

# The Orchid



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## *Bulletin of the Peterborough Field Naturalists*

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Know • Appreciate • Conserve Nature in All Its Forms



### **You Can't See Me**

The American Bittern's stripey camouflage and concealment pose works wonders in a cattail marsh, but doesn't appear to be quite as effective behind a cluster of asters on a footpath.

Photo by Cathy Douglas.

**Inside:**    Early Fall Outing Reports  
              Lots More Fall Outings Announced  
              Jack Lake Turtle Report  
              Canadian Bat Box Project



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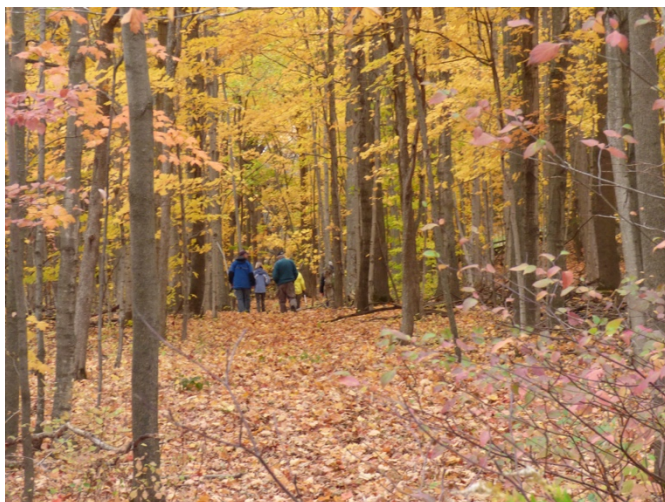
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### Welcome new PFN members!

- Pat Rattenbury
- Sue Hardill




Above: Ruffed Grouse Standoff at Pigeon Lake.  
Photo: Steve Paul



Autumn colours. From top: Wilson Line in Cavan (Marilyn Hubley), staghorn sumac and wild grape at Ballyduff Trails (Joanne Sutherland), and woodlot at the Kidd farm (Cathy Douglas).

## PFN Coming Events

Due to COVID-19, participation in PFN outings is limited to members and preregistration is necessary. Numbers are limited for the safety of leaders and participants. Physical distancing is required and masks are recommended.

<p>Saturday, Nov. 7 1 to 4 p.m. 15 participants</p>	<p><b>KLT Christie Bentham Property Tour</b></p> <p>The Kawartha Land Trust is undertaking a special fundraising campaign to purchase the beautiful Christie Bentham Wetland property located south of Burleigh Falls. Also referred to as the Clear Lake North Wetland, its rare, undisturbed shoreline and wetlands contribute to the water quality of the surrounding lakes and provide valuable habitat to wildlife. In addition, there are lots of trails to explore in the adjacent forest. Normally, the lands KLT protects are donated but this unique property is for sale and is at risk of development. Therefore, a fundraising campaign has been launched for its purchase.</p> <p>Come experience this beautiful property with Patricia Wilson of KLT as she shows us why it is worth protecting. For those who can help, Patricia will have pledge forms with her.</p> <p>Members can email <a href="mailto:sueparadis@hotmail.com">sueparadis@hotmail.com</a> to register. Directions to our meeting place will then be provided to those who register. Bring binoculars and camera if you have one and dress according to the weather forecast of the day. Sturdy footwear is recommended. Due to COVID-19, physical distancing will be required, and masks recommended. Accessibility: easy to moderate</p>
<p>Thursday, Nov. 12 7:30 p.m. Virtual meeting on Zoom Invitations e-mailed to members</p>	<p><b>Monthly Meeting: The North Atlantic Right Whales</b></p> <p>Speaker: Cathy Merriman, Biologist, Department of Fisheries and Oceans</p> <p>Much of Cathy's work has focused on the north Atlantic right whale, first with WWF Canada, and now in her current role with the federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans. In her presentation she will talk about the biology and ecology of north Atlantic right whales, and their unfortunate history of interactions with humans. She will touch on how right whales came to be one of the most endangered large whale species in the world, with only about 400 remaining; how they are doing now; and what the future can look like for this fascinating species.</p> <p>Cathy Merriman earned her Master's Degree in Science at York University in Dr. Brock Fenton's bat lab. Working for World Wildlife Fund Canada in the last few years of the 20th century, Cathy traveled regularly to Atlantic Canada to visit endangered species projects, and to help establish the multi-stakeholder Right Whale Recovery Team. She relocated to Nova Scotia in 2002, where she has continued to work with many partners on right whale recovery.</p> 





## PFN Coming Events

<p>Sunday, Nov.15 1 to 4 p.m. 10 participants</p>	<p><b>Escape to the Forest - in the City</b></p> <p>There is a small forest on the campus of Fleming College that is truly a beauty. It consists mostly of mixed hardwoods with a stream flowing through a ravine. In spring it is carpeted with wildflowers. The woods have been undisturbed long enough that there are some good-sized trees, lots of snags and many old logs lying on the ground. Numerous well-maintained trails weave through the woodland and the meadow to the southwest. This is a good chance to learn how to access this wonderful spot so you can visit anytime. Sue Paradisis visits frequently and will lead this outing.</p> <p>Members can register and get directions on where to meet by emailing <a href="mailto:sueparadisis@hotmail.com">sueparadisis@hotmail.com</a>.</p> <p>Accessibility: Easy to moderate with some hilly spots.</p>
<p>Sunday, Nov. 22 1 to 4 p.m. 12 participants</p>	<p><b>Wave Riders of Rice Lake</b></p> <p>Join Martin Parker for this traditional Grey Cup afternoon exploration of sites along the northwestern shore of Rice Lake. We will be looking for the later migrating ducks and other birds. Highlights will be the rafts of ducks riding the waves of Rice Lake and the scenic vistas overlooking the lake. Bring binoculars, telescope if you have one, and wear clothes suitable for the weather forecast for the day. The trip will last until the late afternoon.</p> <p>Register in advance with Martin Parker at 705-745-4750 or <a href="mailto:mparker19@cogeco.ca">mparker19@cogeco.ca</a>.</p> <p>Accessibility: Easy</p>
<p>Sunday, Nov. 29 8 to 9:30 a.m. 10 participants</p>	<p><b>Beavermead Park - a City Birding Hotspot</b></p> <p>Expert birder Chris Risley will lead a birding walk around Beavermead, known as a prime Peterborough birding location. You will visit the beach, fields, campgrounds, Ecology Park and the bird feeders maintained by the PFN. The walking is easy on paths or grass. We should see a variety of land and waterbirds. The outing will last 1.5 hours.</p> <p>For meeting location and to register, members may contact Chris at <a href="mailto:risleych@gmail.com">risleych@gmail.com</a></p> <p>Accessibility: Easy</p>
<p>Tuesday, Dec. 1</p>	<p><b>Giving Tuesday</b></p> <p>See article further on for more information.</p>



Image by Selva Art



PFN Coming Events	
<p>Thursday, Dec. 3 7 p.m. Virtual meeting on Zoom Invitations e-mailed to members</p>	<p><b>Monthly Meeting: Member's Slideshow Night</b></p> <p>We are excited to announce that this year, despite the circumstances, we will continue the tradition of hosting a members' slideshow night. And as with our member's meetings, this too will be held over Zoom. Our members' night is currently scheduled for Thursday December 3rd at 7 pm. If you are interested in participating, please contact Reem Ali at reemest@hotmail.com. Reem will then email you with further details about preparing your slideshow and will schedule a test-run via Zoom with each participant closer to the day of the event. She will also provide you with logistical support during members' night. Please note that you will need to have your slideshow prepared and ready by November 23 in order to allow for enough time to schedule test-runs with all of the participants. We look forward to your participation and submissions and hope that you'll be able to join us then.</p> 
<p>Saturday December 5 10:00 a.m. 12 participants</p>	<p><b>World's Greatest Concentration of Gulls</b></p> <p>This is the Annual PFN day trip to the Niagara River, a designated Important Birding Area due to the variety and number of gulls which utilize the river in the late fall. More species can be observed in a day than anywhere else in the world. There will be thousands of gulls consisting of ten or more species. Besides the gulls there will be other waterbirds, and southern specialties such as Tufted Titmouse. The leader for this outing will be Martin Parker.</p> <p>Participants will meet on the banks of the Niagara River at 10 a.m. Due to COVID-19, you will need to arrange your own transportation for this event. The group will visit various locations along the gorge to look for gulls and other birds.</p> <p>Registered members for this trip will receive detailed meeting instructions and background information on the gulls of the Niagara River prior to the day. Register in advance with Martin Parker at 705 - 745-4750 or mparker19@cogeco.ca.</p> <p>Bring a packed lunch, binoculars, and telescope if you have one. A camera may be handy as well. Wear clothes suitable for the weather forecast for the Niagara River area for the day of this excursion. Accessibility: Easy</p>
<p>Sunday, Dec. 20</p>	<p><b>60<sup>th</sup> Peterborough Christmas Bird Count</b></p> <p>Reserve this date for the oldest citizen-science wildlife survey in Peterborough and an annual tradition for area birders and naturalists. Pre-registration with the count compiler Martin Parker (mparker19@cogeco.ca or 705-745-4750) is required in order to assemble parties in advance of the count day. More details will be provided in upcoming issues of The Orchid.</p> 

## Call for Nominees: Join the PFN Board!

The affairs of the Peterborough Field Naturalists are managed by twelve members who comprise the Board of Directors. We are looking for nominees to fill three vacancies. The term of service is three years.



If you are interested in serving on the Board, or would like to suggest a member who may be interested please contact Ted Vale at [tedandmarion@sympatico.ca](mailto:tedandmarion@sympatico.ca)

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## PFN Supports Protecting Carden Alvar With Cedarhurst Alvar Purchase

### Submitted by Martin Parker

The Carden Alvar supports some of the highest quality and most extensive alvar habitat on the planet. Annually, the PFN conducts a day outing to the alvar to see some of its distinctive fauna and flora: Upland Sandpiper, Loggerhead Shrike, and Prairie Smoke to name a few.

Last year there was a proposal to construct a major shooting range on a 551-hectare (1362 acre) parcel of land on Wylie Road. The PFN objected to the proposal. Fortunately for the protection of the Carden Alvar and its special flora and fauna, the Nature Conservancy of Canada has the opportunity to purchase this property, known as the Cedarhurst Alvar. This purchase will provide a protective corridor between the Carden Alvar Provincial Park to the south and NCC and Couchiching Conservancy lands northward to Queen Elizabeth Wildlands Provincial Park.

At its October meeting, the Board of the Peterborough Field Naturalists decided to donate \$1,000 to the NCC to assist with this purchase. This donation is made possible by the continued donations and generosity of the members of the PFN over the decades.

For more details on the Cedarhurst Alvar consult <https://www.natureconservancy.ca/en/where-we-work/ontario/featured-projects/cedarhurst-alvar.html>

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## What is Giving Tuesday?

### Submitted by PFN Board

Giving Tuesday is a global day of giving fueled by the power of social media and collaboration. Celebrated on the Tuesday following the widely-recognized shopping events Black Friday and Cyber Monday, Giving Tuesday celebrates the charitable season, when many people focus on their holiday and end-of-year giving.

On Giving Tuesday, December 1, think about giving to the Peterborough Field Naturalists. Annually, the members and supporters of the PFN contribute significantly to the PFN. The funds are used for some of the special initiatives of the PFN including the operation of the winter bird feeders at Ecology Park and the PFN Junior Field Naturalists. This year a contribution was also made to assist the Nature Conservancy of Canada to acquire a property in the globally significant Carden Alvar.

General donations can be made by:

- Mailing a cheque to the PFN, at P.O. Box 1532, Peterborough, K9J 7H7
- Making an on-line donation to the PFN through Canada Helps at <https://peterboroughnature.org/donate/>

**PFN Legacy Fund Donation:** You can also make a direct donation on-line to the PFN Legacy Fund which generates annual income to the PFN. This is in an Endowment Fund operated in accordance with CRA regulations. Currently this income is used for special youth education initiatives, citizen-science projects,

stewardship projects by members, and undergrad students to undertake studies about our flora and fauna. Donations to the PFN Legacy Fund can be made through the Community Foundation of Greater Peterborough at <https://cfgp.ca/project/peterborough-field-naturalists-legacy-fund/>

The Peterborough Field Naturalists, Canada Helps, and The Community Foundation of Greater Peterborough are all registered charities with the Canada Revenue Agency. You will receive a charitable donation receipt from the charity through which you direct your donation.

Create a new Christmas tradition by making a donation to the Peterborough Field Naturalists on Giving Tuesday.

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## Conservation Biology Student Looking for Sightings

**Submitted by Karina Bissonnette**

I am working on a conservation biology placement project with PFN. I am in my fourth year at Trent University and completing a dual major in biology and environmental science. The project I am working on is to create a comprehensive summary of the reptiles and amphibians of the county. To do this, I have been going through some records including sightings in the Orchid. I am very grateful for this opportunity because I have always loved the outdoors and have been hiking, fishing, herping and birding for most of my life in the county. There are some species where information is proving a little more difficult to find. These include mudpuppy, red backed salamander, spotted turtle, musk turtles and eastern hognose snakes. If anyone has any information about locations of local herps, especially those listed above, please contact me at [karinabissonnette@trentu.ca](mailto:karinabissonnette@trentu.ca).

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## Snowshoe Hare Project

**Submitted by Victoria Reimer**

I am an undergraduate student at Trent University working on a project concerning snowshoe hares. The project will use iNaturalist data to investigate when snowshoe hares' fur turns white in the fall and brown in the spring, and to determine the southern range limit for snowshoe hares in Ontario. In order to collect the data I need, I have created a project on iNaturalist where app users can post their sightings of snowshoe hares. They can find this project by searching "Ontario Snowshoe Hares" on the mobile app, or by following this link: <https://www.inaturalist.org/projects/ontario-snowshoe-hares>. Although I would like to receive any and all snowshoe hare photos submitted by app users, I am particularly interested in users' first sighting of white or molting hares for the season. I am reaching out to your group with the hope that you will spread the word about this iNaturalist project to your members, and encourage them to post any snowshoe hare sightings they have to the project. The more people I have participating, the more data I will have to work with, so I would greatly appreciate any assistance you can give me by spreading the word!

If you or any of your members have questions about my project, you can check out my website at <https://reimervictoria.wixsite.com/snowshoehare> for more information, or you can email me at [victoriareimer@trentu.ca](mailto:victoriareimer@trentu.ca). If any of your members are new to iNaturalist, they can visit <https://www.inaturalist.org/pages/getting+started> for help getting started with the app.

### Orchid submissions are encouraged!

The submission deadline for the next issue is Friday, November 20  
Send submissions to Kathryn Sheridan via email: [orchid@peterboroughnature.org](mailto:orchid@peterboroughnature.org)  
or post mail to: PFN, PO Box 1532, Peterborough ON K9J 7H7





## Nature Almanac for November

By Drew Monkman

Standard Time returns on Sunday, November 1, at 2:00 am. We turn our clocks back one hour. Sunrise on November 2 is at 6:51 AM and sunset at 5:02 PM for a total of only 10 hours and 7 minutes of daylight. This is one-third less daylight than the 15 and a half hours we enjoyed back in June!

Oaks, tamaracks and Silver Maples are about the only native deciduous trees that may retain their foliage in early November. Red Oaks stand out with particular prominence with their brownish-orange to sometimes burgundy-coloured leaves. At a glance, you are able to see just how common oaks are in many areas.

The antlers of buck white-tailed deer have now matured and hardened, and they are “in rut” – at the peak of their sexual readiness. Drive carefully. More collisions involving deer take place in late October and November than at any other time of year. When driving at dusk or after dark, watch for dark shadows along the side of the road and the bright green reflection of the deer’s eyes in your headlights. Slow down immediately. Deer are unpredictable when confronted with an automobile.

Coyotes are often heard in late fall. The coyotes of central Ontario are closely related to the eastern wolf (*Canis lycaon*) and the two species sometimes hybridize. All wolf-like animals of Peterborough County contain, to varying degrees, both coyote and eastern wolf genes.

Male great horned owls stake out breeding territories and become quite vocal.

The red berries of wetland species like Winterberry Holly and High-bush Cranberry provide some much needed November colour.

If you go for a woodland hike, watch for clusters of small, fan-shaped turkey tail fungi growing on logs or dead trees. These are one of our most attractive species.



Dryad's saddle mushroom. Photo: Steve Paul

frogsicles! Surprisingly, the ice does not harm the animal because it forms in the body cavities outside of the cells. Glycerol, acting as an antifreeze, inhibits freezing within the frog's cells.

Red-tailed Hawks, mainly from the boreal forest of northern Canada, migrate south into the United States. On a good day, hundreds can be seen flying along the north shore of Lake Ontario. Many central Ontario Red-tails are resident birds, however, and don't migrate.



Common Milkweed gone to seed.  
Photo: Steve Paul

Damp, decomposing leaves on the forest floor scent the November air. The smell of manure is often present, too, as farmers spread manure on their fields in the fall.

This is a great time of year to focus on several groups of plants of the forest floor that usually escape our attention. Evergreen ferns, club-mosses, and mosses stand out prominently against the brown leaf litter. Watch for wood fern, rock polypody fern, ground pine and ground cedar club-mosses, juniper moss, and fire moss.

With the onset of cold temperatures, Wood Frogs, Gray Treefrogs and Spring Peepers burrow down into the leaf litter of the forest floor and literally become small blocks of amphibian ice – in other words,



Ball-like swellings known as galls are easy to see on the stems of goldenrods. If you open the gall with a knife, you will find the small, white larva of the goldenrod gall fly inside. The larva spends the winter in this cozy enclosure. In the spring it will emerge as an adult fly.

The Pleiades (Seven Sisters) star cluster adorns the eastern sky, while Orion looms over the southeast. They both add interest to an evening's walk in late November.

## Outing Report for September 27: Ballyduff Trails

Submitted by Don McLeod

Ten members of the Peterborough Field Naturalists were happy and relieved to venture out for a walk at the Ballyduff Trails. Owned by Ralph McKim and Jean Garsonnin the property is under agreement with the Kawartha Land Trust which allows for people to access their trails. On this day there were beautiful fall colours and plenty of interesting nature observations.

Cathy Douglas kindly kept an eBird list during the walk. For the morning we tallied 25 species of birds and 144 individuals. Adding significantly to the total count were 61 Blue Jays which were part of a big migration taking place that day. Other highlights included good views of Red-breasted Nuthatch and



Ballyduff Trails group shot. Photo: Don McLeod



The entrance to a Burrowing Wolf Spider's burrow. Photo: Don McLeod

Eastern Phoebe. A few Warblers were also observed along with both species of Kinglets.

As usual during this nature walk, leader Don McLeod asked the group to look for burrows of *Geolycosa* sp., the Burrowing Wolf Spider. These burrows are 10mm to 15mm in diameter and have a turret of vegetation surrounding the burrow entrance. The last time we had seen these burrows was two years ago. Several vain attempts to find the burrows had



Young Eastern Milksnake. Photo: Don McLeod

taken place since then, so Don was just a bit excited when the group found a dozen. Even Cathy switched from her usual skyward gaze and looked to the ground for burrows!

Wildlife sign included a few tracks that were difficult to identify aside from a nice Coyote track, scat from Coyote and Striped Skunk and Hairy-tailed Mole mounds and tunnels. A Flying Squirrel tail was discovered on the trail, but no sign of the rest of the Squirrel! One other highlight for the day was a young Eastern Milksnake which was a first for several members.

## Outing Report for October 4: Former Millbrook Correctional Centre Property

Submitted by Lynn Smith

A dull, drizzly day greeted us at the entrance to the former Millbrook Correctional Centre property. This didn't surprise me, as my outings have often included rain, snow, sleet and/or hail! However, a little rain didn't deter the six enthusiastic participants who were determined to explore this area.

In 1957, the Millbrook Correctional Centre was built on top of a drumlin just outside of the village of Millbrook. For decades it was Ontario's only maximum-security facility. In 2003, the prison was closed and the inmate population was transferred to Lindsay's new super-jail. The building sat vacant until 2015 when it was demolished.

The future of this 106-acre property remains unclear. Kawartha Land Trust has expressed an interest in this property and has designated it as a "place of interest" on iNaturalist and a "hotspot" on eBird. Thus, our objective was to begin a flora and fauna species inventory using the iNaturalist and eBird apps.

Our group hiked through several habitats along well-travelled ATV trails including open field, meadow, cedar woods, an old gravel pit and a steep valley of mixed deciduous forest that led us down to a tributary of Baxter Creek.

We enjoyed the mix of pondering plant ID interspersed with focussing through binoculars for birds. An Eastern Cottontail scampered out of hiding so we could include a mammal on our species list.

Sixteen species of birds were identified bringing the total to 37 species to date for this property: Canada Goose, Mourning Dove, Ring-billed Gull, Hairy Woodpecker, Eastern Phoebe, Blue Jay, American Crow, Black-capped Chickadee, Golden-crowned Kinglet, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, White-breasted Nuthatch, Brown Creeper, European Starling, American Robin, Song Sparrow and my personal favourite... four Eastern Meadowlarks.

Twenty-seven species of plants have been submitted to iNaturalist and 21 of those have been identified, peer-reviewed and upgraded to research-grade status.

As our hike came to an end, the rain stopped and we scanned the lovely vista from the top of the drumlin. A great day was had by all!



Lynn Smith using iNaturalist to log flora and fauna. Photo: Cathy Douglas

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## Outing Report for October 18: Fall Nature on the Farm

Submitted by Martin Parker and Sue Paradisis

In the afternoon of Sunday, October 18, fifteen members of the PFN joined Bruce Kidd and Martin Parker for a walk around the fields and woodlots of the Kidd farm near Douro. It was a cloudy day but the group had fun kicking leaves in the woodlots, sampling some of the wild apples on the edge of one field and tapping ripe puffballs to watch the brown clouds of spores erupting from the puffballs.



PFN group at the Kidd farm. Photo: Cathy Douglas



Some members spent time identifying the various plants in the woodlots, examining the various varieties of goldenrod including Zigzag Goldenrod. Some marveled at the abundance of hepatica. Although only their leaves are visible now, in the spring there should be a good display of blooms.

Time was spent looking across the recently plowed field for American Pipits. These small brown birds blend in very well with the plowed ground but none were found in the field. However, a couple of fields further on, several were observed perched in a tree along with a small group of American Robins. More were flushed from the grassy field.



Martin Parker pointing at a profusion of Gypsy Moth egg masses. Photo: Cathy Douglas

As we travelled from field to field, we were treated to great views of the surrounding countryside still showing some good autumn colour.

The chatter and laughter between participants were appreciated by all. Many of the participants were interested in having a spring trip to the Kidd farm. At the end of the walk, the participants were treated to home-made cookies baked by Georgia Kidd. A great way to end the outing!

### Wishes for A White-tailed Deer

Oh, Dashing Doe, I wish you could see the autumn's fiery orange and red.  
With fewer cones and more rods, your retinas work better at night instead.  
By oval, diaphragm-like pupils and mirror-like tapeta lucida,  
The magnified light helps you find food, and avoid a predator's maw ...

In autumn your summer red is replaced by a dense, grey-brown cloak.  
Seek out fruit, Young One, herbs, and especially mast of beech and oak.  
You must eat well to increase your fat around organs, under your skin ...  
You never know what condition the coming winter may leave you in.

Ample fat reserves could help you through as your body burns less fuel,  
But winters when the snow comes early to sheltering deer yards are cruel.  
May winter ticks not infest and cause you to itch and rub your fur away ...  
I wish there were something I could do for you, but it's all in Nature's way.

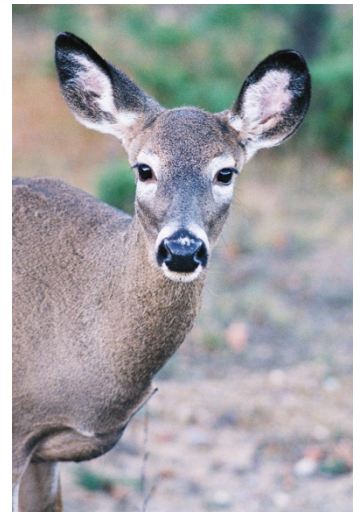


Photo: Murray Palmer

Murray Arthur Palmer, 2019



## 2020 Turtle Observations from the Jack Lake Area

### Excerpts from a report submitted by Steve Kerr of the Jack Lake Association

There are eight species of turtle in Ontario. Six of these species are found in the Jack Lake watershed (Table 1). All six of these species have been designated as species at risk.

**Table 1:** Federal and Provincial Designation of Turtles in Ontario

Species	Provincial Designation	Federal Designation
Blandings Turtle	Threatened	Endangered
Eastern Musk Turtle	Special Concern	Special Concern
Midland Painted Turtle	Not Listed (Yet to be Assessed)	Special Concern
Northern Map Turtle	Special Concern	Special Concern
Snapping Turtle	Special Concern	Special Concern
Spotted Turtle	Endangered	Endangered

The first turtle observations from Jack Lake were recorded in 1987 (Table 2). In 2014, a more concerted effort was initiated to collect more information on turtle distribution and abundance in the Jack Lake area (see Kerr 2016, 2017, 2018 and 2019).

**Table 2:** Turtle Observations from the Jack Lake Area, 1987- 2020

Year	# of Participants	Blanding's Turtle	Eastern Musk Turtle	Midland Painted Turtle	Northern Map Turtle	Snapping Turtle	Spotted Turtle	Unidentified
1987	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
1988	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-
1994	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
1999	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
2007	-	1	-	1	-	2	-	-
2008	-	1	-	1	-	2	-	-
2009	-	1	-	8	-	2	-	-
2010	-	4	-	8	-	-	-	-
2011	-	3	-	3	-	-	-	-
2012	-	2	-	2	-	5	-	-
2013	-	1	-	7	-	5	-	-
2014	5	2	-	32	-	12	-	-
2015	6	3	-	58	-	20	-	-
2016	17	5	-	14	-	16	-	-
2017	31	6	-	60	2	21	-	-
2018	33	7	-	43	6	34	-	1
2019	30	11	1	51	4	17	1	3
2020	20	4	1	48	3	13	0	1
<b>Total</b>		<b>51</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>338</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>

A total of 70 individual turtles were reported during the 2020 season. The majority of turtle observations occurred during the nesting period in May and June (Table 3). The first turtle observation was reported on April 25. Perhaps one of the most significant observations in 2020 was a report of 18 midland painted turtles basking in the Centre Bay area on May 3. At least ten turtles were reportedly moved off a road in 2020.

**Table 3:** Temporal Distribution of 2020 Turtle Sightings in the Jack Lake Area

<b>Turtle Species</b>	<b>April</b>	<b>May</b>	<b>June</b>	<b>July</b>	<b>August</b>	<b>Sept-Oct.</b>	<b>Total</b>
Blandings Turtle	0	2	2	0	0	0	<b>4</b>
Eastern Musk Turtle	0	1	0	0	0	0	<b>1</b>
Midland Painted Turtle	1	23	19	4	1	0	<b>48</b>
Northern Map Turtle	0	3	0	0	0	0	<b>3</b>
Snapping Turtle	0	2	9	1	1	0	<b>13</b>
Spotted Turtle	0	0	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
Unknown	0	0	1	0	0	0	<b>1</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>70</b>

## From the Archives

### Submitted by Martin Parker

From *The Evening Examiner*, Peterborough, Friday, December 9, 1921:

#### AUDUBON SOCIETY PAYS FINE TRIBUTE TO F.L. ROY'S ART

#### GIVES FIRST PLACE TO ONE OF HIS PHOTOGRAPHS IN CALENDAR OF 1922

The frontispiece of the 1922 calendar of the Audubon Society of Buffalo is a reproduction of a photograph taken by Fred L. Roy of a nest of Great Blue Heron young at Sucker Lake in Cavendish Township. (Fred was Peterborough Rotary Club's founding president.) Most persons in Peterborough remember the pictures of the cranery [*sic*] which he exhibited in the windows of the Roy Studio a little more than a year ago.

With what must have demanded a great deal of pains and presented no little difficulty, Mr. Roy obtained a sheaf of photographs, one of which was chosen by the Buffalo branch of the Audubon Society, an organization of bird lovers, for their cover design. It shows a gaunt limb of a withered tree, and in the horizontal fork half way out the limb, a pair of Great Blue Herons had tumbled together their rough and ready nest. The photograph shows two young herons on the nest, apparently with their attention fixed upon the photographer, who must have climbed a nearby tree to get the range and a desirable level.

At the request of the society, Mr. Roy submitted seven photographs, and two of them were used. This is high distinction for Mr. Roy, especially when it is understood that only seven photographs were required and chosen to illustrate the calendar.

The second one of Mr. Roy's to win preference is the nest of a loon on the shore of Gull Lake Narrows. The loon is something of a recluse among waterfowl, and its nest is rarely found. In fact, it does not make a nest after the fashion of other birds, but picks out a damp patch of shore, pats down a nesting place, lays its eggs and manages to bring up its family in the nearby water, without being forced to the trouble of building an apartment such as the blue heron clumsily constructs.

Mr. Roy's many friends will congratulate him upon this recognition of his meritorious work by a society that is exceedingly discriminating in its search for the best photographic revelations of intimate bird life in America. Not only has Mr. Roy exceptional talents and abilities in his art, but he has the instincts of the nature lover, a combination that gives his scenic work a touch of genius in this department of photography.

*Note from Martin Parker: The above article was located by Frances Gravel while doing research on the book celebrating the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Peterborough Rotary Club. Currently there is a display of Mr. Roy's photographs and diary at the Peterborough Centennial Museum and Archives.*

## Canadian Bat Box Project

Submitted by Karen Vanderwolf

*If you have a bat box I want to know about it!*

Bats in Canada face multiple threats from habitat loss and disease. As towns and cities expand, the large old trees that bats call home are being cleared, and bats are losing their roosts. Bats need a warm and secure place to roost during the day in the summer. A bat box is a simple and effective way to provide additional roosting habitat for bats, but little is known about bat box use in Canada. This especially important as three bat species in Canada are listed as endangered:

little brown bats, northern long-eared bats, and tricolored bats. Bats now face additional persecution due to worries about COVID-19, but bats in North America do not have the virus that causes COVID-19 ([cwf-fcf.org/en/about-cwf/faq/faqs/should-i-be-worried-bats.html?src=blog](http://cwf-fcf.org/en/about-cwf/faq/faqs/should-i-be-worried-bats.html?src=blog)).

### Which bat species use bat boxes?

Of the 18 bat species that are regularly found in Canada, 13 have been documented using bat boxes, although these data come from studies farther south in the United States. Current recommendations on bat box design are based on research in the United States, especially Texas, and in Europe. Since the box design that bats prefer varies by region and species, more information on bat boxes in Canada is urgently needed. There is very little previous research about which bat species prefer which bat box designs in Canada. Little brown bats are known to use bat boxes throughout Canada, big brown bats use boxes in some parts of Canada, and Yuma bats use boxes in British Columbia.

### How you can help!

Our research seeks to determine which bat species use bat boxes across Canada, what box designs are preferred by bats, and which temperatures bats prefer for roosting in our northern climate. To accomplish this, we need to know where bat boxes are located in Canada, the physical characteristics of the boxes, and whether they are being used by bats. Participants will be sent temperature loggers to install in their box and supplies to collect guano (bat poop), as bat species can be identified from guano.

If you have a bat box and would like to participate in this study, please fill out this online multiple-choice survey with questions about your bat box: [trentu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_86og8C3MIgO2ff7](https://trentu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_86og8C3MIgO2ff7)

This project is in partnership with the Wildlife Conservation Society and the Canadian Wildlife Federation: [wcsbats.ca/Our-work-to-save-bats/Batbox-Project/BatBox-Project-Canada-wide](http://wcsbats.ca/Our-work-to-save-bats/Batbox-Project/BatBox-Project-Canada-wide)

More information about which box designs bats use in Canada will help bat conservation by providing recommendations for improving bat box design and placement in our northern climate.

### Why install a bat box?

Installing a bat box gives bats an alternative to roosting in your house, and since all bats in Canada eat only insects, you may even notice a decrease in the insect population around your house! Bats eat a variety of insects, including agricultural and forestry pests. You can watch bats swooping around your backyard at dusk catching insects in midair.

### How do I tell if bats are using my box?

You can tell whether your box is being used by bats by searching for guano underneath your box and watching your box at sunset in June to count bats as they emerge for an evening of eating insects. You can watch an example of bats flying out of bat boxes in Prince Edward Island here: [www.youtube.com/watch?v=NqZbyjhC0XI&feature=youtu.be](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NqZbyjhC0XI&feature=youtu.be)



Little brown bats in a bat box in the Maritimes. Photo: Jordi Segers.



You can also shine a light up into the box during the day to see if there are bats inside from May to October in Canada. The boxes will be too cold for bats during the winter.

### How do I get bats to use my box?

Not all bat boxes will be occupied in the first year after installation. Occupancy depends on many factors, ranging from the period in which it was installed to the fact that bats are very selective and might need a little time to familiarize themselves with your bat box. There are no lures or attractants, such as guano, that can attract bats to a bat box, although larger bat boxes with multiple chambers more commonly attract bats than smaller boxes.

Bat boxes are most successful when attached to houses or poles as opposed to trees. Trees shade the box and can block access to the box entrance. If bats are not using your box after two years, try moving the bat box to a new location.

Like tree hollows, bat boxes need to have temperatures that bats like. Bats like hot temperatures, but even in Canada some bat boxes get too hot during the summer, which can increase bat mortality. Temperatures of over 40°C in bat boxes is too hot, and temperatures in some bat boxes in Canada have been recorded over 50°C!

Our research group measures the temperature inside bat boxes using temperature loggers that can take a reading every hour over the whole summer. One way to ensure that bats can choose their preferred roosting temperature is to install multiple bat boxes as they will vary in temperature depending on how much direct sunlight they receive.



This bat box on the side of a house in New Brunswick houses little brown bats and their pups during the summer. Photo: Karen Vanderwolf

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## Steve's Swan Sightings

### Submitted by Steve Paul

Most swans have left their home ponds and are on the move to their wintering grounds. Trumpeter Swans are the largest native waterfowl in North America, and they are the easiest to see because they are so big. This October, there have been Trumpeter sightings reported on Sturgeon Lake, Pigeon Lake, Chemong Lake, Lindsay Sewage Lagoons, Omemee Sewage Lagoons, Brian Hill Bird Sanctuary, and Norwood Millpond. If you happen to see large yellow tags (with black letters or numbers) on their wings, please record the tag information and reach out to me, as various groups track where they travel across Canada and the U.S.A. Let me know if you have any questions, and I am happy to report sightings on your behalf. My email address is [stevepaul70@gmail.com](mailto:stevepaul70@gmail.com)



Trumpeter Swans in Peterborough on August 8. Photo: Steve Paul

Tundra Swans have been seen flying through our area, and can be confused for Trumpeters. They are slightly smaller in size, tend to fly in larger groups, and if you can get a good look them, you may see a yellow teardrop near the eye. Review sites like eBird or All About Birds for visual references and audio recordings. You should be able to distinguish them by sound as they are flying over. There has been one sighting of a Mute Swan family at the Lakefield Marsh in October. They are also large waterfowl, but they have an orange bill with a big, black knob on it. The bill should be easy to spot with binoculars.



## The Orchid Diary



A summary of noteworthy observations by PFN members and others in the Peterborough region.

Please submit your interesting observations to Martin Parker  
at mparker19@cogeco.ca or phone 705-745-4750

The COVID-19 pandemic eliminated many outings and all in-person meetings, and reduced the sharing of information on our natural heritage.	
Sept 24	<p>Olivia Maillet &amp; Andrew Brown had a <b>Spotted Sandpiper</b> at Meadowvale Park.</p> <p>A <b>Black-bellied Plover</b> was still present at the airport pond by Matthew Tobey &amp; Dave Milsom.</p> <p>Bill Crins &amp; Natasha Carr-Morrill had 3 <b>Lesser Yellowlegs</b> at Otonabee Gravel Pits CA and <b>Northern Waterthrush</b> in Beavermead Park.</p> <p>A late departing <b>Warbling Vireo</b> was spotted in Peterborough by Mitchell Gardiner.</p> <p>Marilyn Hubley had the <b>Least Bittern</b> in Cunningham Blvd Stormwater Pond.</p>
Sept 25	<p>A <b>Horned Grebe</b> was spotted on Little Lake by Daniel Williams.</p> <p>Jess Daze had a <b>Common Nighthawk</b> at Rotary Park, Peterborough.</p> <p>A late departing <b>Great Crested Flycatcher</b> was in Peterborough by Scott Kendall and another in Harper Park by Connor Thompson.</p> <p>Hendrique Pacheco &amp; Hannah Dodington had 2 <b>Cackling Geese</b> in the City.</p> <p>Dave Milsom had an <b>Olive-sided Flycatcher</b> at Meadowvale Park.</p> <p>Bill Bowman, Steve Paul &amp; Dave Milsom had 2 <b>Least Bitterns</b> in Cunningham Blvd Stormwater Pond.</p>
Sept 26	<b>Black-crowned Night Heron</b> was still present in Rotary Park by several observers.
Sept 27	<p>In the Otonabee Gravel Pit CA, a number of observers reported the presence of a <b>Least Sandpiper</b>, 4 <b>Lesser Yellowlegs</b> &amp; 1 <b>Solitary Sandpiper</b>.</p> <p>Ben Taylor and others had a <b>Solitary Sandpiper</b> at Cold Lake, Kawartha Highlands Park.</p> <p>Travis Cameron had a <b>Northern Goshawk</b> over his home south of Lakefield.</p>
Sept 28	<p>Cathy Douglas had a late departing <b>Yellow Warbler</b> on the east shore of Pigeon Lake.</p> <p>Luke Berg had a <b>Grasshopper Sparrow</b> in the Trent Nature Area.</p> <p>Jerry Ball had a <b>Nashville Warbler</b> on the Lang-Hastings Trail, Cameron to Cty Rd 38.</p>
Sept 29	<p>A <b>Wilson's Warbler</b> was in Riverview Park &amp; Zoo by Andrew Brown &amp; Olivia Maillet.</p> <p>Mike V.A. Burrell had a <b>Black-billed Cuckoo</b> at his home east of the City.</p>
Sept 30	<p>A late departing <b>Least Flycatcher</b> &amp; <b>Wilson's Warbler</b> was seen in Off-leash Dog Park, Peterborough by Hannah Dodington &amp; Henrique Pacheco.</p> <p>Another <b>Least Flycatcher</b> was seen in Bear Creek Woods by David Britton.</p> <p>Ben Taylor had a late departing <b>Chestnut-sided Warbler</b> in Rotary Park, Peterborough.</p> <p>Andrew Brown and Olivia Maillet had <b>Yellow Warbler</b> &amp; 2 <b>Wilson's Warblers</b> at Riverside Park &amp; Zoo.</p> <p>Bill Crins had a <b>Chestnut-sided Warbler</b> in Beavermead Park.</p>
Oct 1	<p>Dave Milsom had a <b>Blackburnian Warbler</b> in the Thompson Bay area of the Trent Canal.</p> <p>Iain Rayner had a <b>Philadelphia Vireo</b> in his yard south of Lakefield.</p> <p>Daniel William had a <b>Cackling Goose</b> on Little Lake.</p>
Oct 2	<p>Matthew Tobey &amp; Dave Milsom had 8 <b>Snow Geese</b> off Sandy Point, Pigeon Lake.</p> <p>Cathy Douglas had 16 <b>Snow Geese</b> at Lock 19.</p> <p>A late <b>Barn Swallow</b> was at the Lakefield Lagoon by Travis Cameron.</p> <p>Along Airport Road, Matthew Tobey &amp; Dave Milsom had a <b>Solitary Sandpiper</b>.</p> <p>Ian Sturdee had a late <b>Chestnut-sided Warbler</b> at Cordova Lake.</p> <p>Dave Britton observed a <b>Fox Sparrow</b> in Beavermead Park.</p>

Oct 3	At a yard east of Peterborough, Mike V.A. Burrell, Erica Barkley & Brian Barkley had a late <b>Philadelphia Vireo</b> , a <b>Solitary Sandpiper</b> and a flyover of 30 <b>Brant</b> . Luke Berg had a <b>Broad-winged Hawk</b> along the Lang-Hastings Trail: Villiers to Blezard.
Oct 4	Luke Berg had a <b>Blackburnian Warbler</b> in the Trent Nature Area. Travis Cameron had a late <b>Barn Swallow</b> at the Lakefield Lagoon (also present previous day) Andrew Brown & Olivia Maillet had a late <b>Wilson's Warbler</b> at Riverview Park & Zoo. Matthew Tobey & Dave Milsom had a <b>Short-eared Owl</b> at Blind Channel, Pigeon Lake.
Oct 5	Peter Simons had a <b>Northern Parula</b> & <b>American Redstart</b> along Beaver Lane, Selwyn.
Oct 6	Luke Berg had a late <b>American Redstart</b> in the Trent Nature Area (also present previous day)
Oct 7	A <b>Semipalmated Plover</b> was still present on the Yankee Line Pond (west of Chemong Lake Causeway) by Connor Thompson.
Oct 9	Don McLeod photographed a dead <b>Virginia Opossum</b> on Frank Hill Road just north of Fowlers Corners.
Oct 13	A very late <b>Barn Swallow</b> was located at the Lakefield Lagoon by Steve Paul & Travis Cameron on this date -- seen by many observers until Oct 18. Jerry Ball had a <b>Redhead</b> in a mixed flock of ducks off the Fotheringill Causeway.
Oct. 14	Henrique & Hannah Dodington had a <b>Pectoral Sandpiper</b> at Otonabee Gravel Pits CA. Parker Dirks had a late <b>Spotted Sandpiper</b> on Rathburn Lake, Kawartha Highlands. Cathy Douglas & Marilyn Hubley had a <b>Black-throated Blue Warbler</b> at the former Millbrook Correction Centre.
Oct 16	Two <b>Blue-winged Teal</b> were found in the Lakefield Marsh by Ben Taylor & Chris Risley. Matthew Tobey & Dave Milsom had a <b>Black Scoter</b> on Pigeon Lake off Timberline Rd. Ian Rainer had a <b>Pine Warbler</b> in his yard near Lakefield.
Oct 17	Bill Crins & Natasha Carr-Morrill had a late <b>Black-throated Green Warbler</b> along the Trans Canada Trail in Valleyview Drive area. Daniel Williams had a late Osprey at Sandy Point, Pigeon Lake. Marilyn Hubley & Jane Towes went night banding with Chris Risley at the Trent U. Oliver property on Pigeon Lake and banded 7 <b>Northern Saw-whet Owls</b> and observed 1 <b>Barred Owl</b> .
Oct 17 & 18	Up to four <b>Blue-winged Teal</b> were present on the Lakefield Lagoon and seen by many observes on these two days. Still present on Oct 27 by Ben Taylor.
Oct 18	Iain Rayner & Matthew Gavin had a <b>Cattle Egret</b> flying over the Lakefield Lagoons.
Oct 19	Ken Abraham had a <b>Cackling Goose</b> on Little Lake. Iain Rayner observed a large flock of mixed shorebirds pass over his house south of Lakefield. There were 34 <b>Dunlin</b> along with some Greater Yellowlegs and smaller unidentified shorebirds. Luke Berg had a <b>Golden Eagle</b> pass over his yard in the City. Matthew Tobey & Dave Milsom had a <b>Northern Goshawk</b> on West Eel's Lake Rd. Luke Berg had an <b>Orange-crowned Warbler</b> in the Trent Nature Area - also present the next day Travis Cameron had a <b>Nashville Warbler</b> at his home near Lakefield. Daniel William had another <b>Nashville Warbler</b> in the Maria St area, Peterborough. A <b>Black-throated Green Warbler</b> was located in the buffer along Medical Drive by Michael Fazackerley.
Oct 20	Luke Berg had a <b>Tennessee Warbler</b> & 2 <b>Nashville Warblers</b> in the Trent Nature Area. Jeff Stewart had a <b>Nashville Warbler</b> in the Millbrook area.
Oct 21	Connor Thompson had 4 <b>Cackling Geese</b> in the Landfill Pond. Travis Cameron had 3 <b>Black Scoters</b> & an <b>Osprey</b> at the Lakefield Marsh. Luke Berg had a <b>Long-eared Owl</b> in the Trent Nature Area.



	Bill Crins & Natasha Carr-Morrill had an <b>Eastern Phoebe</b> at the Otonabee Gravel Pits CA. Luke Berg had a <b>Gray Catbird</b> in his yard in the City. Connor Thompson had a <b>Palm Warbler</b> at the Otonabee Gravel Pits CA. Dolan Bohnert had a <b>Black-throated Green Warbler</b> in his yard in Peterborough.
Oct 22	Dave Milsom had 5 <b>American Golden Plovers</b> at the Lakefield Lagoon. While on scouting trip to Clear Lake North wetland, Cathy Douglas & others located a flock of 8 <b>Fox Sparrows</b> .
Oct 23	Scott Gibson had 4 <b>Black Scoters</b> on Pigeon Lake (Gannon's Narrows/Big Island area). Matthew Tobey & Dave Milsom had 4 <b>Black Scoters</b> , 3 <b>Red-necked Grebes</b> & 1 <b>Eastern Phoebe</b> at Sandy Point, Pigeon Lake and another 4 <b>Black Scoters</b> & 3 <b>Red-necked Grebes</b> off Timberlane Road, Pigeon Lake. Marilyn Hubley had an <b>Eastern Phoebe</b> at Edgewater, Cavan. Jeff Stewart had 2 <b>Eastern Phoebes</b> near Millbrook.
Oct 24	Iain Rayner had 13 <b>Snow Geese</b> & 1 <b>Golden Eagle</b> pass over his yard south of Lakefield. Matthew Tobey, Brian Wales & Dave Milsom were birding at Nephton Ridge and observed 528 <b>Brant</b> in three flocks (counted birds from photos), 3 <b>Cackling Goose</b> , 5 <b>American Golden Plover</b> , 1 <b>Northern Goshawk</b> , and 2 <b>Red-shouldered Hawks</b> . Dan Chronowic had a <b>Red-necked Grebe</b> on Little Lake. Sarah McGuire had a <b>Carolina Wren</b> east of Hastings. Ian Sturdee had an <b>Orange-crowned Warbler</b> at Cordova Lake.
Oct 25	A <b>Cackling Goose</b> was in the Briar Hill Bird Sanctuary pond by Cathy Douglas. Mike V.A. Burrell had a <b>Red-shouldered Hawk</b> over his yard on Douro 8 <sup>th</sup> Line. An <b>Eastern Towhee</b> was found at the western end of Kerry Line, Ennismore area by Bronwyn Harkness, Gill Holmes. Sarah Bonnett & Connor Thompson.


PFN Board of Directors				Other Volunteers	
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Peterborough Field Naturalists, P.O. Box 1532, Peterborough, Ontario, K9J 7H7					



*The Nuthatch, with black cap, white face, and white breast, will fly to a tree and descend head-first. You will know them by their nasal Yank-Yank.*

**Nuthatch Nibble**

Raw beef suet  
1 cup popcorn  
2 cups bread crumbs  
1 cup sunflower seeds  
1 tsp. sand for grit



Combine 1 cup popcorn, 2 cups bread crumbs, and 1 cup sunflower seeds in medium-size bowl and set aside. After putting suet through meat grinder, melt it down in a double boiler. Remove from heat and allow to harden slightly. Reheat and while in liquid form, pour 1½ cups over dry ingredients. Sprinkle with 1 tsp. sand. Stir mixture with a fork until well-coated. Spoon onto a sixteen-inch-long piece of wax paper. Bring paper up around suet, pressing to form a ball. Refrigerate until firm. Place in netted suet bag.

Some of the birds one may see at the feeders at this time of year. Clockwise from top left: Red-breasted Nuthatch, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Blue Jays with crops full of nuts and seeds, and Downy Woodpecker. Photos: Marilyn Hubley

Left: Recipe from *My Recipes are for the Birds* by Irene Cosgrove

# Membership Application Form

Memberships may be obtained by mailing this completed form to:

Peterborough Field Naturalists  
PO Box 1532  
Peterborough Ontario K9J 7H7



**PETERBOROUGH FIELD NATURALISTS**

## Contact Information:

Name(s):	Phone(s):
Address:	Email(s):

I would like to receive The Orchid by (Pick One): ☐ Mail Delivery ☐ E-Mail ☐ Both

## Membership type and fee schedule:

**Notice:** Membership fees provide only a small part of the funds required to operate the Peterborough Field Naturalists. Donations from members like you help us offer a diverse range of programming for everyone. Please consider including a donation with your membership so that we can continue to serve you and the Peterborough community. **Please make cheques payable to Peterborough Field Naturalists.**

I have included a donation with my membership fees:  
☐ Yes or ☐ No      If Yes amount: \$\_\_\_\_\_

1. Single Adult \$25 ☐    2. Single Student \$15 ☐    3. Single Child (5 – 12) \$10 ☐    4. Family \$30\* ☐

**\*Please give the names and ages of children wishing to enroll in the Junior Field Naturalists:**

Name:	Age:	Name:	Age:

## ◀◀ New Member Information ▶▶

### Main interests:

- |  |  |                                  |
|--|--|----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Natural Environment | <input type="checkbox"/> Reptiles and Amphibians | <input type="checkbox"/> Botany  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Birds               | <input type="checkbox"/> Aquatic Life            | <input type="checkbox"/> Geology |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Insects             | <input type="checkbox"/> Astronomy               | <input type="checkbox"/> Mammals |
| Other: _____                                 |  |                                  |

### How do you hope to participate:

- ☐ Outings  
☐ Citizen Science  
☐ Meetings  
☐ Junior Naturalists

## Volunteers are always needed. Do you have interest in any of these activities:

- |  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Join the PFN board          | <input type="checkbox"/> Sit on research or conservation committees | <input type="checkbox"/> Help with the Orchid publication |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Assist with meetings        | <input type="checkbox"/> Work on field projects                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Lead an outing                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Help the Junior Naturalists | <input type="checkbox"/> Give a presentation                        |   |

## Liability Waiver (New and Returning Members):

In consideration of the Peterborough Field Naturalists (PFN) accepting this application, I hereby for myself, my heirs, executors, administrators and assigns forever release and discharge the PFN, their officers, directors, servants and agents from any liability whatsoever arising from my participation in PFN activities, whether by reason of negligence of the PFN or its representatives, or otherwise. I affirm that I am in good health, capable of performing the exercise required for field trips or other activities in which I participate, and accept as my personal risk the hazards of such participation. As a member of the PFN and/or as a parent / guardian of a member under 18 years of age, I have read and understood the above, and accept its term on behalf of all my underage children

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_