

Kingston Field Naturalists 2021 BioBlitz

Friday 9 July 3:00 pm to Saturday 10 July 3:00 pm

At Fourth Lake Nature Reserve*, Fourth Lake Road near Parham



BioBlitz will be held **only if**
COVID regulations allow.

For information, visit www.kingstonfieldnaturalists.org or contact Anne
(n8ture.anne@sympatico.ca or 613-389-6742)

*Fourth Lake Nature Reserve is a property of Land Conservancy for Kingston, Frontenac, Lennox and Addington and at other times is closed to the public.

See page 1 of newsletter for details.



Kingston Field Naturalists

Summer 2021

KFN

A registered charitable organization and a member of Ontario Nature
Box 831
Kingston, Ontario
K7L 4X6

KFN Website
and links to other sites:
<https://kingstonfielddnaturalists.org>

Blog: <http://kingstonfielddnaturalists.blogspot.com>

Facebook:
<https://www.facebook.com/Kingstonfielddnaturalists>

Membership Inquiries:
Kathy Webb
kw2 at queensu.ca

Meetings are normally held at 7:30 pm on the third Thursday of each month from September to April. Social starts at 7:00 pm.

Our next meeting will be Thursday 16 September Our speaker will be Julia Zarankin

author of *Field Notes from an Unintentional Birder, a memoir*.
From the cover of her book: Julia comes from "a Russian immigrant family of concert pianists who believed that the outdoors were for 'other people'. She recounts the challenges and joys of unexpectedly discovering one's wild side and finding one's tribe in the unlikeliest of places." She states that her birding/life aspirations are: "To sport the hairdo of a cedar waxwing, acquire the wardrobe of a northern flicker, and develop the confidence of a Ross's goose."

Our September meeting will be via Zoom.

Our BioBlitz will be Friday 9 July to Saturday 10 July

at **Fourth Lake Nature Reserve**, Fourth Lake Road, near Parham. This property belongs to Land Conservancy for Kingston, Frontenac, Lennox and Addington, and at other times is closed to the public.

We welcome species listers for all kinds of species!

Registration will be on site. COVID questions will be asked at registration. If you are sick or have been in contact with COVID or out of the province, please do not come! A map of the property will be available at registration.

By 9 July we expect that we will be allowed 25 people on site at one time; hopefully everyone will have had at least one vaccination. Please bring a mask.

The BBQ has been cancelled due to risks involved with close proximity and eating in close contact. Please bring all your own food. Hot drinks will be available on Saturday. Do bring your own mug! And sorry, but there will be no guided hikes.

Questions? Contact Anne (n8ture.anne at sympatico.ca or 613-389-6742).



Five-lined skink

Photo: J.Elliott

Skinks use the same muscles for running and for respiration: they hold their breath while running!

If you haven't renewed your membership yet .. we would love to have you back! Please check out the website for how to renew.

Ticks don't respect the 2 meter rule! Wear long sleeves, tuck long pants into socks, and use repellent. Ten minutes in a hot dryer will kill the ticks that come home on your clothes.

Rambles, Field Trips, and other outings

Please check the website for any updates on rambles and field trips.

RAMBLES are slow walks to notice nature in all its forms.

Rambles are planned but may be cancelled; please watch website. Contact Anne (nature.anne at sympatico.ca or 613-389-6742) to register for each ramble and receive up to date information. Cancellation, if necessary, will be sent to those who have registered.

Times are on site and do not include driving times. Please bring a drink and prepare for sun, flies and ticks. Masks will be worn.

Tuesday 15 June 9:30 - 11:30 am Helen Quilliam Sanctuary trails

Optional picnic lunch after.

Tuesday 6 July 9:30 to 11:30 am Brewer's Mills

Optional picnic lunch.

Tuesday 17 August 9:30 to 11:30 am Howe Island with Peter Waycik

Meet at ferry. Optional picnic lunch.

Tuesday 7 September 9:30 to 11:30 am Roger Candy trail, Fairmont Home

FIELD TRIPS

Saturday 26 June 8:30 am to ~12:30 pm Milburn Creek property of NCC

Leader: Gary Hillaby (garyhillaby at gmail.com or 416-884-2774) Rain date 27 June.

We will be meeting at the Battersea United Church parking lot (2216 Church Street, Battersea). We will be following current COVID protocols (bring your mask). Group size will be limited to 10 (leader plus 9 participants). Contact Gary to register.

Saturday 17 July 8:45 am to ~ 1:00 pm Butterflies Are Free

Leader: Gary Hillaby (garyhillaby at gmail.com or 416-884-2774) Rain date 18 July.

On this trip we will be focusing on insects: mainly butterflies, moths, dragonflies and damselflies. Trip will be commencing at the Cataraqi Trail where it crosses Opinicon Road; there will be a convoy meeting at the Glenburnie General Store parking lot (Unity Road and Perth Road) at 8:00 am. We will be following current COVID protocols (bring your mask). Presently size is limited to 10. Contact Gary to register.

Saturday 14 August 8:45 am to ~ 1:30 pm Cat on a Bike

Leader: Gary Hillaby (garyhillaby at gmail.com or 416-884-2774) Rain date 15 August. We will be biking the Cataraqi Trail where it crosses Maple Leaf Road and taking in what Nature presents us. Major intersection is Opinicon Road and Perth Road. There will be a convoy meeting at the Glenburnie General Store (Unity Road and Perth Road) at 8:00 am. We will be stopping periodically so the leader can catch his breath. We will be following the current COVID protocols (bring your mask) and practicing bike safety (bring your helmet and bike). Contact Gary to register.

JUNIORS

Please see email about summer camps.

Remember summer projects!

Registration forms will be sent to past members in late August.
All members for 2020-2021 will receive a free membership for 2021-2022



SUMMER PROJECTS

We hope you will complete a summer project for a prize in the fall. Prizes available are the Roland Beschel Prize, Nan Yeoman's Prize and Photo competition. These projects are for hands on field projects (nature collection, diary etc.) NOT computer oriented. Ask Anne for details.

Projects completed over the summer will be due 28 October 2021

1. Roland Beschel Prize. This prize is for a project done over the summer. A collection or observing and recording something in nature are suitable projects.
2. Nan Yeomans Prize. This prize is for a diary recording observations over the summer. Once a day or once a week- your choice.
3. Photo Competition. This prize is for up to three photos taken over the summer with a short description.

TEENS



Friday 9 July or Saturday 10 July BIOBLITZ

Check information elsewhere in this newsletter.
Independent attendance. Please ask for details if interested.

Please see email about summer camps.

Registration forms will be sent out in late August.
Members for 2020-2021 will receive a free membership for 2021-2022.

Saturday 11 September Canoe trip
Watch for details in an email.

Club News and Updates

Welcome to new members: Jacqueline Powell, Grietje Waddell & family, Nathan Miller, Mellissa Breault, Kellianne Martin, Patrick Hulley, Kerry and Bruce Hill, Nick Gazendam & family, Jennifer Brinkman & Sarah Ettritch, John and Anne Breault, Robin Hutchinson, Christina Prozes & Peter Kalow, Leslie and Ken Jenkins.

Thanks to the following members who have agreed to serve on the 2021-2022 executive:

Position	
Honorary President	Ron Weir
President	Ken Edwards
Past President	Anthony Kaduck
Vice President	John Donihee
Treasurer	Larry McCurdy
Recording Secretary	Rose-Marie Burke
Membership Secretary	Kathy Webb
Blue Bill Editor	Peter Waycik
Junior Naturalists	Anne Robertson
Bird Records	Mark Read
Conservation	Chris Hargreaves
Education	Shirley French
Field Trips	Gary Hillaby
Nature Reserves	Erwin Batalla
Member-at-large, Newsletter	Janet Elliott
Member-at-large, Facebook	Polly Aiken
Member-at-large, Publicity	Jane Revell
Member-at-large	Martin Roncetti

Contact information for executive members can be found inside the front cover of The Blue Bill.

Membership Renewal Notice

If you still wish to renew your membership, please visit the KFN website for directions.

Feel free to contact Kathy Webb, Membership Secretary, if you have any questions: kw2 at queensu.ca.

Vote concerning Stewardship Fund for LC-KFLA

At the 20 May meeting, the KFN membership unanimously approved a motion to donate \$5,000 from the Habitat Preservation Fund to the Land Conservancy for Kingston, Frontenac, Lennox & Addington towards the stewardship fund for a newly acquired property.

Pictorial guide to the Birds of Kingston

A new resource for birding in the Kingston area is available on the website. Erwin Batalla has selected 120 species commonly seen in the region and pictures from Phil Harvey are illustrating them. All images were taken in the Kingston 50-km circle. We hope that this simplified guide will encourage you to observe birds during the Spring migration. Check it out at kingstonfieldnaturalists.org

To our francophone members: Erwin will produce a French version of the guide soon.

Queen's Outdoor Field Experience Initiative (QOFEI) is a new equity, inclusion, diversity, and indigeneity-focused club at Queen's University whose mission is to improve accessibility to fieldwork in biology and related fields and, more broadly, camping and the outdoors. The cost of outdoor gear is a major financial barrier to student participation in field courses, summer work, and overall outdoor activities. Significant hidden initial expenses can include supplying one's own equipment (e.g., tents, hiking packs, toiletries) and apparel (e.g., hiking/winter/rain boots, jackets). To help minimize these initial costs, QOFEI aims to build a free on-campus gear lending library and is soliciting donations of old field gear to help build the library (e.g., general field equipment and apparel, including items used for naturalist activities such as binoculars, bug nets, etc.).

If you have anything to donate or have any questions, please contact the Queen's graduate student representatives of this initiative:

Samreen Munim 11sm170 at queensu.ca

Kristen Hayward k.hayward at queensu.ca (613-803-5331)

Notes from the Conservation Committee

In April an "**Update on Kingston Inner Harbour Contaminated Sediment Management Project**" was submitted to Kingston City Council. This looked like a detailed proposal from Transport Canada, with an estimated cost of \$71.4 million. It included "sediment dredging, in-water capping and shoreline revetment", and started a debate regarding the problems of leaving the polluted sediments where they are, versus the health risks of disturbing the polluted sediments. However, Transport Canada then stated that the plans were "at a preliminary stage", with "preliminary cost estimates", that "more consultation will happen from this point", and that "nobody has decided on dredging."

A Facebook group has been formed to follow, discuss and assess Transport Canada's proposal. For more information contact riverfirstyqk@gmail.com

Earlier in the spring two **Barn Swallows** were seen flying around the **Lemoine Point Barn Swallow** nesting structure, which was built in 2018 as an alternative nesting place for Barn Swallows displaced from a Kingston airport building. This was progress compared to previous years, but unfortunately there haven't been any reports of Barn Swallows at the structure since then. Barn Swallows showing little interest in alternative nesting structures is a common problem throughout Ontario. Hopefully the structure will become more attractive to Barn Swallows as it gets older.

Many thanks to Diane and Richard Brault, Ken Edwards, Kurt Hennige, Phil Harvey, and Phillida and Chris Hargreaves for their reports from Lemoine Point.

How to stop birds from flying into windows?

A couple of members have had good results with Feather Friendly bird tape. The product applies sticky dots to the outer surface of the window. Because the dots are spaced 2" apart, larger birds see the space as impassable, while smaller birds have to slow down considerably as they approach which lessens the chance of colliding or, if they do happen to touch, the severity of contact. Locally, Feather Friendly can be purchased at Urban Nature Store. A box costing about \$50 has enough tape to cover several large windows. - There's lots of pictures and more information at <https://flap.org/how-to-install-feather-friendly-tape-to-prevent-bird-window-collisions/>

Members have also had success with "homemade" solutions that work on the same principle. One member, "got one of those markers for writing on glass that is easily washed off from Michael's and put vertical lines about 3 inches apart on the inside of some windows. The lines have to be vertical so they birds instantly know they can't dodge through it". Another resorted to putting green painter's tape on the glass rails of her new deck.

Many thanks to Anthony Kaduck, Carolyn Bonta, Jackie Bartnik, Rose-Marie Burke, and Shirley French for their responses to this question which was sent in to the KFN Conservation Committee.