



Kingston Field Naturalists

Summer 2024

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.
Look for your next Newsletter in mid-August.

Kingston Field Naturalists

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
membership@kingstonfieldnaturalists.org

Kingston Field Naturalists 2024 BioBlitz

Friday 14 June 3:00 pm to Saturday 15 June 3:00 pm

Bethel Road, Camden East



Eastern Giant Swallowtail
Heraclides cresphontes
(photo by Kurt Hennige)

Learn to find and identify flora, fauna and fungi

Guided walks with expert naturalists

Children's activities

BBQ on Saturday

For more details visit www.kingstonfieldnaturalists.org (after mid-May)
To be added to the mailing list contact Janis Grant: janis.grant@icloud.com
Questions? Ask Anne (n8ture.anne@sympatico.ca or 613-389-6742)

See page 5 to 7 for more information and the tentative program.

Rambles, Field Trips, and other outings

Please check the website for any updates.

Ticks are active!! Wear long sleeves, tuck your pants into your socks.

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. For summer rambles remember hat, sunscreen, repellent and water. Prepare for ticks, wild parsnip etc. with long pants tucked in socks or boots and long sleeves. These trips are often further afield. Food is usually necessary and car-pooling encouraged. Hiking poles may be useful.

Tuesday 18 June 8:30 am to 3:30 pm Monarch Point Conservation Reserve (Prince Edward County) Join Cheryl Chapman to explore this new conservation area.

Tuesday 2 July 9:00 am to 3:00 pm Miller property, Howe Island

Tuesday 20 August 9:00 am to 3:00 pm Sandbeach Wetlands Conservation Area, Amherst Island

Tuesday 3 September 9:00 am to 2:00 pm Milburn Creek property of Nature Conservancy of Canada, Battersea

FIELD TRIPS

NOTE CHANGE OF DATE

Saturday 8 June 9:00 am to 2:00 pm Skimmers and Skippers at Frank's Culvert

Odes and Leps Field Trip #2 Leader: Peter Waycik On this field trip, we hope to encounter plenty of skimmers and skippers. Both of these groups are quite common, but who knows... maybe there will be a rare individual among them. Frank's Culvert is accessible from the junction of the Cataraqui Trail and Macgillivray Road (off Opinicon Road). The terrain is flat and easy, but the sun and biting insects can be overbearing, so you will need plenty of water and protection from sun, ticks and biting insects. To register, please contact fieldtrips at kingstonfieldnaturalists.org

Friday 14 June to Saturday 15 June 3:00 pm to 3:00 pm BioBlitz

Friday 5 July 9:00 am to 2:00 pm Damsels and Hairstreaks

Odes and Leps Field Trip #3 Leader: Peter Waycik More information to come. Please check the website calendar. To register, please contact fieldtrips at kingstonfieldnaturalists.org

Friday 16 August 9:00 am to 2:00 pm Darners at Landon Bay Centre

Odes and Leps Field Trip #4. Leader: Peter Waycik More information to come. Please check the website calendar. To register, please contact fieldtrips at kingstonfieldnaturalists.org

Saturday 7 September 7:30 am start Shorebirds at Presqu'île Provincial Park

Leader: Anthony Kaduck This should be a good opportunity to catch up on shorebirds migrating south. We will also check the usual spots for returning warblers, vireos, flycatchers and other species. Meet at the park gates at 7:30 am. Note the requirement to register in advance for a day use provincial park permit <https://reservations.ontarioparks.ca/> Please indicate your intention to attend by emailing fieldtrips at kingstonfieldnaturalists.org

JUNIORS

FIELD TRIPS

Saturday 15 June 10:00 am to noon BioBlitz

Kids program with Amanda, followed by free BBQ and quiz.

The BioBlitz is at a private property near Camden East.

See website and email for more information.



SUMMER PROJECTS Start now!

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 prize. 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 24 October 2024.

1. Roland Beschel Prize: This prize is for a nature project done over the summer. A collection, or observing and recording something in nature, are suitable projects.
2. Nan Yeoman's Prize: This prize is for a diary recording observations over the summer. Diary entries can be once a day or once a week: your choice.
3. Photo Competition: This prize is for up to three photos taken over the summer; include a short description of each photo.

REGISTRATION Applications for 2024-2025 will be distributed to present members in late August.

TEENS



BioBlitz!!

Friday 14 June 3:00 pm to Saturday 15 June 3:00 pm

Join other Teens and help list species found on site as well as learning some new species (see program on website and in email).

REGISTRATION for 2024-2025 will be available in August.

Club News and Updates

Welcome to new members: Karen Zabel and Brett Christopher, Harley Cunningham, Leslie Yeow, Kim Sutherland Mills and Andy Mills, Gaspard Tanguay-Labrosse, Jennifer Harrison, Mark Norman, Stephen Falls, Anne Marie Jackson and Brad Plumton, Margaret Hough.

A big thank you to Anne Robertson and her BioBlitz Committee. And to Jane Good for opening and preparing her property for us to visit. Hope to see lots of KFNers there!!

Membership Renewals

The KFN membership year goes from April 1 to March 31 of the following year. If your 2023/24 membership has recently expired, there's still time to renew before being removed from the email notification list.

Do you want to be a card-carrying KFN member? You received your membership card for 2024/25 with the receipt when you paid your membership. You can print it, or just keep the electronic copy on your phone. If you can't find it, send an email to our membership secretary and ask for a copy (membership@kingstonfieldnaturalists.org).

75th ANNIVERSARY CHALLENGE

The KFN is encouraging every member to help celebrate our 75th Anniversary by making a list of 75 nature-orientated activities/observations that they have carried out over the spring and summer. Lists can be produced on any topic chosen by the member. See last month's newsletter for examples. Members are also invited to write a short description of how they created their list. These descriptions together with the associated lists will be published as an article in The Blue Bill.

Members can start making their list immediately and then:

- hand it in at the KFN General Meeting on 19 September (or earlier)
- email it at any time before 1 October to 75th@kingstonfieldnaturalists.org
- mail it to: Kingston Field Naturalists, PO Box 831, Kingston, ON K7L 4X6

There will be a participation souvenir for everybody who submits a list.

Multiple lists from participants are welcome!

Conservation Committee Report from Chris Hargreaves, Chair

For more information, contact Chris Hargreaves (hargreavescp at sympatico.ca)

A **Beaver Deceiver** will be installed just north of Hwy 401 and west of Joyceville Road, on the 4th Concession during the week of July 15th. KFN has been invited to send observers. Contact Chris conservation at kingstonfieldnaturalists.org if you would like the details.

Last year the City of Kingston included working towards Nature Canada's **Bird Friendly City** Certification in its strategic priorities. The City's Director of Public Works and Solid Waste is following up on this.

It appears that the City has heeded requests to delay mowing of the **grass at the airport**: by 28 May grass along the side of airport roads had been cut, but most of the grass was still standing. Good news for nesting Bobolinks!

Very few **Barn Swallows** have been observed at Lemoine Point this year; even fewer have shown an interest in the Barn Swallow nesting structure that was installed several years ago.

Local events of interest

Saturday 22 June 10 am to 4 pm South Shore Footpath Project Day at Mariners Park Museum in Milford Lace up for guided nature walks and experience the rare beauty of the PEC South Shore with local volunteers. Enjoy food, music, activities and more. For more information and to register see https://www.ssji.ca/media_release_south_shore_footpath_day

Sunday 23 June noon to 3 pm QUBS Open House

Queen's University Biological Station off Opinicon Road is featuring displays and activities showcasing current research, stewardship, teaching, and outreach activities. All welcome! For more information see <https://qubs.ca/node/302>



The Kingston Field Naturalists

invite you to join us for our
26th BioBlitz — 14 and 15 June 2024
at Avenstone near Camden East

*Our goal is to record 1,000 species in this 24-hour period.
We hope that it will be it a fun and educational event for everyone.*

Our annual BioBlitz is an inventory of as many living things as can be identified within a 24-hour period in a defined area. It generates useful data for science and conservation and helps define the region's biodiversity. Specialists from diverse disciplines will explore the area under investigation, and community individuals interested in natural history and the environment are encouraged to participate in this citizen-science activity to identify and count *all* types of plant and animal species as well as fungi, lichens, protista and chromista. Guided walks and social time are part of our plan.

The BioBlitz takes place at Avenstone from **3:00 pm on Friday 14 June to 3:00 pm on Saturday 15 June 2024**. The event will run, rain or shine.

SITE: Avenstone is a private property that highlights a family's land stewardship efforts for the past 50 years. It is near Camden East in Stone Mills Township and was originally BioBlitzed in 2009. You can find that report in the Blue Bill (September 2009) on the KFN website.

We are delighted that we can now return to Avenstone – a 122-acre (50-hectare) farm property that includes mixed forest, marsh, winding central stream, limestone ridges, re-forested plantings, environmentally protected lakefront wetland, hedgerows and cultivated fields. There are a number of diverse habitats to explore!

REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED

To register at the event, enter the BioBlitz base site at Avenstone, 393 Bethel Rd, Stone Mills Township on *Friday 14 June between 2:30 pm and 9:00 pm or Saturday 15 June between 8:00 am and 2:00 pm*.

SPECIES OBSERVED: For all observations, a minimum of the species name, observer, date, location observed (ideally GPS coordinates) and trail should be recorded. Applicable notes should be added.

Upon registration, a tally sheet and a map of the property will be provided. A tally will also be kept on the BioBlitz base site notice board so you may look at species already recorded and note those that may yet be found.

No collecting or wildlife handling is allowed unless preauthorized (which all group leaders will be). Photographs should be used wherever possible. We are requesting that all qualified observers prepare **NHIC species occurrence forms** for rare and declining species observed during this event. Forms will be available on request.

Please also tell us if you would like to be paired with another expert for your recording.

For this year's BioBlitz there will be two options for submitting your species observations:

- 1. Written records with your name must be handed in for species to be included in the final tally.** Please return your final tally sheets and field notes to the base site before departure. Tally sheets will be copied and returned if you wish. A reward will be offered for checking out and returning tally sheets. Any species of note should be photographed and the site of observation GPS'd if possible.
- 2. Digital submissions through eBird (for birds only) and/or iNaturalist are accepted.** Both are free and easy to use but you will need to set up your own personal accounts. If you submit observations using **eBird.ca**, please share your checklists with the username Kingston FN. With **iNaturalist.ca**, please join our project "Kingston Field Naturalists 2024 BioBlitz" at <https://inaturalist.ca/projects/kingston-field-naturalists-2024-bioblitz>

Observe—Preserve—Understand

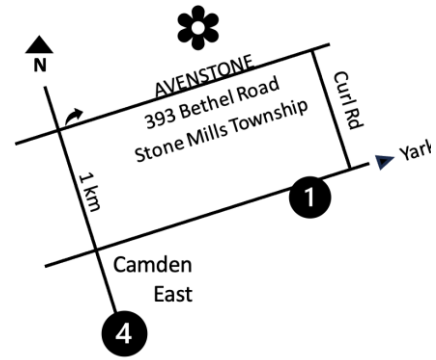
The Kingston Field Naturalists (KFN) is a Registered Charitable Organization and a member of Ontario Nature

<https://kingstonfieldnaturalists.org>

DIRECTIONS

Drive 15 minutes west of Kingston.
From Hwy 401 take Exit 593 onto County Road 4 North.
Drive to Camden East then continue north a further 1 km.
Turn east onto Bethel Road for 2 km to Avenstone
at 393 Bethel Road, Stone Mills Township.

GPS location: 44.35087, -76.81816



WHAT TO BRING

- Your own meals and snacks including supper on Friday.
- Good walking boots for uneven terrain.
- Sunscreen, rain gear, insect repellent, hat, and a flashlight for night activities.
- Wear long pants to protect against Poison Ivy, deerflies and ticks.
- Tall boots, gaiters and/or 30% DEET also help protect against ticks.
- Your own clipboard, pen, checklist and field guides, binoculars and magnifiers.
- Cameras and GPS units are useful (but not required) to record rare species or ones needing identification.
- A whistle for emergencies is always a good idea.
- There is cell phone coverage at most of the site.

AVAILABLE AT THE BASE SITE

- Some potable water—please bring your own water bottle.
- A portable toilet.
- Primitive camping Friday night for specialists and volunteers—No services. No Fires. No generators.
- **Pre-booking for camping is required.** Contact Dave at davehmcavoy@gmail.com
- Coffee on Saturday morning at 8:00 am—please bring your own mug.
- Children's activities Saturday from 10 am until lunch—please be prepared to stay with your children.
- Recycling/composting containers will be available, but plan on taking your garbage home with you.
- BBQ lunch on Saturday at noon. There is no fee, but donations are appreciated.

NEARBY: Groceries at McCormick's Country Store in Camden East or Lucky Dollar Store in Yarker.

REMEMBER

Please be sensitive to the fact that this is private property. Try to keep the impact to a minimum and attempt to leave things as they were found. **If you need to use a boat (canoe or kayak) to record species at the lake shoreline please make arrangements for transportation from the base site by texting Dave (613-331-4051) on Friday 14 or Saturday 15.**

Please, **NO DOGS** at the event.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

We look forward to this BioBlitz and hope you do as well. Please share this information with anyone you know who might be interested. Let us know if there is anything you might need that we could supply or if you would like to volunteer. And if you have expertise, please come and educate us!

INFORMATION

Anne: n8ture.anne@sympatico.ca or (h) 613-389-6742, (c) 613-985-8967

Erwin: simbat@bell.net or (h) 613-389-0144

Yours truly,
Anne Robertson, Coordinator

Observe—Preserve—Understand

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BIOBLITZ PROGRAMME 2024

FRIDAY Afternoon and Evening

2:30 - 9:00 pm	Registration
3:00 pm	Send off
3:00 pm	Introductory walk Jane Good
4:30 pm	Fungi Louise Langlais
5:00 pm	Trail cams Janet Elliott
5:30 pm	Supper (bring your own)
6:30 pm	Invertebrates Live traps and attractants Brooks Gee, Damon Gee, - Rose-Marie Burke
7:00 pm	Evening Bird Walk Phil Harvey
9:00 pm	Moths David Bree, Rose-Marie Burke, Diane Lepage, Lyn Ovenden

SATURDAY Morning and Afternoon

8:00am - 3:00 pm	Registration
6:30 am	Early morning bird walk Erwin Batalla
8:00 am	coffee!
8:00 am	Moth id David Bree and others
8:30 am	Geology of area Richard Worsfold
8:30 am	Invertebrate attractant retrieval
9:00 am	Beginning Birding Darren Rayner
9:30 am	Snake board check Megan Snetsinger
10:00 am to noon	Kids program Amanda Tracey (See separate list)
10:00 am	Butterflies and Dragonflies Kathy Webb
12:00 noon	BBQ
12:30 pm	Words from Anne Robertson
1:00 pm	Sedges Paul Mackenzie
1:30 pm	All kinds of flies photography and identification Kurt Hennige
2:00 pm	Fish at the lake Mary Alice Snetsinger
3:00 pm	BIOBLITZ ends