

Meetings and Outings 2019

Wednesday February 13 - Notch Hill, Nanoose Bay Medium uphill hike. Garry oaks, flowers and spectacular views. Wear good shoes for the climb uphill-walking stick would be helpful. Meet C&J 9:30am. Bring lunch. Leaders: TBA

Saturday February 23 -- Cumberland Sewage Lagoon and Museum An easy walk along the old Japanese Townsite Trail past a marsh and beaver pond. Low spots so wear appropriate footwear. Will also visit the museum. Meet QBCC 9:30am or SB 10:00am Lunch in town. Leaders: TBA

Thursday, February 28 – Meeting: Pat Herzog, Wildlife biologist and author of From the Mist: A Life Restored by Nature. The book is about him being diagnosed with leukemia and his experience of the undeniable healing powers of nature.

Wednesday February 27-- Pacific Biological Station, Nanaimo Tentative date for return station tour. Currently 8 people on the waiting list who wanted to attend November 21.

Wednesday March 13 -- Boat tour to see Hornby Island Herring Fishery along with birds. Grant Scott will take us out on his boat along south coast of Hornby Island at cost \$20. Carpool to Hornby Island. Please reserve with David Helem.

Saturday March 16 – Coastal Bird Studies Workshop-10:00am. Graham Sorenson BC Projects Coordinator, Bird Studies Canada will conduct a workshop at the Beach Acres Resort, Parksville. Workshop is for current volunteers and those interested in becoming volunteers. Will cover survey methods, waterbird ID, flock estimation and the Beached Bird Survey. Register at <http://birdscanada.us16.list-manage.com/track/click?u=6464b42dc16cb57106c8e7b5d&id=83aae2da11&e=8022153399>

Wednesday March 27 -- Little Qualicum Estuary Beached Bird Survey 3 Km Learn how to do a Beached Bird Survey while enjoying the many migrating birds that feed here. Uneven, rocky, seaweed herring roe beach-wear good footwear. Meet QBCC 12:30pm -to correspond with the tides. Leaders: Toni and Ron

Thursday, March 28 – Meeting: Genevieve Singleton, Cowichan Valley Naturalist volunteer & Arrowsmith Naturalists life time member. Genevieve wears many hats in various aspects of nature. She will show native plant pictures.

Sunday March 31 -- Brant on the Bay Events Join the naturalists on the east side of Parksville Bay at the point to view the Brant through birding scopes. Learn about this amazing goose that stops here on its migration to the Arctic to fatten up. Public are welcome at this free Brant event. Hours 11:00am-3:00pm www.brantfestival.bc.ca.

Saturday April 6 -- Stocking Creek Falls-Holland Park, Ladysmith Medium hike with a steady climb through a lovely mixed forest with views of the creek and a waterfall at

the end of the trail. Meet C&J 9:30am or N&P 10:10am. Leaders: TBA

Sunday April 14 -- Hamilton Marsh Public Tour, Qualicum Beach –10:00am–3:00pm
A walk through the woods to discover the emergence of spring at the Marsh. A good opportunity for all ages to see and learn about pond critters, other aquatic life and migrating birds. Our club acts as tour guides for groups of children/parents from the trailhead. The Friends of French Creek and Arrowsmith Naturalists will have display tables. By donation. Bring your friends and family. To reach the trailhead: drive south from Qualicum Beach on Hwy. 4 to Hilliers Road South and turn right, drive 1.4 km and park on the side of the road.

Wednesday April 17 -- St. Peter's Churchyard and Mt. Tzouhalem Easy to moderate.
First to Mt. Tzouhalem to see the ecoreserve and later the easy to moderate walk to enjoy the spring flowers, including the fawn lilies in the church yard. Meet C&J 9:30am or N&P 10:10am. Bring lunch. Leaders: TBA

Wednesday April 24 -- Helliwell Park-Hornby Island Easy hike to view long yellow grasses, contrasting blue ocean vistas and gnarled arbutus trees. "The primary role of Helliwell Park is to protect rare and endangered terrestrial ecosystem elements, including old-growth Douglas fir and Garry oak meadows, and representative examples of marine ecosystems. The park contains sea bluffs and a rich intertidal zone. It is also an Important Bird Area that serves to identify and conserve a global network of bird habitat areas." Details to follow.

Thursday, April 25 – Meeting: Sarah Patton, Research Biologist & Coordinator Southern Vancouver Island Cetacean Research Initiative, Ocean Wise. Presentation will focus on the Whale Report Alert and the Whale Trail.

Wednesday May 8 -- Oyster River Pub to Pub Walk, North of Courtenay Easy 6 km loop hike along the sandy dunes and marshes. Take in the wide variety of flowers, birds and butterflies. Half way lunch at Salmon Point Pub. Bring camera. Meet C&J 9:30am or QBCC 10:00am Leaders: TBA

Wednesday May 15 -- Piper's Lagoon and Neck Point, Nanaimo Easy hike. Popular and beautiful with ocean vistas, interesting botany and the tidal lagoon. Low tide expected. Meet C&J 9:30am or N&P 10:10am. Bring lunch. Leaders: TBA

Saturday May 18 -- Beachcomber and Wall Beach-Very Low Tide Easy but may be slippery. Explore the tidal pools for their myriad forms of life. Low tide that day. Meet at C&J. Details to follow Leaders TBA

Thursday, May 23 – Meeting: Nicole Fredrickson, Herring & First Nations values

Saturday May 25 -- Rogers Creek, Alberni Valley Easy to moderate hike. Sturdy

footwear recommended. This is a lovely walk through riverside woods near Port Alberni. Meet QBCC 9:30am. Bring lunch. Leaders: TBA

Wednesday May 29 -- Garden Tour-Members Only-9:30 am Mark your calendars to tour a few of our special members eco-friendly gardens that are working with nature not against it. Come, learn, be inspired, and enjoy. Bring your lunch. In addition to the natural tour, pleasant surprises await you. More details to follow.

Wednesday June 5 or Saturday June 8 – A New Park in Parksville. Details to follow.

Saturday June 15 -- Morrell Sanctuary Easy hike. A walk along some of the 11km of trails in a protected 2nd growth rain shadow forest which is important for the very large number of native plants that thrive there. Also a notable birding area. Meet at C&J 9:30am or N&P 10:10am. Lunch at Jingle Pot Pub. Leaders: TBA

Wednesday June 26 -- Stamp Falls, Port Alberni Easy-walking stick recommended. A beautiful walk along the river through an old growth forest in a remote corner of this park. This end of the park was never logged and has some big trees left for us to admire. Also a visit to the falls and fish ladder to see the migrating salmon. Meet C&J 9:30am or QBCC 10:00am. Bring a lunch.

Saturday June 15 -- Ships Point Peninsula A combination of leafy trails, a beach walk along Bayne Sound and some paved roads. We will visit Ships Point Regional Park and the Fanny Bay Conservation Area. The route is flat but sturdy hiking shoes or boots are required for the beach section which is fairly rocky. The area is of interest to birders and plant hunters along with stunning scenery for photographers. Approximately 2 hours. Meet at QBCC 9:30am or Fanny Bay Community Hall 7793 South Island Highway 10:00am. Bring a lunch. Leader: Tom Constable

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Thursday, June 27 -- Meeting: Dr. Erik Krogh and graduate researchers. Applied Environmental Research Lab Vancouver Island University. Air and Water Quality Monitoring with the state-of-art SpecMobile.

Thursday. September 26 – Meeting: Dr. Earle, VIU professor will describe the geology and geological history of central Vancouver Island, including what types of rocks and other deposits are here, how old they are, and whether they came from somewhere else (and how) or were formed here. The focus of the presentation will be on how the geology of this region has influenced the topography and the way that we and other organisms live here. He also is the author of a widely-used textbook on

introductory physical geology that is available online for free through the BCcampus open textbook project. <https://opentextbc.ca/geology/>

Wednesday October 10 – Thames Creek–Mushroom Hike Join Terry Taylor on the great mushroom hunt. Pack lunch. All day hike-medium difficulty. Meet: QBT 9:30am. Leaders: Terry Taylor

Saturday, October 20 – Nymph Falls Provincial Park Nymph Falls Nature Park-61 ha of second-growth forest on Puntledge River. The river/falls rage over exposed bedrock ledges fall to spring. Mushrooms should still be present. Pack Lunch. Meet: QBT 9:30am. Leaders: Toni & Ron Wyckoff

Thursday, October 22 – Meeting: John MacFarlane Go on a Naturalist Field Trip Without Leaving the Room: Exploring Nature with a Microscope.

Wednesday, October 31 – Heritage Forest & Grandon Creek Explore the unique flora/fauna of Heritage Forest. After lunch we can go to Grandon Creek (some steep areas) and follow the trail to the new viewing platform at the new Sea Side Nature Park. Proper footwear required. Long walk especially after lunch. Meet: QBT 9:30am. Leaders: Lynne Brookes

Saturday, November 10 – Westwood Lake One small hill and a 6 km walk round this attractive lake created about 1906. Lunch at the Jingle Pot Pub. Meet: C&J 9:30am or 10:00am N&P. Leaders: Sue Wilson
Wednesday, November 21-Pacific Biological Station, Nanaimo About 10:30am This outing to be confirmed with PBS prior to Nov. 1st. Leaders: Teri Hitch

Thursday, November 28 – Meeting: Dr. Isobel Pearsall speak to us about the Salish Sea Marine Survival Project.

Saturday, December 1 -- Pheasant Glen GC/Landfill Trail Extensive easy hiking forested trail network at the south end of Qualicum Road. Meet: QBT 9:30am. Leaders: TBD
Wednesday, December 12-Hemer Park A forest walk to round out a great year. In the Cedar District, south of Nanaimo with good trails around by Holden Lake. Some waterfowl will probably be seen. Meet: C&J 9:30am, N&P 10:00am. Bring lunch. Leaders TBD

Sunday, December 16 -- Parksville-Qualicum Christmas Bird Count – Organizer-Guy Monty Christmas Bird Count Potluck St. Edmund Church Hall -- 5 pm. will follow the count