

June 2010

High Park Nature Centre

High Park Nature Centre
430 Parkside Drive
Toronto, ON
M6R 2Z3

PHONE: 416-392-1748

FAX: 416-762-9640

naturecentre@highpark.org

www.highparknaturecentre.com

Hikes are not wheelchair or stroller accessible

NO PRE-REGISTRATION NECESSARY

Location: High Park Nature Centre
430 Parkside Drive
Unless otherwise Specified

All Ages: Bring the Whole Family!

Fee: Free of Charge!

More Info:
416-392-1748 ext. 2
naturecentre@highpark.org

Wild in the City Family Nature Walks

Thanks to funding from the **Toronto Parks and Trees Foundation**, we will once again be offering a number of family nature walks throughout the summer. For complete details, visit the High Park Nature Centre Facebook page or download the flyer at <http://www.highpark.org/Family%20Nature%20Walks%202010.pdf>

Bat Night

June 24
8:30-10 PM

Learn about bats - how they communicate, what they eat and where they live from Dr. Brock Fenton! Learn about bat detectors and go outside to find bats in High Park.

Meet at the benches across the road from the south side of Grenadier Café in High Park.

Orienteering

July 13
1-3 PM

Using a map and compass, find your way through our orienteering course. Along the way you will do naturalist activities that will help you interact with the nature you walk through. Bring the whole family, and be prepared to walk along trails for at least 1 hour.

Meet at the High Park Nature Centre

Moth Night

July 27
8:15-10 PM

Discover the "butterflies of the night" at the annual High Park Moth Night. Members of the Toronto Entomologists Association will set up special lights and show us how to identify moths. Please remember to bring your flashlights and insect collection boxes!

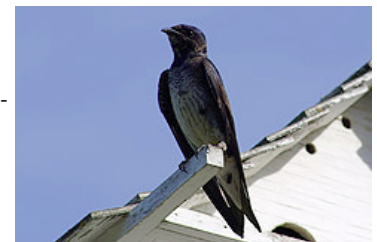
Meet at the benches across the road from the south side of Grenadier Café in High Park.



TORONTO PARKS AND TREES FOUNDATION

Spotted in High Park

- After an absence of eight years, the Purple Martin (*Progne subis*), North America's largest swallow, has returned to High Park thanks to the erection of a new nesting house, part of an ongoing restoration program designed to improve aquatic and terrestrial habitats for birds and other wildlife in the park. To learn more, check out <http://highparknature.org>, a joint project of the High Park Natural Environment Committee and the High Park Volunteer Stewardship Program.
- Deer! Two of them! These were spotted just today, in the ravine on the east side of the park. You can bet we'll be watching carefully for another appearance!



Flickr photo credit: [JMR64](#)

"I wonder what it would be like to live in a world where it was always June," said Anne, as she came through the spice and bloom of the twilight orchard..."

- from Anne of the Island by L.M. Montgomery

L.M. Montgomery spent her later years living in Toronto. Her home, which she called 'Journey's End', was located on Riverside Drive, on the banks of the Humber River, in the suburb of Swansea.

We would like to extend a special thank you to the following people for their on-going support:

- Bill Saundercook, city councillor for Ward 13 (Parkdale-High Park)
- Cheri DiNovo, member of Member of Provincial Parliament (MPP) for Parkdale-HighPark
- Gerard Kennedy, Member of Parliament (MP) for Parkdale-High Park
- Arthur Beauregard, Executive Director of the Toronto Parks and Trees Foundation

Canada Summer Jobs



We have received funding from the Government of Canada's Canada Summer Jobs., which will allow us to hire three summer students this year!

Two of these positions will be Naturalist Interns, working exclusively with our summer programs, including our summer camps. Those families who have children registered for summer camps will be learning more about our summer staff very soon as we finish the hiring process.

The third position is a dual role: Naturalist/Public Outreach Intern. The Naturalist/Public Outreach Intern will assist with the delivery of nature interpretation programs to children and families at the High Park Nature Centre three (3) days a week, and will oversee the operations of the High Park Welcome Centre on weekend days and holidays.

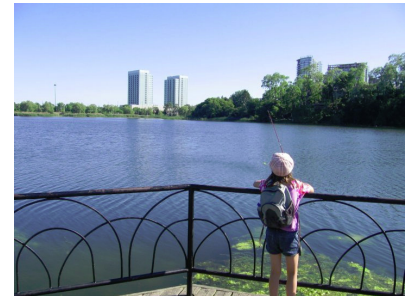
If you are interested in volunteering at the Welcome Centre, please contact the Building, Infrastructure and Safety committee by e-mailing bis@highpark.org.

Tuesdays on the Pond with Jon

We were blown away by the interest in this new after-school program! Pending staff availability and funding, we'd like to offer more after-school programs in the fall.

Some of the activities that Jon and his group explored included dip-netting, birding, aquatic plant studies and fishing.

The kids also took had the opportunity to explore High Park's pond areas as photographers. To see some of their photos, visit the photo album on Facebook: <http://tinyurl.com/28kzz7f>.



The Next Generation

You may have seen some new faces here at the Nature Centre this past year.

We were thrilled to host students from City View Alternative Senior School and High Park Alternative Junior School in recent months. In June we will also be welcoming two high school students from a specialized environmental program at SATEC @ WA Porter CI (<http://www.satec.on.ca>). These students come to us through a job shadowing program called Generation Green as part of our involvement as a Green Toronto award finalist.

Throughout the year, we also host university students enrolled in York University's Education program and University of Toronto's Environment Program.

It is our hope that, by providing opportunities for these students to experience a teaching setting outside of a traditional school, the Nature Centre will be staffed by passionate naturalists for years to come.

Location:

High Park Nature Centre
430 Parkside Drive

Time: 7-8 PM followed by Q&A

Ages: Suitable for ages 10 and up

Fee: Suggested donation to support FLAP

Funded by Toronto Parks and Trees

Nature Awareness Lecture: Birds and Buildings

Please join us on **Thursday, June 17th at 7 pm** for the last in our series of Nature Awareness Lectures.

Michael Mesure of FLAP (Fatal Light Awareness Program) will be presenting on the problems migrant birds face as they travel through our city. Learn what actions you can take to make Toronto a safer place for migrating birds.

Michel has been involved in bird rescue and public outreach for over 20

years and helped to co-found FLAP in 1993.

FLAP is the first organization in the world to address the issue of migratory bird collisions with lit towers and reflective structures. Toronto has become the first city world-wide to mandate that all new construction must adhere to specific bird-friendly criteria.

FLAP's 17 years of rescue efforts in Toronto have produced over 46,000 recorded collisions from 163 species making our data-



Flickr photo credit: Zen

base one of the most prolific and detailed bird/window collision archive on the planet.

Good news! Our summer Knee-High Naturalists and Nature Nuts programs are eligible for the Children's Fitness Tax Credit.

Unfortunately, the Young Naturalists program is not eligible, but you may be able to claim this expense as a child care expense.

We are issuing the necessary receipts and they will be sent by e-mail to those families with children registered in 2010 summer programs.

Our other programs offered in spring, fall and winter are not eligible for the Children's Fitness Tax Credit because they do not meet the necessary criteria.

Camp information packages are also being sent out to families registered for summer programs. If you have not received this in your e-mail by June 25, 2010, please contact us!



Flickr photo credit: Jonf728

If you are interested in supporting the High Park Nature Centre, please consider donating to our Nearer to Nature sponsorship program: <http://www.highparknaturecentre.com/donors-and-supporters/support-nearer-to-nature/>

Many urban children cannot afford to leave the city to experience nature and have grown up without the physical and psychological benefits of experiences in the natural world. The Nature Centre needs your support to provide all urban children with access to wild nature in their city and enhance their understanding of the critical importance of ecological restoration and stewardship of biodiversity at home. This is a great opportu-

Support the Nature Centre

nity for your business or workplace.

Please also consider joining **Friends of High Park**.

The **Friends of High Park** is a membership program established by the High Park Initiatives, the registered charity dedicated to supporting Nature Centre staff and volunteer-led environmental education and stewardship programs in Toronto's High Park. **Friends of High Park** share in HPI's commitment to protecting, preserving and restoring High Park's woodland, savannah and wetland ecosystems for future generations. Membership supports numerous environmental activities carried out by the High Park Nature Centre and in partnership with programs of the High Park Community Advisory Council (HPCAC), various community organizations and City of Toronto departments.

Visit <http://www.highpark.org/Membership.htm> to learn more about becoming a member.

Thank you for your support! We could not exist without it!