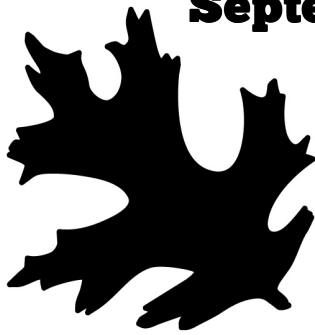


**September and October 2010**



# High Park Nature Centre

High Park Nature Centre  
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[www.highparknaturecentre.com](http://www.highparknaturecentre.com)

## FALL NATURE WALKS

Thanks to funding from Toronto Field Naturalists, we will be hosting Fall Nature Walks throughout the month of October.

Hikes are not  
wheelchair or stroller  
accessible

NO PRE-REGISTRATION  
NECESSARY

**Location:** High Park  
Nature Centre  
430 Parkside Drive,  
with exception of Hawk  
Watch

**All Ages:** Bring the  
Whole Family!

**Fee:** Free of Charge!

**More Info:**  
416-392-1748 ext. 2  
[naturecentre@highpark.org](mailto:naturecentre@highpark.org)  
[.org](http://www.highparknaturecentre.com)

### Hawk Watch

**Saturday, October 2  
10:30 am-12:30 pm**

High Park's "Hawk Hill" is one of the finest places to witness the fall raptor migration in the province. We will first explore the Savannah habitat through the eyes of a hawk before meeting up with Hawk Watcher Don Barnett. At "Hawk Hill" Don will teach us about raptor migration and help us spot some of these thrilling birds.

*Please meet at the Forest school located 250 metres south of the main entrance off Bloor St.*

### Nature Hike in the Savannah

**Saturday, October 9  
1-3 pm**

Get to know nature in Toronto through the plants and animals of a nationally rare habitat: the Black Oak Savannah. We will explore some of the amazing interactions that take place between these special species and take part in a stewardship activity.

### Nature Hike in the Woodlands

**Saturday, October 23  
1-3 pm**

Why do some leaves change colour and fall? How do animals prepare for winter? Why do pine trees keep their needles? We will answer those questions and more while hiking through the woodland trails. Come enjoy beauty of the forest in the fall.

### High Park Tales

**Sunday, October 24  
1-3 pm**

What was it like to grow up in High Park over half a century ago? Join writer and storyteller Austin Repath as he leads us through the wild corners he explored as a ten year old. Hear stories that took place over 50 years ago in those very spots. Austin will also read from his book "High Park Tales".

### Halloween Hike

**Saturday, October 30  
Between 6-8 pm**

Explore the spooky side of nature this year at the Nature Centre's "Halloween Hike in High Park". This walk through the woodlands will lead to lots of creepy nature spots to learn the not-so-scary truth about bats, spiders, toads, gnomes and decomposers. **Bring a flashlight.** Costumes are recommended but not required.



## FALL PROGRAMS

We have a few spaces left in our Fall Programs. If you haven't had a chance to register, or are still planning your fall activities, we can still accommodate children in the following programs:

If you would like to enroll your child in one of our fall programs, please visit <http://bit.ly/9dYqBD> to download the registration form.

Completed registration forms can be dropped off or mailed with payment (cheque or cash only).



## Favorite Fall Crafts

Fall is certainly the favorite season of the Nature Centre staff. Acorns drop to the ground, leaves change colors and we start thinking about indoor activities, like crafting.

Here's a number of ways you can bring fall crafts into your own home.

### Using Nature Materials

Leaf rubbing mural with wax resist effect:  
<http://www.filthwizardry.com/2009/11/leaf-rubbing-and-paint-mural.html>

Fall Tree:  
<http://alwaysarting-colorcolorcolor.blogspot.com/2009/09/make-fall-tree.html>

Leaf Lantern:  
<http://www.5orangepotatoes.com/blog/2009/11/01/preserving-leaves/>

### Using Paper

Kirigami leaves  
<http://zakkalife.blogspot.com/2010/09/craft-kirigami-fall-decorations.html>

### In The Kitchen

Chocolate Chip Pumpkin Muffins  
[http://angrychicken.typepad.com/angry\\_chicken/2007/09/mackin-good-val.html](http://angrychicken.typepad.com/angry_chicken/2007/09/mackin-good-val.html)

<b>Knee-High Naturalists</b>	Ages 3 - 5
<b>A session:</b> September 21, October 5, 19, November 2, 16 and 30	\$75 each child
9:30-11 am	
Both big and small explorers will have fun exploring High Park! Curiosity for the natural world will spark exploration, play and discovery. <i>Younger siblings are welcome, but hikes are not stroller accessible.</i>	
<b>Ramblers Hiking Club</b>	Ages 8 - 12
September 25, October 9, 23, November 6, 20 and December 4	\$85 each child
Learn how to use a map and compass to find your way around High Park! Explore the different habitats of High Park. We use all of our senses to learn about and appreciate nature in fun and engaging ways. Children will determine their own hiking route and theme each week.	
<b>Tuesdays in the Woodlands with Jon</b>	Ages 8 - 12
October 5, 12, 19, 26, November 2 and 9	\$75 each child
This after-school program is all about hands-on exploration of High Park. Adventures will include bird-watching, tree identification, pond studies, story-telling, tasting edible nature and photography.	

## EVENTS IN THE PARK

### High Park Harvest Festival

Sunday, October 3rd

Noon—4:30 pm

Held in and around Colborne Lodge

Enjoy the harvest in High Park with food, crafts, music, horse and wagon rides, warm apple cider and more. This year's theme is Puddings, Pies and Preserves.

Free admission to grounds. Activity and merchandise fees apply.



### Haunted High Park

Various dates throughout October (see [www.calendarwiz.com/calendars/calendar.php?crd=highpark&](http://www.calendarwiz.com/calendars/calendar.php?crd=highpark&))

Evenings

Visit Colborne Lodge and its grounds at night and hear ghostly tales and legends that have been told about the Lodge and High Park. Period refreshments included. Not recommended for children under 8 yrs. of age.

Pre-registration and pre-payment required. Adults: \$10, Children \$5 (plus tax).

Visit <http://www.toronto.ca/culture/museums/colborne-lodge.htm> for more information on Colborne Lodge.

## HIGH PARK NATURE

High Park is well-loved by many Torontonians, but its rich biodiversity is often overlooked. To make it easier for people to learn more about the natural wonders of High Park, the High Park Natural Environment Committee, in partnership with the High Park Volunteer Stewardship Program, has created a new website, [www.highparknature.org](http://www.highparknature.org)

“This website is our way of celebrating the International Year of Biodiversity,” said Karen Yukich, Co-Chair of the High Park Natural Environment Committee. “The United Nations General Assembly declared 2010 as the International Year of Biodiversity to help raise awareness of the importance of biodiversity all over the world. What better place to start than close to home, in an amazingly rich and internationally renowned area like High Park?”

The website is loaded with information about the park's wildlife and plant species, the rare Black Oak Savannah, Grenadier Pond and many other park features. It also includes the area's geological origins, its more recent history, and ongoing restoration efforts. There are photo galleries, species checklists, resource documents and links to other useful sites. The home page, which is updated frequently, features upcoming volunteer events

and walking tours, along with seasonal highlights.

Website hosting is provided free by Park Commons, which also hosts a number of



other Toronto parks and community gardens. Many articles and photos have been contributed by volunteers. In some cases the site information comes from City documents that are otherwise not easily accessible. More material is being added all the time. Anyone interested in contributing to the site is invited to contact the webmaster at [mail@highparknature.org](mailto:mail@highparknature.org).

I would feel more optimistic about a bright future for man if he spent less time proving he can outwit nature and more time tasting her sweetness and respecting her seniority.

- E.B.White

**The Nature Centre is part of the High Park Initiatives, a not-for-profit charity dedicated to the protection, preservation, restoration and respect of High Park's natural environment.**