



# Kingston Field Naturalists

## March and April 2022

### 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://kingstonfieldnaturalists.org>

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

Membership Inquiries:  
Kathy Webb  
kw2 at queensu.ca



Introducing: Spongy moth. See page 6  
Photo J. Elliott

### On Thursday 17 March Mark Read will present

#### Ontario's Third Breeding Bird Atlas – one year in.

Ontario's Third Breeding Bird Atlas has four more years of surveying. Mark Read will be updating us on how the Atlas is going to date, with examples of trends that are already being seen and tips on how to participate.

Mark Read is chair of both the Ontario and Kingston rare bird committees. He serves on the significant species committee for the Ontario Breeding Bird Atlas and is the Regional Coordinator for two regions, Kingston and Silver Lake. As a life-long birder, Mark is passionate about Ontario's avifauna and spends much of his free time volunteering to the Atlas, reviewing records for eBird, conducting surveys, and just enjoying birds!

#### Zoom meeting updates for Thursday 17 March:

- You will receive a Zoom link a few days before the meeting. The Zoom link will be opened at 7 pm. The formal meeting begins at 7:30 pm.
- The topic for this month's breakout room will be an update on the **management plan for the Sylvester-Gallagher Nature Reserve**
- If you have a problem accessing the breakout room, turn on your microphone and ask to be placed in the room by the moderator.
- Join our monthly meetings by telephone. Contact Janet Elliott (613-547-2674) 1-2 days in advance of a meeting to obtain the Meeting ID and Passcode.

### Upcoming Meetings

**Thursday 21 April** is our AGM. After the business of the meeting is done, two executive members will present slides and stories.

**Thursday 19 May** our guest speaker will be Merilyn Simonds, well-known local author. Ms. Simonds will speak on Citizen Science a Half-Century Ago: The Making of One of Canada's Most Influential Amateur Ornithologists.

### Don't miss!

Membership renewal information Page 4

Amherstview Sewage Lagoons **NEW!** information Page 5

## **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. Be prepared for ice, ticks, blackflies, poison ivy... Please register at least three days ahead of trip with Anne (n8ture.anne at sympatico.ca or 613-389-6742) to receive detailed information about meeting points.

**Tuesday 15 March 9:00 am to 12:30 pm Cataraqi Trail** (west of Perth Road village)

**Tuesday 5 April 9:00 am to 3:00 pm Presqu'île Provincial Park** (to view waterfowl)

**Tuesday 19 April 9:00 am to 12:30 pm K and P Trail north from Murton Road**  
(east of Hwy 38 near Murvale)

**Tuesday 3 May 9:00 am to 2:00 pm Helen Quilliam Sanctuary** Spring wildflowers

**Tuesday 17 May 9:00 am to 1:00 pm Camden East Alvar** Pre BioBlitz trip

## **FIELD TRIPS**

**Saturday 23 April 9:30 am to noon Helen Quilliam Sanctuary Clean-up**

Meet at the gravel pit at 9:30 am. Tools such as brush clippers and hammers are useful but not essential. Come and explore the trails, look for early spring flowers, butterflies and birds while helping with trail maintenance and signage. Refreshments will be available at noon at the gravel pit. Contact Erwin Batalla (613-389-0144 or simbat at bell.net) if you plan to come.

**Saturday 30 April 7:00 am to 3:00 pm Prince Edward Point (weather date May 1)**

Leader: Anthony Kaduck We will be looking for Spring migrants at some of the best hotspots in the County. Meet at the Adolphustown ferry dock at 7:00 am sharp. We will convoy down to the southern tip of the point, walking the trail that leads to the lighthouse. We may stop at a couple of short trails along the way, time permitting. Our group should be back at our meeting place at 3:00 pm. This trip will be limited to 12 birders plus the leader. If you are able/willing to car-pool with another participant please do so, as several of the places we will visit have limited parking. Contact Anthony (kaduckintransit at gmail.com) to register.

**Wednesdays in May 6:30 am and 6:30 pm Warbler Wednesdays at Lemoine Point**

KFN members and the general public are welcome every Wednesday in the month of May to Lemoine Point Conservation Area to look for warblers and other returning birds. We will meet at one of the parking lots of Lemoine Point (north or south will be specified) at **6:30 am and 6:30 pm**. Expertise is not required to participate and it's a good way to improve your warbler skills as these birds return to our area. We're looking for birders to lead the warbler walks. If you are interested in leading a walk, please contact the field trip coordinator at fieldtrips at kingstonfieldnaturalists.org. More details next month.

## **BIOBLITZ**

**Friday 10 June 3:00 pm to Saturday 11 June 3:00 pm** This is a 24 hour count of all species at the Camden East Alvar. We plan a traditional BioBlitz with BBQ, guided walks and children's program. Please contact us if you would like to be on the mailing list (Janis:janisgrant at icloud.com) or if you would like to volunteer (Anne: n8ture.anne at sympatico.ca or 613-389-6742). The advertising poster will be emailed to those on the list in late March.

**See more excursion notices on page 5:**

**Spring Round-Up** including field trips

**May 2022 trip to Point Pelee /Western Ontario**

## **JUNIORS**

Until conditions for indoor meetings permit, only field trips will be held each month, on the fourth Saturday.



## **FIELD TRIPS**

Please register with Anne at least three days ahead of trip for more detailed information (n8ture.anne at sympatico.ca or 613-389-6742).

**Saturday 26 March 9:00 am to 3:00 pm Presqu'ile Provincial Park  
Ducks and Marsh Boardwalk** Please register by Wednesday 23 March.

**Saturday 23 April 8:30 am to 3:00 pm Spring shoreline cleanup and walk at Amherst Island property of KFN** (Martin Edwards Reserve)  
Meet in town at 8:30 am (for 9:30 ferry). Return on 2:00 pm ferry. Please register by Wednesday 20 April.

## **TEENS**



Details of Teen trips will be sent on registration with Anne (n8ture.anne at sympatico.ca or 613-389-6742).

For the following trips triple vaccination is necessary and masks will be worn throughout.

**Saturday 12 March 9:00 am to noon Bird Identification Workshop and Bird Collection Update**

At the Seniors Centre on Francis Street in Kingston.  
Please register by Thursday 10 March.

**Saturday 9 April 9:00 am to 1:00pm Rock Hounding with Daryl McFarlane** This trip will visit several locations where specimens may be collected. Please register by Wednesday 6 April

**Friday 13 to Saturday 14 May Birdathon** Join us for all or part of this 24 hour count of as many bird species as we can see.

## Club News and Updates

**Welcome to new members:** Alison and Stewart Bentley, Mike and Joanne Einspenne, Ian Dalton, Kathy Preston, Sam Cheng, Crystal-Ann Hoffman, Mary Louise Adams, Graeme Hay, Max Gries and Tyler van Vierzen, Paul McElligott, Claude and Bonnie Badger, Peter Yunker, Christine Bell, Janice Ley, Justine Peltier & family, Scott Bagg, Anna Camazzola, and Adam King.

**Thank you to Chris Hargreaves,** our Chair of Conservation Committee since 2009. Chris keeps us up-to-date on nature-related news at the municipal, regional and provincial level and he has become the “voice of nature”, expressing concerns to local government about various conservation issues. Recently Chris has invested a lot of time and energy in following the Kingston Inner Harbour remediation plan and drawing attention to its possible detrimental effects on wildlife. On our behalf he has expressed concerns about Ministerial Zoning Orders, use of motorized vehicles on the K&P Trail, Barn Swallow nesting structures at Lemoine Point, municipal zoning near Environmental Protection Areas, and other issues. THANK YOU CHRIS!

### It's Membership Renewal Time Again

The KFN membership year extends from 1 April to 31 March of the following year – the 2021/22 membership year expires soon. If you are a new member since 1 December 2021 your membership is good until 31 March 2023. If you are a current/previous member and have already renewed, thank you. If you have decided not to renew your membership, you can avoid receiving further renewal notices by emailing: membership *at* kingstonfieldnaturalists.org

**To renew your membership,** you can proceed in one of several ways:

- Join or renew **online** using the website:  
<https://kingstonfieldnaturalists.org/membership/>. Please note that you do not need a PayPal account to renew online: once you click the “Pay Now” button, you can proceed as a guest by clicking the “Pay with a credit or Visa debit card” button.
- **Mail a printed membership form** or a note containing your membership information along with a cheque payment to: Kingston Field Naturalists, PO Box 831, Kingston, Ontario K7L 4X6.

**Executive Elections** At the Annual General Meeting in April we will elect the members of the club's executive for the 2022-2023 term. The positions are President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Membership Secretary, Recording Secretary, the chairs of the Conservation, Bird Records, Junior Naturalists, Education and Field Trips committees, the Blue Bill editor and several members-at-large. If you are interested in serving on the executive in any capacity please contact the Chair of the Nominating Committee, Anthony Kaduck (email [kaduckintransit at googlemail.com](mailto:kaduckintransit@googlemail.com)).

### Conservation Committee Report

- **Kingston Inner Harbour Remediation Plan:** no new developments
- **Development of Davis Tannery Site:** There has been a motion to call for another public meeting. Questions have been raised about the proposal to “clearcut” all of the 1,800 trees currently on the site.
- **South Shore Marine Conservation Area:** Nature Canada sees an opportunity for the Great Lakes to be part of the federal target of protecting 25% of land and freshwater by 2025. Specifically, Nature Canada is promoting “the creation of a National Marine Conservation Area (NMCA) in the eastern basin of Lake Ontario (which) would conserve a globally significant and at-risk ecosystem.” Nature Canada is currently preparing a “Case for Protection Report”, and is planning a public webinar to outline the project.

## **Amherstview Sewage Lagoons: NEW COMBINATION LOCK**

Thanks to an agreement with Loyalist Township, KFN members are permitted to enter the Amherstview Sewage Lagoons property to do nature observation during daylight hours.

**You must :** \*Carry your KFN membership card in case you are asked by Township to confirm that you are a KFN member; \*Keep out of any not mowed berms and any berms less than 2 m in width; \*Obey the instructions of any Township employee; \*Do not block the gate when parking.

Entry is only through the gate on the SOUTH side of the property, at the end of Amherstview Golf Course Road. **UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES SHOULD YOU CLIMB OVER THE GATE.** Access to this location is a privilege. This is an operational facility not a public park.

**There is NEW padlock on the gate.** Please contact Kurt for the code and the instructions on how to operate the lock. Members can get the new combination from Kurt Hennige (khennige at xplornet.com) or via the Contact Us tab on the KFN Website [www.kingstonfieldnaturalists.org](http://www.kingstonfieldnaturalists.org) or from Mark Read (markdread at gmail.com).

## **Field Trips**

### **Monday 2 May 8:00 am to Monday 9 May 5:00 pm Western Ontario/Point Pelee**

We will bird the South end of Lake St. Claire (Lighthouse Point & Mitchell's Bay), Point Pelee National Park, Hillman Marsh, Wheatley Provincial Park, Rondeau Provincial Park, Blenheim Sewage Lagoons, plus anything else of interest in between. Long Point Provincial Park and Windsor area are also possibilities, either as twitches or optional private pre/post extensions. We will try to carpool in situ to reduce parking difficulty at locations visited.

Maximum group size limited to 7-8 participants. Contact John Licharson (jlicharson at tlanada.com or 613-386-7720) to register.

Participants will have to make their own accommodation and travel arrangements. Accommodation options in and around Leamington/Wheatley tend to get booked up quickly.

### **Friday 20 May noon to Sunday 22 May noon Spring Round-Up**

Our 65th Spring Round-Up will be Friday noon to Sunday noon (20 to 22 May). Birds will be counted only within the KFN Bird Area which is a radial distance of 50 km centred on MacDonald Park, Kingston. See the KFN website for more details.

Count as many species and individuals as possible during this most exciting period of the birding year. Choose your favorite birding site within the KFN Bird Area, be it your own backyard, a local park, or a migration hotspot like Prince Edward Point, Amherst Island or Wolfe Island.

Bird alone or with a group of birding buddies for as long or short period of time as you like. Bird casually, or bird intensely, or just photograph the birds you enjoy.

All are encouraged to send their sightings as soon as possible to eBird or by email to Mark Read (markdread at gmail.com) who will create a master list for the event, crunching the data to produce some statistics to share with everyone in the next Bluebill.

For more info how to participate or how to join a group contact Kurt Hennige (khennige at xplornet.com or 613-876-1804).

There will be two Field Trips to local IBA's as part of the Round-Up:

#### **Friday 20 May 12:15 pm to 5 pm Amherst Island IBA**

Leader Kurt Hennige We will meet at 12:15 pm at the Amherst Island ferry dock to take the ferry to Amherst Island. The visit will include a long walk on rough terrain along the shoreline at the Martin Edwards Reserve. Will return from the Island on the 5 pm ferry. Maximum 8 participants plus leader.

**Date and Time to be determined: Napanee Plain IBA** with Anthony Kaduck

Details next newsletter.

### **LC-KFLA AGM & Tick Talk**

Everyone is invited to attend the Land Conservancy for KFLA's Annual Meeting on 13 April at 7 pm on Zoom. Hear a summary of the Land Conservancy's accomplishments in 2021. Guest speaker is Dr. Vett Lloyd, head of the Lloyd Tick Lab, Mount Alison University. Dr. Lloyd's "Tick Talk" will bring us up-to-date on ticks in this region, the latest research on Lyme disease, and the best protection strategies. Registration via Eventbrite is required:

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/2022-annual-general-meeting-tickets-293774135347>

**Spongy Moth** has just been formally adopted by the Entomological Society of America as the new common name for *Lymantria dispar*. The previous name, "gypsy moth," was removed due to its use of a derogatory term for the Romani people. The new name is derived from the common name used in France and French-speaking Canada, and refers to the moth's sponge-like egg masses. Hopefully a significant number of the Spongy Moth eggs have been killed by our cold weather this winter. (Thanks to Peter Waycik for this information.)