the weather, the activity, and the terrain. If in doubt, call the contact person listed for each field trip. Please note – for limited-space events, HFN members will be given first priority.** To join, go to halifaxfieldnaturalists.ca or mail form on other side.



ANNUAL SEWER STROLL

SUNDAY, JAN. 7

HFN and the Nova Scotia Bird Society, led by HFN/NSBS member Clarence Stevens Jr., will visit all the favourite winter bird sites in and around Halifax Harbour looking for ducks, gulls, and alcids – at Hartlen Point, Eastern Passage, Dartmouth Cove, Sullivan's Pond, Tuft's Cove, and the Bedford Waterfront. If weather conditions are favourable and time permits, we'll also visit Point Pleasant Park. **Dress warmly and bring a lunch, binoculars and/or a scope, and field guides.**

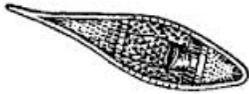
Storm Date: Jan. 14th

Contact: Carol Klar, cklar@bellaliant.net, 443-3385

Time/Place: 9:00 a.m. at McCormacks Beach Provincial Park parking lot, just past Fisherman's Cove in Eastern Passage.

Duration: Until mid- to late afternoon

Difficulty: Easy to moderate



SHUBIE PARK SNOWSHOE WALK

SATURDAY, JAN. 20

Nova Scotia's winter can sometimes make it hard for us to get outdoors, but come and join us for some much needed outdoor time, and to learn about how snowshoes can be used to make winter hikes easier and more fun! During this event, led by staff from the Adventure Earth Centre, we will learn how to use snowshoes properly, and we'll test them out on a walk around the beautiful forested trails of Shubie Park. We'll also learn some tips and tricks about how to prepare, pack, and dress for outdoor winter activities and excursions. No previous experience with snowshoes is necessary, and snowshoes will be provided, although participants may bring their own if they wish. **Registration is required for this event, and, please note – if there is no snow at this time, walk may be rescheduled for later in the winter!**

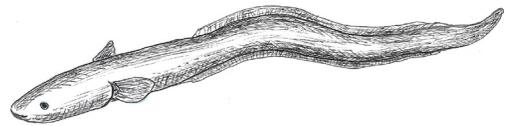
Rain Date: Saturday, January 27th

Contact: Molly LeBlanc, molly.e.leblanc@gmail.com

Time/Place: 1:00 p.m. at Shubie Park's Fairbanks Centre, 54 Locks Rd, Dartmouth (off the Waverly Road),

Duration: 2 hours

Difficulty: Easy to moderate



LIFE AND DECLINE OF THE EEL

THURSDAY, FEB. 1

Lydia Stevens of Fisheries and Oceans Canada will give an introduction into the life history, importance, and status of the American eel, *Anguilla rostrata*. She'll discuss this eel's range, life cycle, sex, and diet, and its importance to indigenous people and recreational and commercial fish harvesters. Finally, she will talk about her own research – "Population Demographics and Habitat Use of the American Eel in a Protected Watershed in Nova Scotia".

7:30 p.m. at the NSMNH



EXPLORING THE DRYSDALE BOG

SATURDAY, FEB. 10

The Drysdale Bog in Goodwood is a fairly large bog close to the city. It is a raised, rain-fed bog which drains into the surrounding streams. We'll walk over an HRM water pipeline right-of-way to get to the bog, and may then continue to Big Indian Lake. This winter walk should permit exploring the area without getting our feet wet, and allow planning for a subsequent spring flora exploration. If there is sufficient snow on the ground, we will split the group into two – a walking group and a cross-country skiing group. **Please register if you plan on cross-country skiing!**

Rain Date: Sunday, Feb. 11th

Contact: Burkhard Plache, burkhardplache@gmail.com, 475-1129

Time/Place: 1:00 p.m. at the entrance to the Halifax Exhibition Centre, 200 Prospect Road, Hwy 333.

Duration: 2 hours

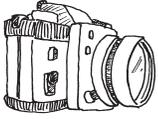
Difficulty: 5-6 km (in and out) over a narrow wood road

MEMBERSHIP FORM

New ___ Renew ___ Student \$15 ___ Individual \$20 ___ Family \$25 ___ Supporting \$30 ___ Inst'ution \$30 ___ *NNS add \$5 ___
I would like to order ___ HFN lapel pins @\$5; ___ Checklists @\$1.00; Butterfly ___ Dragonfly ___ Total \$ ___
Name _____ Phone _____ Email _____
Address _____ Postal Code _____

HFN is a volunteer organisation. Would you share your interests and skills? _____
I could help with: talks/trips ___ board meetings ___ newsletter ___ other _____

MEMBERSHIP: Renewals are due on Jan. 1st. New memberships received from Sept. 1st to Dec. 31st of any year will be valid until the end of the following membership year. Send this application to: **HFN Membership Secretary, c/o Nova Scotia Museum of Natural History, 1747 Summer Street, Halifax, NS, B3H 3A6. EMAIL: hfninfo@yahoo.ca WEBSITE: halifaxfieldnaturalists.ca FACEBOOK: Halifax Field Naturalists, or HFN.** *NNS: Nature Nova Scotia (NNS) is our provincial umbrella group for Nova Scotia naturalist associations. Please note that for events with limited spaces, members of the Halifax Field Naturalists will be given priority.



AGM/HFN MEMBERS' PHOTO NIGHT THURSDAY, MAR. 1

Our Annual General Meeting takes place first. Reports on HFN's activities over the past 12 months are presented, followed by the next Board of Directors' election. Afterward, it's 'show time' to view and hear about a variety of members' self-shot photos. If you are an HFN member and would like to share some of your favourite nature-oriented or vacation digital images, but are reluctant to give an extensive talk, this is a chance to give an eight-to-ten-minute mini-presentation. Six presenters can be accommodated on a first-come-first-served basis, with up to three first-time presenters having priority. **If interested, please contact Richard Beazley, 429-6626, rbeazley@dal.ca, by February 22nd.**

7:30 p.m. at the NSMNH



RECYCLING PLANT TOUR TUESDAY, MAR. 6

Ever wonder what happens to the blue recycle bags and/or the green bin contents? Join Waste Resource Education Officer Marcel Massey for a tour of the HRM Recycling Facility (HRM Solid Waste Resource) in Bayer's Lake. The tour includes a classroom session and then we'll view all the action on the 'tipping floor'! This is where the trucks tip out all the collected recycling items for sorting.

Contact: Susan Moxon, samoxon77@gmail.com, 461-1303

Time/Place: 10:30 at the HRM Solid Waste Facility's entrance, 20 Horseshoe Lake Drive.

Duration: 1 hour

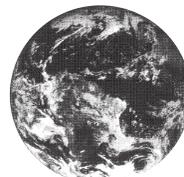
Difficulty: Easy



HARNESSING TIDAL ENERGY THURSDAY, APR. 5

Cape Sharp Tidal (CST) is testing its in-stream tidal turbine technology through its research project at the Fundy Ocean Research Centre for Energy (FORCE) in the Minas Passage in Parrsboro. This initiative is part of an international effort to learn how to harness in-stream tidal power as a potential new source of renewable energy in a safe and sustainable manner. CST's Environmental Manager Carys Burgess will provide an overview of the project to date and speak about what was learned from the first deployment and what comes next. Carys brings to her current role more than 25 years of practice in marine science, including field and laboratory backgrounds, as well as a Master of Marine Management and a Bachelor of Science with a major in marine biology and a minor in environmental policy.

7:30 p.m. at the NSMNH



DISCOVERY CENTRE TOUR SATURDAY, APR. 14

Join us for a tour of the new Discovery Centre! The Discovery Centre is a not-for-profit, registered, charitable organisation whose mission is to bring science, technology, engineering, arts, and math (STEAM) to life through fun, interactive learning experiences. From its beginnings as a travelling science show to its spectacular new home on the Halifax Waterfront, the Discovery Centre has grown a lot over its 30 years of operation. But through it all, the Centre has stayed true to its vision – using its facility, people, and passion to demonstrate how STEAM can empower our youth, grow Nova Scotia's knowledge-based economy, and inspire an innovative culture by showcasing our best and brightest. **Registration is required for this event, spaces are limited to 20 people.**

Contact: Molly Leblanc, Molly.e.leblanc@gmail.com

Time/Place: 1:00 p.m., 1215 Lower Water Street, between Bishop's Landing and the Halifax Seaport Market.

Duration: 1.5 hours

Difficulty: Easy