



HALIFAX FIELD NATURALISTS

2026 SUMMER PROGRAMME

Except for July and August, HFN's illustrated talks are held on the third Tuesday 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 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 halifaxfield-naturalists.ca, or – mail the form on other side.

PROSPECT TRAIL WALK

SATURDAY, JUN. 13TH

HFN member Graeme Coxon will take us along this High Head Trail (which does have a few challenging spots) through the scenic Bill Freedman Nature Reserve. A coastal route with scrubby wooded areas, coastal barrens, and wetlands – it boasts a wonderful view of its offshore islands. **Good waterproof footwear and walking poles may be in order. As well – tick awareness is strongly advised! Note: Registration is required, and a \$10.00 non-member fee will apply.**

Rain Date: Sunday, June 14th

Contact: Bernie McKenna 902-434-3202 or mckennab197@gmail.com

Time/Place: 9:30 a.m. at the cul-de-sac at the end of Hages Lane.

Difficulty: Moderate; ups and downs plus some wet areas.

Duration: 2 to 3 hours, travel not included.



DRAGONFLIES AND DAMSELFLIES TUESDAY, JUN. 16

Halifax Field Naturalist member Paul Philp, an accomplished photographer and admitted Dragonfly and Damselfly enthusiast, will present these wonderfully agile creatures of the air – discussing their characteristics, life histories, and some good identification strategies for us when they fly near lakes, ponds, streams, and many other places. **7:30 p.m. at the NSMNH**

BOTANICAL GARDEN TOUR



MONDAY, JUL, 6

Truro Agricultural Campus's Andrew Stewart, Botanical Garden Unit landscape technician and coordinator of the Friends of the Dalhousie University Botanical Garden, will lead this tour. Designed and created by Dr. Bernard Jackson, previously of Memorial University of Newfoundland, it won the 2023 Frank Cabot Public Garden award. There is both a rock garden (good support footwear is advised) and a near-by herb garden. This promises to be a wonderful opportunity to tour this award winning garden. **Note: Registration is required and a non-member fee of \$10.00 will apply.**

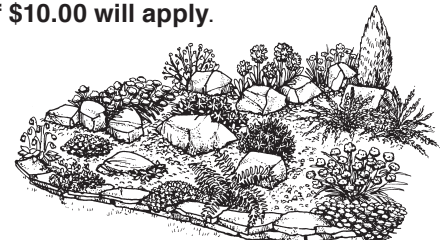
Rain Date: Tuesday, July 7th

Contact: Bernie McKenna, 902-434-3202, mckennab197@gmail.com

Time/Place: 10:00 a.m., 135 College Road, Truro, McCrae Library parking lot.

Difficulty: Moderate, some climbing in the rock garden may be involved, .

Duration: 1.5 hours, travel not included.



SHANNON PARK NATURE WALK

SATURDAY, AUG. 15

Clarence Stevens will lead this mid-August event to discover the flora and fauna of this evolving area. Part of the Trans Canada Trail, we will follow it to varying degrees with some off-trail walking involved. The European Common Butterfly has been documented in this area and would make for a wonderful sighting. **Note: Registration is required and a non-members walk fee of \$10.00 will apply. Tick precautions are strongly advised as this is a higher concentration area.**

Rain Date: Sunday, August 16th

Contact: Bernie McKenna, 902-434-3202, or mckennab197@gmail.com

Time/Place: 1:00 p.m., Shannon Park School parking lot, 75 Iroquois Drive, Dartmouth.

Difficulty: Easy; paved – with some scrubby areas

Duration: 2 to 3 hours.



MEMBERSHIP FORM

New ___ Renew ___ Student \$15 ___ Individual \$25 ___ Family \$30 ___ Supporting \$35 ___ Institutional \$35 ___
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: hfn.inquiries@gmail.com. WEBSITE: halifaxfieldnaturalists.ca
FACEBOOK: Halifax Field Naturalists, or HFN. For events with limited spaces HFN members will be given priority; and, for the latest programme updates, go to <https://halifaxfieldnaturalists.ca>, menu item 'Walks and Talks'.

BAYERS LAKE 'MYSTERY WALLS' SATURDAY, SEPT. 5

Dr. Howard Donohoe, PhD, DFGAC, FCIM, P. Geo. will lead this early September walk to these alluring 'mystery walls'. The 3 or 4 hundred-metre walk through this lightly wooded area will require **good footwear and tick awareness precautions**. Being early fall we may see some signs of the season along the way. Howard will discuss rock types, structures, topography, early settlement/habitation, and the geological history of the area. **Note: registration is required and a non-member walk fee of \$10.00 will apply. Please feel free to bring along a snack.**

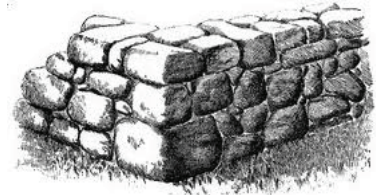
Rain Date: Sunday, September 6th

Contact: Bernie McKenna, 902-434-3202, mckennab197@gmail.com

Time/Place: 10:00 a.m. at the Walmart Parking Lot, 200 Chain Lake Dr.

Difficulty: Moderate; cross-country walking.

Duration: 4 hour.



HFN ALL DAY BEACH EVENT



SATURDAY, SEPT. 12

Join us for HFN's second annual **All Day Beach Event** at MacCormack's Beach. Come for the day or just for your favourite event. This is a family-friendly outing free for members and open for a **fee to non-members. Pre-registration is available for full event details.** 9:00 a.m. is our 'Welcome' kick-off, onsite registration, and the start of our 50/50 contest. 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. is the Exploration of MacCormack's Beach and Boardwalk and our Bird and Nature Walks. 12:30 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. is 'Fun under the HFN Cabana' with information, touch tanks, snacks, and drinks. From 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. explore one of the most amazing tidal flats in the province with shallow water wading.

Rain Date: Sunday, September 13th

Contact: angelamillerhfn@outlook.com for registration and more information.

Time/Place: 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., MacCormack's Beach Beach Provincial Park, 1641 Shore Road, Eastern Passage.

Difficulty: Moderate; cross-country walking.

Duration: 4 hours.



OSPREYS

TUESDAY, SEPT. 15

Erick Greene, HFN Member and Professor Emeritus at the University of Montana's Division of Biological Sciences and Wildlife Biology Program, will detail some of his research findings and insights on this supreme winged-fisher. Erick will cover the many facets of its diet, nesting habits, dangers, migration, range, as well as how successfully they have recovered from the pesticide problems of years past. For those interested in Nova Scotia's official provincial bird (since 1994) this will be an enlightening evening for all of us.

7:30 p.m. at the NSMNH