



Kingston Field Naturalists

November - December 2023

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

Meetings are normally held at 7:30 pm on the third Thursday of each month from September to April in Ongwanada Resource Centre off Portsmouth Avenue. Social starts at 7:00 pm, meeting starts at 7:30 pm.

On Thursday 16 November Joyce Hostyn will present Little Forests: A movement to support ecosystems and enchant communities across Canada

Joyce dreams of living in a City in a Forest, a city alive with the sounds of birds singing, bees buzzing, leaves whispering, and children laughing. Joyce is co-founder of Little Forests Kingston, a Master Gardener, a permaculture designer, and an adjunct professor at Queen's University in the Master of Earth and Energy Resources Leadership program. She was raised on a farm where her family grew, foraged and preserved enough produce to last the year. In her quest to re-enchant our cities, Joyce collaborates with plants, soil, organisms, land, climate, and geology—planting little forests, food forests, pollinator patches, and living lawns. Any day she gets her hands dirty either on the land or in the kitchen is a magical day.

Note: At this meeting we will have a **slide show of BioBlitz pictures** during the social time from 7:00 to 7:30 pm. It has people pictures and some spectacular shots of wildlife seen at the BioBlitz at Milburn Creek last June. Also: You will receive a **Zoom link** by email a few days before the meeting. You can also join the meeting by phone: contact Janet Elliott (613-547-2674) before the meeting to obtain the meeting ID and the Passcode.



In October, Little Forests Kingston planted a great many plants and little flags behind the Senior Centre on Francis Street. Come to the meeting on 16 November to learn about what is there!



Thursday 21 December will be our annual Members' Night

This is your chance to show off your favourite flora, fauna and fungi photos (up to 10) or a short video (up to 10 minutes). Send your digital presentation to Erwin Batalla (simbat at bell.net) by Sunday 17 December. This will be a hybrid meeting; those attending by Zoom can also be presenters.

REMINDER! The Owl Woods is closed to birders from Monday 20 November to Sunday 10 December inclusive. The Owl Woods is privately owned. We thank the owners for allowing us to go birding on their property and must respect their request that we stay away at these times.

Rambles, Field Trips, and other outings

Please check the website for any updates.

Ticks are back! Wear long sleeves and pants tucked into socks.

This is hunting season! When hiking and birding, wear bright colours, make noise.

RAMBLES are slow walks to notice nature; they take place on the first and third Tuesday each month. Please register with Anne (nature.anne at sympatico.ca or 613-389-6742), by the Sunday prior to the trip, to receive detailed directions. Warm clothing for walking slowly, good walking shoes or boots, a snack and a drink as well as protection against ticks advised. Walking poles may be useful.

Tuesday 21 November 9:00 am to 12:30 pm Collins Creek Woods from Taylor Kidd Blvd

Tuesday 5 December 9:30 am to 12:30 pm Invista shoreline from Sunnycres Road (S end)

Tuesday 2 January 9:30 am to 12:30 pm Cataraqui Conservation Area, Division Street

FIELD TRIPS

Saturday 18 November 7:00 am to ~ 3:30 pm Snow Goose Prowl
(rain date Sunday 19 November)

Snow Geese migrate through Eastern Ontario during this time of year. The plan is to scour the backroads east of Kemptville looking for large flocks of this magnificent species. We will also be checking out the lagoons in Winchester. The majority of this event would be considered "birding-by-car" as we travel through the beautiful countryside. Our group will be meeting at the carpool lot at Highway 15 and 401. To register for this event contact Gary Hillaby (fieldtrips at kingstonfieldnaturalists.org or 613-547-8121).

Christmas Bird Counts 2023

All KFN members are encouraged to participate in as many counts as possible. There is a huge area of Eastern Ontario to be covered and as the old saying states "many hands, make light work". The Kingston Field Naturalists will continue to support this holiday tradition so members should reach out and get involved. It's a great opportunity to meet like-minded people and enjoy the different bird habitats that surround us.

These are the dates of our area's Christmas Bird Counts and some of the organizers looking for help:

Thursday 14 December **Gananoque** contact Kurt Hennige (khennige at xplornet.com)

Friday 15 December **Westport** contact Wendy Briggs Jude (bwlaird at rideau.net)

Saturday 16 December **Prince Edward Point** contact Dale Smith (doc0013 at icloud.com)

Saturday 16 December **Frontenac** contact Michael Johnson (bonta.johnson@sympatico.ca) or 613-531-4578

Saturday 16 December **Rideau Ferry** contact Alison Bentley (alisonbentley at gmail.com)

Sunday 17 December **Kingston** contact Kathy Webb (kw2 at queensu.ca)

Wednesday 20 December **Delta** no help required

Thursday 21 December **Thousand Islands** contact Josh Van Wieran at (josh.vanwieran at pc.gc.ca)

Wednesday 27 December **Napanee** contact Kurt Hennige (khennige at xplornet.com)

Thursday 28 December **Moscow** contact Chris Ellingwood at (ellingwoodchris at gmail.com)

Friday 29 December **Amherst Island** contact Janet Scott and Bonnie Livingstone (bonnie.livingstone at gmail.com)

Owl Woods will be closed to birders:

Monday 20 November to Sunday 10 December inclusive.

JUNIORS

INDOOR MEETINGS

Meetings are planned for the fourth Thursday each month, from 6:30 to 8:00 pm. Please don't arrive before 6:30 pm; the leaders need time to set up. As the weather gets messier outside, bring a pair of indoor shoes.



Thursday 23 November Bites, Stings and Warning Signs

Thursday 14 December (note **second** Thursday) **Seasonal Crafts**

FIELD TRIPS

Saturday 25 November 9:00 am to 2:00 pm Camden Lake Wildlife Area

Please register by 23 November at meeting or with Anne (n8ture.anne at sympatico.ca or 613-389-6742).

Saturday 27 January TBA

TEENS



Saturday 11 November Visit property of Carolyn Bonta and Michael Johnson to explore their woodlot and learn about how they are improving the biodiversity of their property. Please register by Thursday 9 November.

Saturday 16 December 9:00 am to 2:00 pm Christmas Bird Count (CBC). This traditional census of birds is a citizen science project that has been running since 1901 in the Western Hemisphere. Come and contribute to these records. Please sign up by Thursday 7 December.

Saturday 13 January TBA

Club News and Updates

Welcome to new members: Gaylia Lassner, Vidya Menon, Joe Tozzo & family.

In Memoriam: Jay McMahan passed away in late October. Jay was a graduate of medicine from Queen's University and practiced family medicine in Kingston for many years. He was an avid birder, a long time KFN member and a former chair of Nature Reserves. You can see the Whig Standard obituary here:

<https://thewhig.remembering.ca/obituary/jay-mcmahan-1089016456>

Two Volunteer Opportunities

KFN needs a publicity person! Currently we have no one looking after publicity for the club. This task involves sending news of our meetings and other events to the local media. If you are interested, please contact an executive member through the website or info@kingstonfieldnaturalists.org.

Attention Photographers

The KFN is looking for contributions of your best photos to use in KFN promotional materials. KFN will celebrate its 75th anniversary in 2024, so our goal is to collect at least 75 photos from 75 members. A current project is to redesign the large posters in the display case at Queen's University. Here are some ideas of what you can contribute:

- a photo of a living thing like a bird or a frog;
- a photo of a natural landscape; or
- a photo of a person studying nature.

By submitting a photo, you agree to allow KFN to use it as they see fit with or without attribution.

Photos should:

- be of high quality (1500px wide or greater);
- be in focus;
- show the subject well; and
- if the photo shows a person other than yourself or your children, permission needs to be sought from the person(s) in the photo.

You can submit photos via a form on our website:

<https://kingstonfieldnaturalists.org/publications/contribute-your-photos/>

Other Upcoming Events

The scoop on poop

Guest speaker presentation

Join us and Peter Simons, Chief Park Naturalist, Algonquin Park, to learn how he identifies animals by what they have left behind.

Photo sharing

You are invited to send one or two photographs of scat you have seen in this region to info@landconservancykfla.org. Please send your photos by the end of day November 10.



Nov 12, 2023 @ 4pm



Guest speaker:
Peter Simons, Chief Park Naturalist, Algonquin Park



To learn more:
www.landconservancykfla.org

Hosted by:
Land Conservancy
for Kingston, Frontenac, Lennox & Addington

The **Land Conservancy for Kingston, Frontenac, Lennox and Addington** invites the public to a free online talk and photo sharing event: *The Scoop on Poop: Identifying Animals by their Scat*. This webinar takes place on **Sunday 12 November from 4:00 pm** and will be of interest to people who walk in the woods and wonder about the animals that are there, too.

Guest speaker is Peter Simons, Chief Park Naturalist, Algonquin Park. He notes; "Seeing is believing when it comes to wildlife, but to actually see the animal itself is not always so simple, and the moments in which we do get a look are usually quite short -- the signs that they leave behind, however, are far more common and unveil wonderful clues into their life history."

For more on the event or to register, visit the Land Conservancy's Eventbrite [event page](#). Or website: <https://www.landconservancykfla.org/>

Since it began in 2004, the Land Conservancy is now protecting 13 properties totaling 452 hectares, land set aside for nature, forever.

Media Contact: Marc Sandaluk
- Info@landconservancykfla.org - 613.770.4361



Friends of the Salmon River

Our Fish and Fisheries

Wednesday, November 22, 2023

6:30 pm

Roblin Wesleyan Church, 3100
County Rd 41, Roblin

Join us for our annual general meeting and an informative evening with our guest speaker Colin Lake, a fisheries Biologist with Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNR).

Visit: www.friendsosalmonriver.ca

Contact: infofriendsosalmonriver@gmail.com



From Friends of the Salmon River:

Our Annual General Meeting featuring **Our Fish and Fisheries** is coming up. **Wednesday 22 November at 6:30 pm** at the Roblin Wesleyan Church, 3100 County Rd 41, Roblin On K0K 2W0

Colin Lake, lead biologist at the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry will present a snapshot of the current commercial and recreational fishing in Lake Ontario, Bay of Quinte and the lakes in the Salmon watershed. Learn a great deal about the biology of our fish species too.

Colin has been with MNR's Lake Ontario Management Unit (Prince Edward County) for eighteen years in various positions; his current role is Lead Planning Biologist.

Lennox and Addington Stewardship Council and Associates

On **Tuesday 28 November 1:00 – 3:00 pm**, L&A Stewardship Council, Friends of the Napanee and Salmon Rivers and the Wilton Creek Watershed invite you to join us for this **FREE** public event.

Location: Strathcona Paper Centre, 16 McPherson Dr. in Napanee

Speakers: from Environment Canada and the Dept. of Fisheries and Oceans:

- The Science (including observations and research) behind the conditions in the Bay and its major tributaries
- Why the Bay remains as an Area of Concern based on the 1987 Int'l Joint Commission's Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement
- How we can influence the future of the Bay

Also, please join us if you live on or enjoy life on the Bay of Quinte and would like to share your experience. Refreshments will be provided.

To register for this **FREE** event or to ask questions, email us at:

register@FriendsNapaneeRiver.ca

Ontario Nature Reptile and Amphibian Atlas

On **Wednesday 29 November 7:00 to 8:30 pm**, Ontario Nature will host a webinar about Ontario Nature's new Ontario Reptile and Amphibian Atlas (ORAA) publication. At this free webinar, the registrants will hear from a panel of ORAA experts about the origins of the atlas project, species accounts, lessons learned, and future directions for reptile and amphibian conservation in Ontario. If you can't make it for the live presentation, register anyway and ON will email you a recording soon after. Here is the link to register:

Please [join us to celebrate this major milestone and learn](#) how to freely access the ORAA publication.