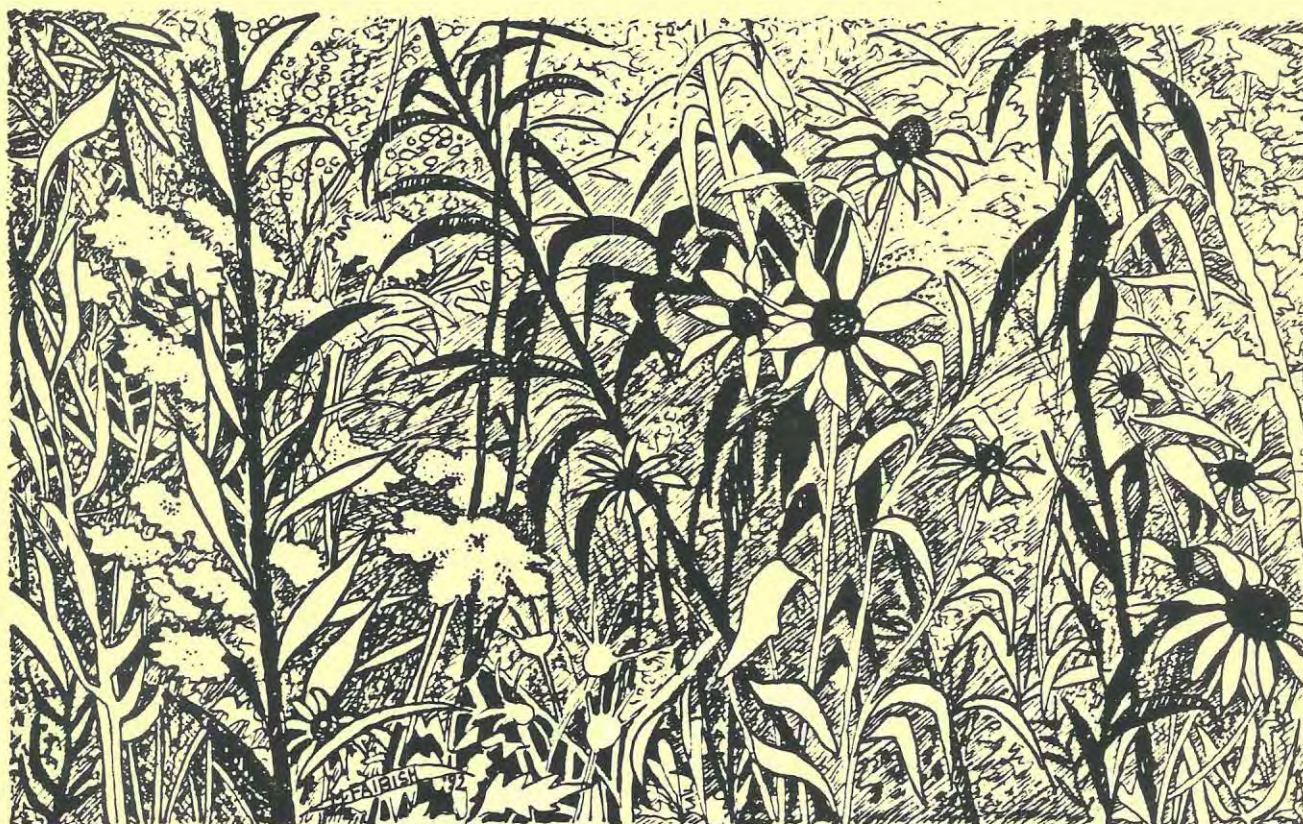


# TORONTO FIELD NATURALIST

Number 436

May 1993



Warden Woods Park Meadow

by Miriam Faibish

## Inside

Amphibians & reptiles 9,26,29  
Birds 4,5,6,7,15-16,17,18  
Coming events 24-25  
Fish 9  
Invertebrates 3,19,35  
Issues 3,8,9,10,11,12,13-14  
Mammals 9  
Mushrooms 8  
Plants 1,2,7,9,12,17,18,19,20,28,38  
Projects 10

TFN - meetings 2  
Nature Information Centre 39  
Newsletter report 5  
Newsletter submissions 20  
Nominating Committee Report 4  
Outings 26-38  
Outings report 5  
President's report 3  
Renewal notice 39  
Trees 23,27  
Weather 21-23

## TFN MEETINGS

Sunday, May 2, 1993 - THE DEVELOPMENT OF TORONTO AND THE REFLECTION OF NATURE IN ITS BUILDINGS

at 2:30 pm

in the Northrop Frye Hall  
Victoria University

73 Queen's Park Cres. East

- an illustrated lecture by Ed Freeman, Precambrian Geoscientist with the Ontario Geological Survey

- The development of Toronto over the past one billion years, with emphasis on the processes creating today's city site, will be discussed.

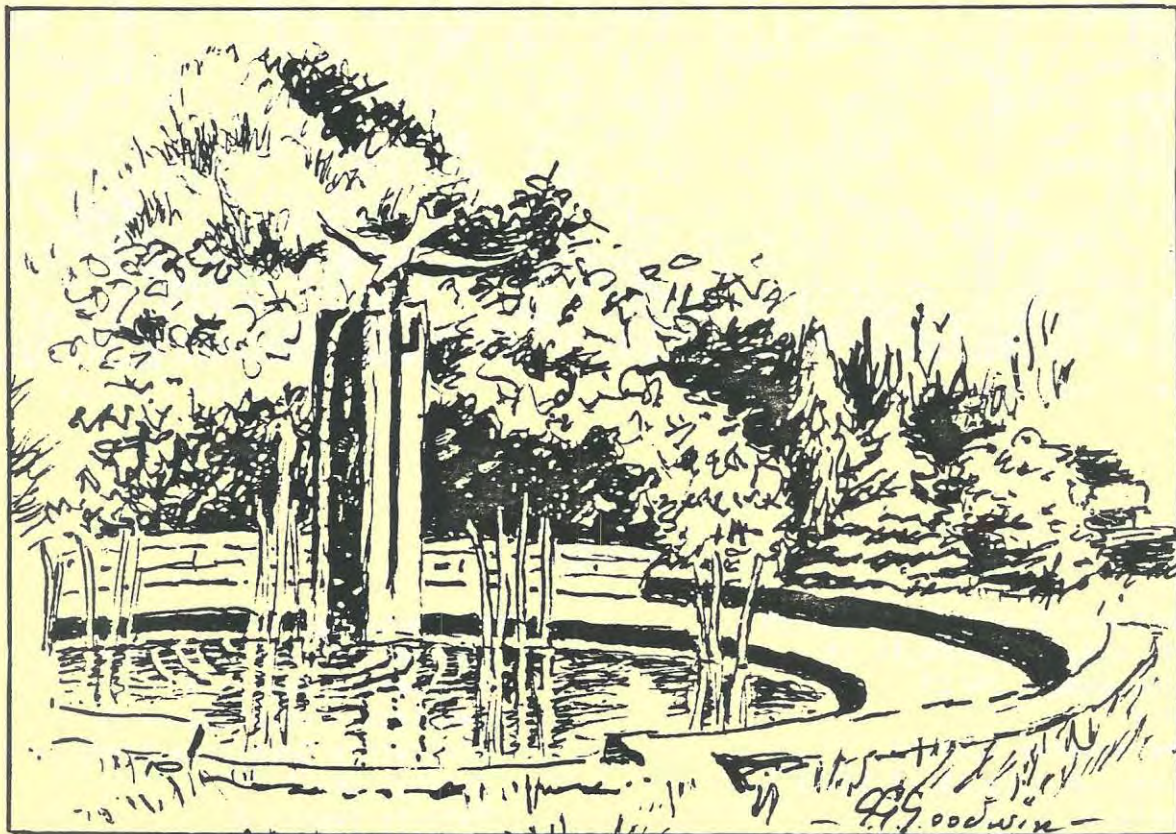
A visual tour of some downtown buildings will show how nature has been incorporated within them.

+ TFN memberships and publications will be for sale from 2 pm to 4 pm.

+ TFN memberships can be RENEWED both before and after the meeting. SEE RENEWAL FORM ON PAGE 39.

+ coffee and juice will be available outside the lecture hall during the "social hour", starting at 2 pm.

NEXT MEETING: Sunday, September 12, 1993



CASSELS GARDEN features this lily-pond and fountain with gull drawn by Geraldine Goodwin on the occasion of a TFN Nature Arts outing. The weather on June 1, 1991, sunny and 26°C, was suitable for outdoor sketching, photography, tree-viewing in York Cemetery, and bobolink-watching in the cemetery's meadow.

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Our thanks to the 65 TFN members who have volunteered their time at the TFN Nature Information Centre (see page 39 ) for the coming season, from May 2 until October 10. Almost every date has enough volunteers!

Many letters were received at the TFN office during March: notices of meetings, requests for information from government departments, replies to our concerns, thanks for time and information, and studies to be read. Here are only a few examples.

We received an answer to our letter of concern on the pollution of Taylor Creek in Warden Woods (featured in the February newsletter). Helen Juhola and Eva Davis will visit the site soon with a co-ordinator on water quality from the Scarborough Works Department.

A friendly letter came from Alan Tonks, Metro Chairman, reassuring us that the Heritage Quilt which has been loaned to other organizations for viewing will be returned permanently to Metro Hall. Mr. Tonks says its display there will be "a significant step in making Metro Hall a more people-friendly place".

Thanks were received for Helen Juhola's submission of names of individuals interested in Glen Stewart Ravine. Eva Davis and Fred Bodsworth later attended a community meeting on the topic, where Fred's eloquent speech did much to further the cause of the ravine (see page 11).

Information was received about the formation of a Sherwood Park Advisory Committee to assist in the preservation of the natural heritage of Sherwood Park in North Toronto. Gavin Miller (with Helen Juhola as an alternate) will represent our club on this committee.

The Metro Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (MTRCA) sent information on the revised Master Plan of Tommy Thompson Park which has been submitted to the Ontario Ministry of the Environment for approval. Jean Macdonald, a past president, is our representative on this issue.

You might also be interested to know that our TFN outing to Glendon on Feb. 27 was written up in the York University Gazette; the March 17 edition.

This is the last newsletter for this season. If you renew (see page 39), and we hope you will, you will receive your next newsletter in mid-August (the September issue). I wish you all a happy summer and hope you all have lots of good bird sightings and find many opportunities to increase your knowledge of natural history.

Joan Patterson

□

### SUMMER WARFARE

To stride through the tall grasses  
is to trigger detonations:  
Minefields of tiny grasshoppers  
erupting before one's feet.

Eva Davis

REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The Nominating Committee, chaired by Eileen Mayo, recommends the following slate of nominees to the Board for the 1993-94 year:

President:	Joan Patterson
Vice President:	Joan O'Donnell
Immediate Past President:	Eileen Mayo
Directors due to retire in 1994:	Eva Davis Helen Juhola Tracy Butler
Directors due to retire in 1995:	Alexander Cappell Nancy Fredenburg Aarne Juhola
Directors due to retire in 1996:	Allan Greenbaum Karin Fawthrop Ken Cook

TFN by-law No. 1, Section 5(g) provides that "any three members may submit, in writing, to the Secretary Treasurer by July 15th the name of a candidate accompanied by the written consent of the nominee. Such nominations shall be published in the September issue of the newsletter and the names of such nominees shall be added to the list of candidates submitted by the Nominating Committee". The Secretary-Treasurer is Aarne Juhola, 112 - 51 Alexander St., Toronto, Ont. M4Y 1B3.

According to TFN by-law No. 1, Section 5(b), "If an election is required, it shall be by ballot mailed to all members. Ballots may be mailed to the auditor or deposited at the Annual General Meeting prior to the commencement of the meeting. The ballots will be tabulated by the auditor who shall announce the results".

Eileen Mayo, Chairman  
Nominating Committee

□

FIRST FLIGHT

Tiny perfect chickadee  
flutters over my head,  
an almost-perfect landing  
in the cedar.  
Holds tight,  
wings aflutter.  
Feed me, feed me,  
what a good bird am I!

Hazel Harvey

## FROM THE NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE

We've just completed another year of newsletters (September to May) and the index for 1992. Thanks to the 65 writers of articles and letters, the 7 people who wrote book reviews, the 11 artists who submitted examples of their work, and the 12 newspaper clippers.

With this issue, #436, the TFN has completed 55 years of reporting on the wilder aspects of life in Toronto, and TFN activities.

Looking forward to hearing from many of you.

Helen Juhola, Diana Banville, Eva Davis, Nancy Fredenburg, Eileen Mayo, Joan O'Donnell, Toshi Oikawa

## FROM THE OUTINGS COMMITTEE

Just a few hints to help you enjoy your summer excursions:

- Dress properly:- wide brim on hat for protection from sun
  - long sleeved-shirt to protect you from mosquitoes, poison ivy and nettles
  - slacks to protect you from mosquitoes, poison ivy, etc.
  - long socks, hiking boots or running shoes
  - rainwear
  - sun glasses, sun screen, insect repellent
- Bring extra liquid (a flask of water) on all outings.
- Remember a note book and pencil; cameras, binoculars and field guides are optional.
- Get yourself a good map of Metro Toronto (Mapart - foldout or book, in regular or large print, are available for \$3 to \$6.).
- TTC Ride Guides are free. Ask for one at any subway station.
- To check the weather, call 676-3066. Remember, TFN outings go whatever the weather, rain or shine!
- Bring a friend or the family on a TFN walk. Visitors and children are welcome on ALL outings.
- Please do NOT bring pets on outings. Dogs have been found to interfere with the environment, viewing and safety on the trail.
- Note-taking, sketching, photography and collecting of litter (bring a plastic bag on all outings) are encouraged, but PLEASE do not collect specimens.
- ENJOY.

Alexander Cappell, Ken Cook, Mary Cumming, Helen Juhola, Eileen Mayo, Ann Millett

Psh psh psh psh! Come hither, bird, I say!  
Psh psh psh psh! You've pshd me AWAY!

Diana Banville

Taylor Creek Park, May 19, 1990

## KEEPING IN TOUCH

Feb. 19, 1993

This afternoon I glanced out of my back window and thought "that's an awfully large crow sitting in the snow". At a second glance I saw it was not a crow but a hawk. It saw me and flew up into the oak trees. Fortunately my field glasses were at hand and also that pad of bird-outlines which you gave me. (I like that pad. You don't waste time trying to impress details in your memory -- you just scribble and then later there are no second thoughts.) [See below -- for sale at meetings.]


The bird was anything but sleek -- its feathers were all ruffled and the wind added to it. We gazed at each other for some time and then it took off through the trees so that I could not see its flight.

It was white (or grayish with white below) with a dark bluish gray back and my detailed description from my sketch pad indicated a goshawk. The last identification mark I needed was a white band over the eye, but even if I had known to look for it I doubt if I could have seen it, with the feathers all ruffled.

I have one starling less. It may have been a pigeon. I can't see from my window and I'll go out tomorrow. I have never held with the practice of putting out decoys, but that is what I am doing.

Laura Greer

□



TORONTO FIELD NATURALISTS


PERCHING BIRD DIAGNOSIS

When bird sighted, on the standardized bird-outline, quickly mark features noticed: Stripes, spots, bars, crest, tail-notch. If necessary, lengthen tail, wings, bill. Devise a "shorthand" code for colours.

Observer \_\_\_\_\_

Location \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_



Visions of nature,  
brief moments captured in time,  
forever with you.

haiku by J. Kenneth Cook

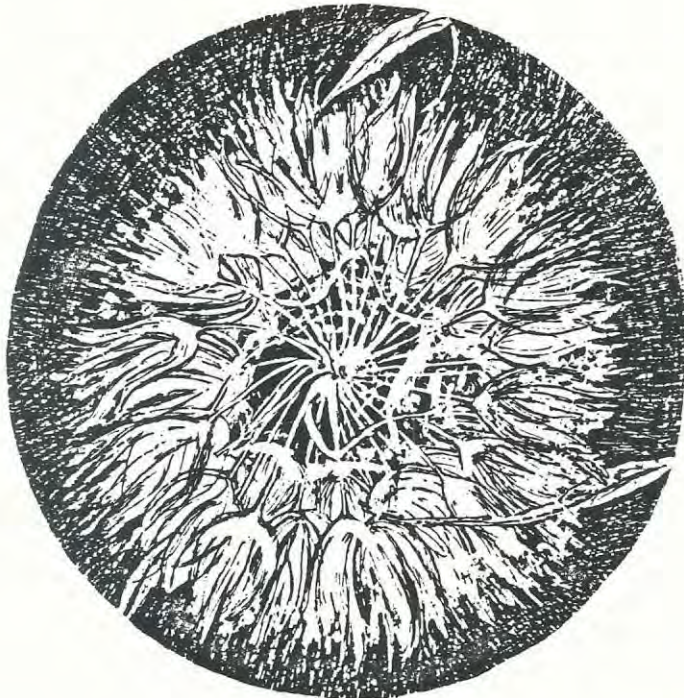
## TORONTO ORNITHOLOGICAL CLUB

TFN is now exchanging newsletters with the TOC. We have also received a copy of their guidelines for reporting bird observations together with a report form. Call the TFN office if you are interested in this material. The Toronto Ornithological Club is involved in compiling records for publication in AMERICAN BIRDS, published by the National Audubon Society, for the Greater Toronto Area which includes the Regional Municipalities of Halton, Peel, York and Durham, as well as Metropolitan Toronto. Only certain records, depending on date, number of birds and location, are needed for this ongoing project, and reports are required at the end of each month, or in some cases, a week before month-end. All reports of certain scarce or rare species are welcomed. In the case of some familiar birds, careful counts at any location and date are valued, e.g. (minimums): Mute swan 30, American black duck 50, gadwall 30, red-tailed hawk 20, American kestrel 10, ring-necked pheasant 4, ruffed grouse 2, mourning dove 50, great horned owl 4, downy woodpecker 10, hairy woodpecker 3, pileated woodpecker 2, horned lark 10, blue jay 100, American crow 50, black-capped chickadee 20, white-breasted nuthatch 5, American robin 50, cedar waxwing 50, northern cardinal 10, song sparrow 20, house finch 40, American goldfinch 50; and in the case of flocks, rough minimums together at one site: Canada goose 500, mallard 200, rock dove 200, European starling 500, House sparrow 100.

▷ The chairperson of the TOC Records Committee is Beth Jefferson, 41 Lake Shore Drive, Apartment 404, Etobicoke, Ontario M8V 1Z3 (251-2998). The editor of the TOC newsletter is George Fairfield, 332 Sheldrake Blvd., Toronto, Ontario M4P 2B8 (485-9083).

DB

□



"THE GILDED  
PARACHUTES" -  
fruiting cluster of  
yellow  
goat's-beard.

Eva Davis

## FOR READING

EARTH IN THE BALANCE: ECOLOGY AND THE HUMAN SPIRIT by Senator Al Gore, Houghton Mifflin Co., 1992. \$29.95 + G.S.T. (404 pages including Notes, Bibliography, Index)

This book encompasses all the disastrous environmental situations created and carried on by man, world-wide, and outlines a bold plan to reverse the processes. Gore proposes a Global Marshall Plan involving governments, corporations and the general public world-wide whereby change could begin now. He deplores the political habit of overstudying problems "to avoid uncomfortable conclusions...We need to act now on the basis of what we know." Gore's first priority is stabilization of world population and next to that phasing out pollution and energy-depleting technologies. Industrial corporations have a skewed way of evaluating profit and loss, ignoring depletion of natural resources in the process of manufacturing, at the same time adding to industrial waste accumulation. In the case of the Exxon Valdes disaster, both the oil spill and clean-up attempts appeared on their "books" as an increase in GNP! His chapter "Eco-nomics" tackles industrial society in depth.

Multi-national chemical companies have been purchasing seed companies and marketing or preparing to market new plant varieties that are compatible to heavier use of pesticides and fertilizers which make money but further damage the global environment. His outline of the twelve ancestral homes of wild plants remaining are mostly areas of political instability. Of 130 plants still found in the wild, only six exist in the U.S., none in Canada. Some are found only in cemeteries or estate ruins as civilization encroaches steadily on wild lands in such areas as southern Turkey or east Syria.

Of garbage Gore says "anything produced in excess from nuclear weapons to junk food represents waste." He attacks the way economics in the third world works. Where small farms and gardens made a country self-sufficient before loans were acquired through the World Bank, etc. debt turned the land into monocultures to produce cash crops, decreasing the supply of local food and increasing food prices. Money for crops goes to large landowners and corrupt government officials and ends up in overseas bank accounts. The country becomes more indebted, borrows more, the cycle continues disastrously for the planet in a "feedback loop".

Within his Global Marshall Plan, Gore proposes Strategic Environment Initiatives to set in motion action and reform. This book is available within the Toronto library system.

Jean McGill



\* Must not be consumed with liquor.



## FOR READING (cont'd)

Have you hugged a slug today?

Terms such as pest, nuisance, creepy crawlies, weed and vermin denote mankind's negative attitude towards many other species. This loathing can change to loving, or at least respect, as we gain more understanding and awareness of these organisms and their place in a balanced ecosystem.

LIVING THINGS WE LOVE TO HATE by Des Kennedy, published by Whitecap Books, 1992. \$14.95

In this book, the author challenges our generally hostile stance towards the natural world through twenty illuminating essays, each devoted to a different unloved species. Many of the "regulars" are here, including starlings, bats, spiders, mice, rats, wasps and stinging nettle. Des Kennedy blends historical and scientific fact with his own experiences living on an island in B.C. to argue for a significant change of attitude. As David Suzuki points out in the forward, while it is easy to love beautiful flowers and charismatic megafauna (lions, bears, whales, etc.), Kennedy is striving to expand the range of our biophilia. And yes, he even has a chapter on slugs.

FURTIVE FAUNA: A FIELD GUIDE TO THE CREATURES WHO LIVE ON YOU by Roger Knutson, published by Penguin Books, 1992. \$9.99

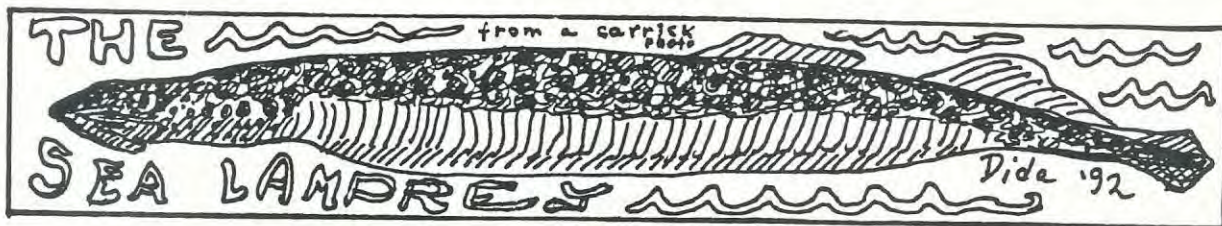
This bug's-eye view of parasitic creatures which call our bodies home deals with only external dwellers. These furtive fauna are grouped into visitors such as ticks for whom we are mere stopovers, neighbours such as fleas who live nearby and visit occasionally and residents such as mites who live on us constantly. This slim volume (116 pages) uses humour and compassion to introduce readers to life cycles, feeding habits and potential health hazards to humans. The author's main intent is to share his fascination of this subject rather than to shock.

POISON IVY, POISON OAK, POISON SUMAC AND THEIR RELATIVES by Edward Frankel, published by Boxwood Press, 1991. ((9.95 US + \$2 postage. Order from: 183 Ocean View Blvd., Pacific Grove, California 93950)

Not merely "scratching" the surface, this title is an in-depth exploration of the nomenclature, history, lore, chemistry, medical treatment and control of the above-named species. Lots of unusual information includes several warning couplets to add to the standard "Leaves of three, let them be." These include: "Alternative leaf, possible grief" and the more telling "Fruit white, a warning sight." A good book if you're "itching" for more information on these plants.

Richard Aaron

□



## PROJECTS

### WATERFRONT TRAIL TREKKERS

What would make it easier for you to visit the Lake Ontario waterfront this year? How about an environmentally-friendly waterfront trail? What if this trail was part of a Greenway -- a lakeside corridor with protecting policies to curb runaway development, encourage public access, protect natural areas and green spaces and clean up industrial pollution? Would you be interested?

TFN and Citizens for a Lakeshore Greenway (CFLAG) are making it easy and enlightening for you to discover the waterfront this summer through a series of monthly guided walks (the last Sunday of each month). See TFN outings.

Since CFLAG was founded in 1990, a lot of waterfront changes have taken place. Waterfront residents, users, and governments have begun to talk seriously about restoring the once-majestic shoreline of Lake Ontario. CFLAG has based its role in these discussions on the premise that the Lake Ontario waterfront is one of the province's greatest resources, and that its shoreline should be accessible to everyone. CFLAG has urged the Province of Ontario and local municipalities to take a leadership role in creating a waterfront trail from Burlington to Port Hope, including Toronto, which is served by the woefully-inadequate Martin Goodman Trail.

We have the support of Crombie's Waterfront Trust and the provincial government in doing so. The Minister of the Environment has even decided to "fast track" the completion of the trail for the fall 1994 election.

CFLAG wants the public and potential trail-users such as TFN members to help us actively consult and to watchdog the progress of the trail. You can support our efforts by: 1) becoming a member of CFLAG for \$10; 2) participating in our summer walks and programs; 3) by writing your local politician in support of a waterfront trail and greenway.

CFLAG encourages people to get involved and has established chapters locally for issues important to the Etobicoke, Toronto, and Scarborough waterfronts. Each is currently conducting waterfront trail route inventories and would welcome your participation.

▷ This summer, make a point of joining us every month to "Walk the Waterfront". For local chapter information, call D. Chamberlain (251-6335) - Etobicoke; D. Charlesworth (591-7474) - Toronto; R. Page (261-8024) - Scarborough; B. Mather (698-6131) - elsewhere.

Bill Frankling

### ADOPT A CREEK

Do you want to help "restore the Don"? Here is an opportunity. Kathleen Fall has decided to "adopt" a small tributary near where she lives. She needs help! On Saturday, May 15 at 10 am she is planning a "treasure hunt". Meet her on the north side of Eglinton Avenue East at Bob Bannerman Motors, just east of Sloane Avenue. Wear boots, rubber gloves or garden gloves and bring a garbage bag.

□

## PRESERVING TORONTO'S RAVINE HERITAGE

On Wednesday, March 24, there was an evening meeting called by the City of Toronto Parks and Recreation Department to air public reaction to their initiatives to preserve the natural heritage of Glen Stewart Ravine.

About 50 attended, mostly homeowners from the neighbourhood, among them several TFN members.

Complaints from citizens concerned the infrequent mowing of the slopes in the middle section; the cost of the two staircases, declared by some to be unsafe in winter (though how the old, unbanistered steps would be safer eludes me); the new "unnecessary" signposts and map designation; the replacement of wood with limestone chips, which upset pH balance in soil and water, and created runnels which widened paths. There was the inevitable comment that reduced mowing required compensatory handpicking of goldenrod and ragweed, and one man expressed the conviction that what was happening was an example of people's needs versus the fad of environmentalism. Mr. Don Young (Parks Regional Manager) addressed allergy concerns by pointing out that ragweed pollen was wind-borne and inescapable, and that ragweed thrived in cropped grass, whereas goldenrod pollen was insect-borne, and that goldenrod was even planted in Europe.

Much discussion was devoted to the safety of the traditional toboggan run in the middle section. Children clambering back up the slopes grabbed anything in sight -- snow fences, young trees -- which rendered tree planting pointless. This led to consideration of the inadvisability of putting more trees in this section anyway, since partying teenagers used them for cover.

At this low point one good woman asked how NOT planting trees would effect a decrease in vandalism, and Mr. Fred Bodsworth, a past president of TFN, delivered an eloquent defence of Parks' attempts to preserve a segment of heritage forest: Had Torontonians become so inured to pervasive concrete that we could not accommodate a patch of wilderness, with all this offered of birds and wildlife, of fall colours, of escape from the metal juggernauts of Kingston Road and Queen Street? Thankfully, it appeared this collection of Torontonians was redeemable, for his appeal drew loud applause, and from then on the meeting ascended from the critical-negative to the suggestion-positive. Why not wildflowers instead of trees, asked one elderly lady -- an alternative Parks had under consideration. Parks' continuing use of pesticides, however "reduced", and however "safe", was questioned. A man stressed that Glen Stewart Ravine was possibly the last remnant of red and white oak forest in Toronto, and that without Parks' help and citizen awareness, it was doomed. Staff agreed that protection of the upper section was vital to the survival of the rest. The stairs were meant to channel people in at specific points, to avoid continuing disintegration of footpaths. The use of mountain bikes on the slopes was particularly destructive.

The long-past error of management in burying the stream in the middle section, was one too costly, unfortunately, to undo, even though it is one of the few streams left in this part of Toronto.

The meeting ended on a positive note. I was impressed by staff strategies for saving this remnant of Toronto's natural heritage. Their little brochure is excellent (see TFN 434, page 25). My thanks to them. Specifically, my thanks to our own Mr. Bodsworth.

Eva Davis

□

ROUGE PARK

It was with a feeling of exhilaration and empowerment that I emerged from the March 7th TFN monthly meeting. Our guest speaker, Glen De Baeremaeker, delivered a very enlightening and energetic talk on the recently provincially recognized Rouge Park.

Three major points of Mr. De Baeremaeker's talk left an impression on me:

1. the extremely rich diversity of life involved in the dynamic ecosystem of the Rouge,
2. the fact that we as individuals possess a great deal of power in protecting the environment,
3. while the recent provincial government's granting of park status to much of the area is a critical first step toward protecting the Rouge Valley System, there are still possible threats to be dealt with (such as proposed dump sites and, as yet, unprotected publicly-owned lands in Markham).

I was surprised to learn that the Rouge Park, which is located within and on the edge of Canada's largest city, is home to such species as coyote, fox, deer, raccoon, groundhog, porcupine; over two hundred species of birds, including owls; fifty-five species of fish, including salmon, trout, bass and pike; insects such as monarch butterflies and blackflies; and hundreds of species of plants, including the trillium.

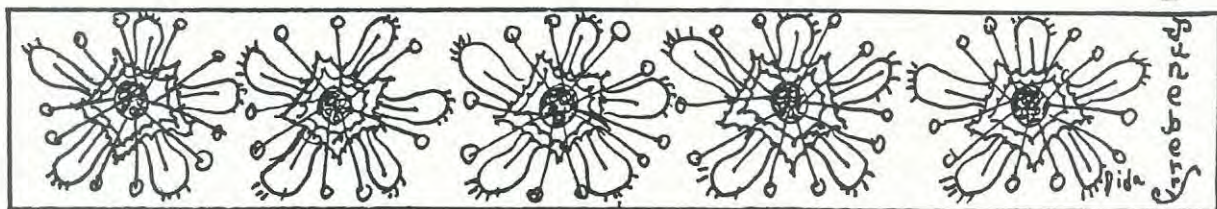
In addition, the area contains examples of Carolinian Forest, which is Canada's most endangered habitat. It is crucial that these forests in Rouge Park be protected, as over 95% of our country's original Carolinian Forests have been destroyed.

During my visit to Rouge Park, while standing under the large trees, hundreds of years old, I found it hard to believe that I was in a major city. Then I felt sad that this was the last major forested area left in the Greater Toronto Area and that to experience natural habitats similar to the Rouge we must travel far.

The diversity of life in Rouge Park, coupled with the fact that extinction comes about as a result of habitat loss, and the fact that the Rouge valley system is a healthy ecosystem with uncontaminated water and the built-in checks and balances of predator-prey relationships, brings home very clearly the fact that we must continue to protect this wealth of nature.

I came away from the meeting with a very positive feeling because it had been proven that the voices of individuals such as our guest speaker and the other dedicated "Save the Rouge Valley System" volunteers can and do make a difference in showing government that we love and want to preserve our rapidly diminishing natural habitats.

Lisa V. Wursta



## NATURAL AREAS: PLACES OF BEAUTY AND FEAR

In recent years there has been increased support for taking some highly manicured urban landscapes out of their costly maintenance programs and allowing natural processes to increase the bio-diversity of these sites. These diversified landscapes are being promoted as part of a new urban ecology, one which incorporates the dynamics of natural systems in an urban context. These naturalized areas offer many ecological, educational, social, emotional and economic benefits for urban dwellers.

Though naturalized urban open areas have found great appeal with a heightened awareness and support for the environment, the creation of such spaces presents safety concerns to many urbanites who feel vulnerable within these areas. Two British open-space researchers, Carolyn Harrison and Jacquelin Burgess, made an interesting discovery during a series of group discussions with that little-consulted body of people-- the users of open space. They found that diversified landscapes such as woodlands, shrub thickets and tall grass meadows were not only the most valued of open spaces but they also provoked some of the strongest feelings of insecurity and personal vulnerability. This paradox represents a profound challenge for environmental designers dealing with naturalized open spaces. Issues of safety should be of central importance in the future planning, design and management of these areas in order to make them truly accessible. However, safety in urban open spaces is an area of environmental design where not a great deal is known and where research is still in its infancy.

The sense of vulnerability provoked by natural areas is thought to be deeply rooted in our psyche. Jay Appleton, a British geographer, states that all animals, including humans, are motivated to perceive their surroundings in a certain way and that environmental information is acquired and stored in such a way as to maximize the ability to survive. His postulate, known as Prospect-Refuge, states that there is a benefit in being able to see and not be seen, or to see from a secure position. The ability to have channels open so that environmental information can flow freely is the idea of having prospect (openness). The ability to achieve concealment from view of potential perpetrators is known as refuge (protection). Appleton states that "...a landscape which affords both a good opportunity to see and a good opportunity to hide, is aesthetically more satisfying than one which affords neither...". This postulate, first elucidated in 1975, has been the source of much contentious debate, and is difficult to prove or disprove. However, an important issue raised by it is a person's predilection for possessing sufficient environmental information such that the immediate surroundings do not arouse either apprehension or insecurity. Areas in which people have a confined field of view or are unable to ascertain the presence or absence of dangerous elements in their immediate surroundings create uncertainty in perceived safety, or ambivalence in environmental information. People tend to feel uncomfortable in these environments and as a result tend to avoid them.

Fear of wooded areas is a recurrent theme in Western folklore; children's stories such as Little Red Riding Hood and Hansel and Gretel are examples. Our apprehension can also be seen in the etymological root of the word

## NATURAL AREAS &amp; SAFETY (Cont'd)

"ambush" which is "bush". Whereas fear of natural areas has often been associated with animals and mythical characters, fear of such areas in contemporary urban settings is predominantly associated with crime and antisocial activities.

How does one determine whether a landscape is safe? Many look to crime statistics, but as an indicator these statistics can be unreliable and misleading. Many crimes, particularly sexual assaults, go unreported; and low crime statistics may in fact be influenced by people's avoidance of an area because they perceive it to be a high-risk environment. It is, therefore, important to consult both the users and the non-users of these areas in order to gain insights into the problems and ultimately to find the solutions. Users of an area can often offer insights which may be unknown or go unnoticed by those who design and manage these sites. Nonusers can also provide important insights into why the area does not appeal to them and what improvements could be undertaken to attract them to the sites. Safety is ultimately a matter of perception. A myriad of factors influence one's perception of safety in the landscape -- presence of others, familiarity with the site, condition of the site, media reports, past experience, and one's gender and physical ability. This list is by no means exhaustive. The condition of the site is very important to the perception of safety. Where there is debris or evidence of vandalism, people will often come to the conclusion that the area is neglected and that it is a place where "undesirables" congregate -- an unsafe place.

It is ironic that women, children, older adults and the physically disadvantaged who are most dependent on nearby urban nature areas for respite from the city and for contact with nature experience the greatest level of insecurity in these landscapes. The wondrous opportunities for exploration and unstructured play these areas offer to children are often curtailed due to parents' preoccupation with the safety of these areas. Other options such as nature camps or fresh air camps clearly do not provide the desired frequency for an ongoing unstructured discovery of the natural world. This pervasive fear of urban nature areas is perpetuating the environmental illiteracy so endemic to our time and culture.

It is vital, therefore, that in the future, planning, design and management of urban nature areas deal with people's apprehensions and feelings of insecurity in these areas. This is important if we are to transform our relationship with nature in cities from one of alienation to one of integration.

David Orsini

□

## AUTOMOBILES AND PARKS

We have agreed not to drive our automobiles into cathedrals, concert halls, art museums, legislative assemblies, private bedrooms and the other sanctums of our culture; we should treat our parks with the same deference.

from "Desert Solitaire" by Edward Abbey (1968)

## SOME BIRD SONGS AS THEY SOUND

For years I've been collecting "interpretations" of bird songs. Some of these might help you, as the spring-arriving birds pass through. Also, check Peterson's "Birds of Eastern North America". But remember, birds have "dialects" -- they sound different in different parts of the country.

Blue-winged Warbler	"bz bz"
Golden-winged Warbler	"bz bz bz" or "bz bzbz bz"
Tennessee Warbler	"cutsik, cutsik, cutsik, a-wicha, wicha wicha weeeeeee" (fast)
Northern Parula Warbler	" chu" (notes go up the scale finishing with a little sneeze)
Yellow Warbler	"sweet, sweet shredd ed wheat"
Chestnut-sided Warbler	"Very very pleased to meet cha"
Magnolia Warbler	something like "Aweet aweea wee gy"
Cape May Warbler	"seet seet seet"(high, thin)
Black-throated Blue Warbler	"I'm so laz ee" or "I'm lay zee"
Black-throated Green Warbler	"Who where is Kell ee"
Yellow-rumped Warbler (previously Myrtle Warbler)	"I'm little little little little little" or "little little little little little"
Blackburnian Warbler	"itsy bitsy bitsy Zreeeeee" or occasionally "tizip tizip tizip tizip zizizizizizi"
Pine Warbler	(musical trill on same note, only one second long; slower, shorter, lower pitched than chipping sparrow)
Palm Warbler	weak buzzy "zhe zhe zhe zhe zhe"

## BIRD SONGS (cont'd)

Nashville Warbler	"Sweet sweet sweet-itty itty itty"
Bay-breasted Warbler	lispy "see see see see see" or "deedle deedle deedle dee"
Blackpoll Warbler	this area: "sit sit sit" other areas: "zi zi Zi Zi Zi zi zi"
Cerulean Warbler	rapid "zray zray zray zreeee"
Black-and-white Warbler	soft "zinga zinga zinga zinga"
American Redstart	"sweea sweea sweea swee" also "sweea sweea sweea swee"
Ovenbird	"Tea-cher tea-cher tea-cher TEA-CHER Tea"
Northern Waterthrush	"Spit-spit-spit Chew-chew-chew sp-i-i-i-t"
Mourning Warbler	quiet, distinctive "cheery cheery cheery chorry"
Common Yellowthroat	"Witchety wicheety wicheety"
Wilson's Warbler	thin, rapid, emphatic "chi chi chi chi chi chet chet"
Canada Warbler	loud, bubbly "tip teechee weechee weechee aweecheea"
Some other bird songs or calls:	
Golden-crowned Kinglet	call -- high pitched, thin "see see see"
Brown Thrasher	"Farmer Brown. Farmer Brown, where you goin'? Where you goin'? Goin' to town, goin' to town. What for, what for? Pint of beer, pint of beer. Not enough, not enough! -- Quart, quart!"
Song Sparrow	"Press Press Press - be Teeri Teeri Teeri an"
Eastern Meadowlark	"Spring oh the year"



## THORNCLIFF HAWK WATCH

The Red-tailed Hawk is a permanent resident of Thorncliffe Park near the forks of the Don. This species has certainly lived here at least as long as I have! It's a great joy to watch one, two, or even three hawks soaring and spiralling over the valley outside my window.

They do other things such as nest. One March long ago I watched two adult birds carrying large twigs to a storm-damaged nest where they raised their young. Once I watched two young hawks trying to launch themselves against attacking jays, crows, robins, cardinals -- in fact, the whole neighbourhood. I saw mother and father hawk edging slowly toward their screaming youngster on the top of the 43-storey apartment building opposite mine. (He decided it was the safest place and stayed there!) One year a baby hawk screamed all night long for several nights.

Another time I watched two adult hawks diving into the trees at the side of the road into the valley and with much screaming finally drive out a smaller hawk. (Later I found American Kestrels nesting further down the valley.)

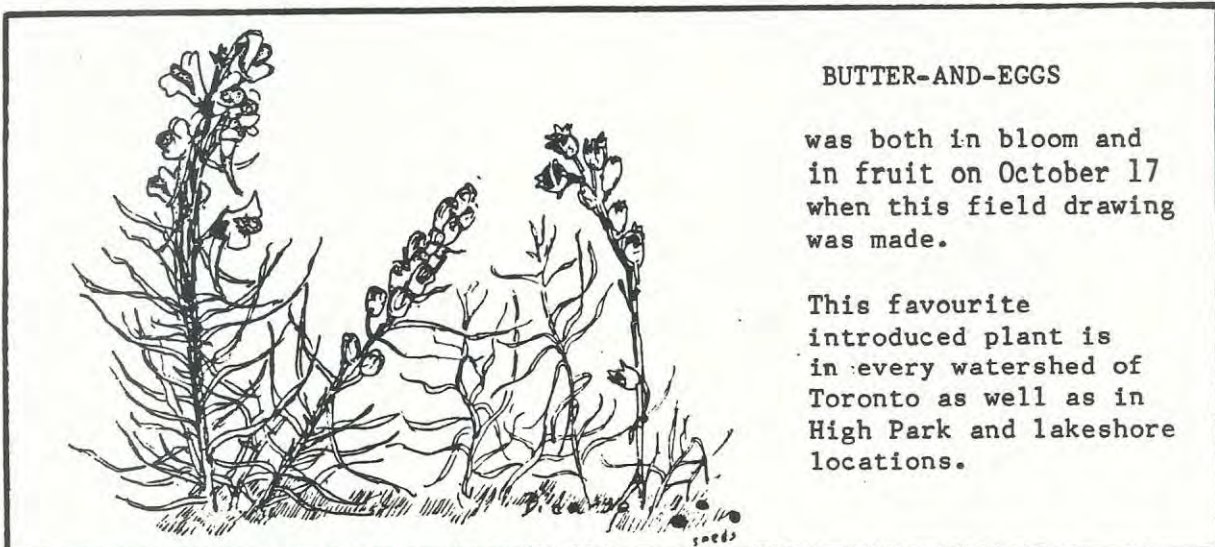
I haven't caught them hunting often, but I did see two Red-winged Blackbirds winging along side by side suddenly become one bewildered bird as the hawk departed with a bird in its talons. And I was amused one day to watch showers of white feathers descending from the top of the tree opposite my window as the hawk plucked away at a pigeon -- sorry, I don't feel much sympathy for pigeons.

Where do birds go in a storm? "My" hawk tried to sit out the blizzard recently by spending the day sitting in the tree opposite my window and occasionally shaking off the snow. He left only when the fading light told him it was time to find his night roost.

For a city resident, the Red-tailed Hawk can make this place seem miles away.

Reta McWhinnie

□



## BUTTER-AND-EGGS

was both in bloom and in fruit on October 17 when this field drawing was made.

This favourite introduced plant is in every watershed of Toronto as well as in High Park and lakeshore locations.

## RED FOOD COLOUR ALERT

The San Diego Zoo tested hummingbird nectars containing red food colouring with shocking results. Birds which ingested nectar containing red dye produced baby birds which were blind, deformed or had shells which would not open.

While red food colouring will probably not hurt people in small amounts, the large quantity hummingbirds consume compared with their low body weight proves devastating to the following generations.

Red coloured nectar is not necessary to attract hummingbirds. They are attracted to brightly coloured flowers or to the red plastic on the feeder. Real flower nectar is clear.

Hummingbirds enjoy the nectar of many flowers, but will eagerly feed at the flowers of beebalm, trumpet vine, phlox, zinnias, lilies, columbine, honeysuckle, larkspur, and many more. Any gardener who grows a wide variety of flowers to please himself will soon attract hummingbirds also.

The Audubon Society suggests when you refill your feeder, clean it very well each time and use boiled water when mixing the nectar.

Recipe for hummingbird nectar (from Wildbirds Nature Shop):

1 part table sugar to 4 parts water

Remember

- Replace with fresh nectar every 3 to 5 days, more often in hot weather. Clean feeder with hot water at each refill.
- Make large quantities, boil, bottle and refrigerate.

from THE ORCHID (Peterborough), Vol. 38, No. 6, Sept. 1992 as excerpted from an article by Carole King/Landscape Living Home Section of the Day Newspaper, Feb. 1990, New London, Ct.

□



KOLKWIZIA, sketched at High Park in June, is a shrub originating in Asia but often planted in Toronto parks. It is of the honeysuckle family (note the opposite leaves). This specimen had white flowers with pink blush and a network of orange lines in the throat. Other varieties may have flowers which are more pink. It's often called "beauty bush", a name which is sometimes applied to Weigela, another popular park shrub in the same family.

Ref.: THE COMPLETE HANDBOOK  
OF GARDEN PLANTS  
by Michael Wright  
Rainbird Publishing

## ODE TO A WORKING GIRL

"A drab yellow and black wasp had been crawling laboriously up the spine of THE BRITISH PHARMACEUTICAL CODEX in a row of books on the desk and Stuchley, picking up a record card, slid it shakily though carefully under the insect and removed it...Rising from his chair he turned and moved quickly across to the window overlooking a rear sunlit garden. Holding the card against the window's curtain, he pushed the wasp with his finger into crawling on it...'Vespa vulgaris', he said. 'The common wasp. The poor little thing's a female worker and she's spent...the summer unselfishly feeding a second generation of her kind...You know, female workers are the only wasps in the brood to have a sting, and that they use only to kill food insects for their younger kin, or against what they may see as an attack on themselves...A doomed little thing, she's six months old and her blood's already running thin. Now that the cold weather's setting in she's ordained by her own life cycle to die. But in her own time if I can help her, not brutally by somebody else who believes her to be a pest of no account'."

abstracted from A TIME FOR DYING by Jonathan Ross, 1989

□



GARLIC MUSTARD, originating in temperate Eurasia and north Africa, is the most well-established of all mustards in Toronto, having adapted - perhaps all too well - to the moist shade of our ravines and valleys. Even in winter, the green basal leaves are conspicuous. The crushed leaf has an agreeable odour - if you like garlic.  
Ref. R. H. Davis, FLORA OF TURKEY.

## THE OTHER DON

Groups of fig trees grow along the edges of the Don in many places on the east side of Sheffield [in England]. They are all about the same age, 70 years, and their origins were a puzzle...It now looks as if they grew from seeds carried downstream in human sewage (and maybe in detritus from food factories), but have the steel industry to thank for their successful establishment in the 1920s. River water was used for cooling purposes in the factories, and the outfall kept the water in the river at a steady temperature of 20°C -- warm enough to germinate those seeds of the Mediterranean figs that fetched up on muddy shores. But when more stringent controls were introduced on effluent quality, and, later, local steel manufacture went into decline, the river's temperature returned to normal and no new trees were able to sprout. The figs are thus as much a part of Sheffield's industrial history as the steamhammers...

The Don throws a corridor of wildness right through the heart of the city, wreathing distant views of the cathedral with a wonderful Amazonian luxuriance. The banks and riverine island are thick with showy immigrant flowers -- Himalayan balsam, Michaelmas daisy, soapwort. Crack willows sprout from the rootings of broken waterborne branches, and in places grow into fantastic, multi-stemmed shapes, like mangrove clumps. Every so often the river floods, and vegetation is swept away. Even Japanese knotweed behaves itself here, despite growing up to 3 m tall. It produces thickets with a closed canopy after May, rather like young hazel coppice, and woodland species such as bluebells, ramsons and wood anemones have already begun to find refuge under them. There is a riverside walk, too, along 10 km of the bank.

extracted from "On the Sidelines" by Richard Mabey in BBC WILDLIFE, Vol. 11, No. 1, Jan. 1993

□

Gullies of garbage  
...ever-renewing resource.

A. O. Juhola

## NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS

Needed: essays (no longer than 500 words), reviews (no longer than 300 words), poems, cartoons, sketches and newspaper clippings

Subjects: plants, animals and natural areas in the Toronto region, especially reports of personal experiences with wildlife

Please include your name, address and telephone number so submissions can be acknowledged. With newspaper clippings include source and date of each clipping.

Time dated material such as notices of meetings should be submitted at least six weeks before the month in which the event is to take place.

Send material to: Toronto Field Naturalists  
20 College St., Unit 11  
Toronto, Ont. M5G 1K2

## THE WEATHER (THIS TIME LAST YEAR)

May 1992, Toronto

May 1992 featured seasonable conditions for the most part. Mean temperatures were exactly normal at L.B. Pearson International Airport, and 0.3°C above normal downtown. Rainfall, in the 65-70 mm range, also was close to normal in our area. The tranquil impression was furthered by the facts that we had 269.2 hours of sunshine, the most since 1985, and that winds continued to be light (Pearson Airport had another record low average wind speed of 10.7 km/h this month).

Nonetheless, there were some big contrasts this May, mainly in the temperature department. We seemed to have a vaguely western-ridge/eastern trough pattern over North America this month, but the cold temperature anomaly was focussed to the south. There were reports of snow in the Appalachians as far south as the Carolinas around May 10th, just as Toronto was warming up for its first serious growing season weather. Indeed, we were distinctly warm and sunny from May 9th to May 23rd. This was preceded by a chilly spell; and followed by a very strong cold snap which brought record low temperatures and some killing frost to the Great Lakes region. Pearson Airport had a low temperature of 0.6°C on May 25th. Apple blossoms were killed off in some areas.

June 1992, Toronto

June 1992 was for the most part a pleasant month, although record cold late in the month brought the mean temperature to about a degree and a half below normal. Precipitation was rather light, sunshine hours about 14 hours above normal, and winds fairly light.

The first two-thirds of the month featured mainly sunny skies and temperatures near or above normal. There even began to be something of a dry trend, with grass turning brown. However, beginning on June 18th, a strong disturbance affected southern Ontario. In its wake temperatures plunged with unprecedented arctic air accompanied by a strong upper-level trough. We had the coldest summer solstice on record, at least as far as daytime temperatures are concerned. Toronto downtown reached only 10.8°C for the high on both June 20th and June 21st. At this time, skies remained overcast with strong northerly winds. The wind chill was about 4°C. Reports of snowflurries were heard from the Sudbury/Manitoulin area, and as far south as Orillia. There were scattered reports of frost damage in parts of southern Ontario, and low-lying areas near Toronto had patchy white frost on the morning of June 23rd. At this time, L.B. Pearson Airport had a minimum of 4.6°C; but the grass minimum or ground temperature was -1.5°C.

The remainder of the month improved a little with some instability remaining from the upper trough.

How did we manage before spray  
to weed the "cost-effective" way?

Diana Banville

## WEATHER (cont'd)

July 1992, Toronto

This was the coolest in 101 years, and the cloudiest in the entire 111-year record of sunshine recording in Toronto. It was remarkable not only because of the recent warming trend generally, but also because of the urban heat effect that was overcome by a constant flow of cool air that persisted the entire month without let-up. The following downtown temperature records are noteworthy this month:

- 1) the mean temperature downtown of 19.0°C was the coolest since 1891 which had a mean of 17.9°C;
- 2) the mean maximum of 22.6°C was the second lowest on record since 1840 (July 1851 had a mean maximum of 22.4°C);
- 3) the mean minimum temperature was the lowest since 1965 (1992: 15.4°C; 1965: 14.7°C);
- 4) the warmest temperature reached all month was 27.2°C, tying 1840 and 1848 for the lowest monthly maximum on record;
- 5) the monthly minimum of 11.7°C was less extravagant, and was only the lowest since 1984.

There were also, no doubt, several daily low maximum temperature records. The sunshine total of 206.4 hours broke the previous low record of 1976 by 5.6 hours. This may be about 40% of the total possible. Temperatures at Pearson Airport were also unseasonably cool, but July 1965 had a lower monthly mean temperature of 17.3°C than 1992's 18.0°C. Below-normal monthly temperatures were the rule for July from Alberta to Newfoundland.

Precipitation totals were well-above normal generally. Downtown's 101.6 mm, although no record, was the highest since 1977; L.B. Pearson recorded 134.5 mm of rain, the most since 1980. Rainfall totals were higher in the extreme southern portion of the Great Lakes basin and Ohio valley, with amounts from 150 mm to over 300 mm. (201 mm in north suburban Buffalo.) Winds were relatively light, which may be due to the fact that there were no strong air mass changes and fronts, and a dampening of lake breezes this month.

The cool may be attributable to the combined effects of the eruption of the Philippines' Mount Pinatubo in the summer of 1991, the lingering effect of the El Nino that disrupted Pacific Ocean currents and temperatures, and a jet stream displaced unusually far to the south (cf. July 27th observation). The effects of certain volcanic eruptions have been observed to cool the average global temperature by several tenths of a degree Celsius. Mt. Pinatubo ejected plenty of sulphates and other aerosols into the upper atmosphere, which reflect incoming solar energy back to space. The jet stream position normally determines the sort of weather conditions in our area. A similar combination of volcanic eruption in the preceding year and probably a northwesterly jet stream occurred in 1816: the "Year Without a Summer". In 1815, Mount Tambora in Indonesia erupted, a much larger blast than 1991's Pinatubo. Snow and killing frost in June, chilly July and August nights, and frost again in September caused crop failures in northern New England, central Ontario and Quebec.

## WEATHER (cont'd)

## August 1992, Toronto

Some improvement over July occurred in August. There were more warm days and some more sunshine. But it was still a cloudy, cool, wet month. The Toronto area had the coolest August since 1982; it was the cloudiest in 11 years with 215.5 hours of sun; and rainfall totals were everywhere above normal. (Pearson Airport had 154.4 mm of rain, the most since 1968 and the second-wettest on record.) A few southern Ontario stations had their coolest August on record.

July's anomalous south-leaning jet stream pattern continued for the first two thirds of the month. There were frequent disturbances. From August 8th to August 10th, tropical air tried to push into our area, and did bring some humidity. It also brought heavy thunderstorms. Peach orchards in Niagara were damaged by hail. Very cool temperatures prevailed for the next ten days. On August 20th, Toronto downtown reported a low of 9.6°C, the first under 10°C reading for August in six years.

Then, there was a change. Hurricane Andrew approached, cutting a swath of destruction over Florida and Louisiana. A ridge built in the east. We had our first warm weather since mid-June between Aug. 21st and Aug. 26th. It got muggy. Alberta had snow. It just topped 30°C on August 26th, before the remains of Andrew, associated with a cold front, brought heavy rains. The heaviest rain fell in the early morning of August 28th, in an arc north of Toronto. Local flooding occurred. Cool, blustery conditions followed for the last few days of August.

Gavin Miller

□



JUNEBERRY (sometimes called serviceberry, shadbush, or saskatoon) has many representatives in North America but only four native Toronto species according to recent sources: the hairy and the smooth juneberries growing to tree-size and two shrubs - the round-leaved and the low juneberries.

(Silhouette  
by Mary Smith)

## COMING EVENTS

Jim Baillie Memorial Bird Walks - sponsored by the Toronto Ornithological Club - aimed at the intermediate birder, but beginners are welcome. Free to the public.

- The First Wave - Lambton Woods - Sat. May 1 from 7:30 am to 12 noon with Hugh Currie. Meet in the parking lot at James Gardens (access via Edenbridge Drive).
- Warblers and More - High Park - Sat. May 8 from 7:30 am to 12 noon with Bob Yukich. Meet in the parking area inside the Bloor St. entrance at High Park Ave.
- Peak Migration - Toronto Islands - Sun. May 23 from 7:45 am (all day) with Luc Fazio. Meet at the Toronto Islands ferry docks at the foot of Bay St. to catch the 8 am ferry to Hanlan's Point. Bring a lunch.
- Breeding Birds - Mansfield Area - Sat. June 12 from 6:30 am (all day) with Ron Scovell. Meet at the Kiss'n'Ride at the Islington subway station to form a car pool if necessary. Bring a lunch.

THE NEXT JIM BAILLIE MEMORIAL BIRD WALK WILL TAKE PLACE IN SEPTEMBER.

The Mycological Society of Toronto - meetings and forays for those interested in mushrooms. Call Mary Illich at 629-4564 for details.

Save the Rouge Valley System - monthly nature walks. Call 287-1776 for more information.

Black Creek Conservation Project of Toronto - monthly meetings: May 5, June 2, July 7, August 4 - at the Institute for Environmental Studies, University of Toronto, Haultain Building, 170 College St. (rear), Room 210. For details about tree planting projects, etc., call Ed Krolow at 661-6600 ext. 345.

Toronto Entomologists' Association - monthly meetings and occasional excursions - call Al Hanks at 727-6993 for more information.

Canadian Wildflower Society - wildflower garden tours

- Wildflower Garden tour - Sun. May 16 from 10 am to 4 pm
  - Prairie/Meadow Garden tour - Sun. July 18 from 10 am to 4 pm
- Self-guided tours; ticket is a booklet with descriptions of gardens and detailed maps; available from Carolyn King (222-5736); \$10 each for members of the CWS; \$15 for non-members. Make cheques payable to The Canadian Wildflower Society and mail to P. McGaw, 43 Anaconda Ave., Scarborough, Ont. M1L 4M1.

The Civic Garden Centre - garden tours

- Through the Garden Gate (the gardens of Rosedale) - Sat. June 19 and Sun. June 20 from noon to 4 pm; \$15 + \$1.
  - Through the Garden Gate by Night - Thurs. June 17 at 7:30 pm; \$30 + \$1.
- Tickets are available at the CGC, 777 Lawrence Ave. East, North York, Ont. M3C 1P2. Call 397-1340 for more details.

Parkdale and Toronto Horticultural Society - benefit plant sale on May 15 from 12 noon to 3 pm at the Parkdale Community Centre on the east side of Lansdowne Ave., north of Queen St. West. Some unusual plants.



## COMING EVENTS (cont'd)

Don Watershed Task Force meetings: May 20 - City of North York, 5100 Yonge St.; June 17 - City of Toronto, City Hall; July 15 - City of North York, 5100 Yonge St; August 12 - Lake St. George  
All meetings are held on Thursday evenings at 6:30 pm and are open to the public. Call 661-6600, ext. 325 for more information.

Task Force to Bring Back the Don meetings: Tuesday May 11, Toronto City Hall, Rm. 5; June 8, Rm. 5; July 13, Rm. 3; Aug. 17, Rm. 5  
All meetings begin at 6:30 pm and end at 8:30 pm. Call 392-0068 for more information.

- Volunteers needed at 11 am on Sat. May 1 to help with spreading mulch around trees and shrubs to protect them from encroaching weeds and grasses. Wear warm clothing. Tools will be supplied. For more information call 392-1255. Meet at Riverdale Park East (west side of Broadview Ave. just north of Gerrard St. East).

Coalition on the Niagara Escarpment - Annual General Meeting - Sunday, April 25 at 10 am at the Mono Community Centre in Mono Centre. For more information call 444-8419.

Engineering Toronto: City Maps 1834-1900 - June 12 to Sept. 26 at the Market Gallery, second floor, South St. Lawrence Market, 95 Front St. East; Wed. to Fri. 10 am to 4 pm; Sat. 9 am to 4 pm; Sun. Noon to 4 pm. Call 392-7604 for more information.

Ontario Science Centre - The Living Earth, a new exhibition offering innovative sensory experiences - opens July 1. Call 429-4100 for more information.


Toronto 200 - Calendar of Events - celebrating 200 years since the arrival of the Simcoes. For more information call 392-1993. Many events are being planned including walks, talks and exhibits.

Edwards Gardens - guided tours begin in May, every Tuesday and Thursday at 11 am and 2 pm. Call the Civic Garden Centre at 397-1335 for details or to book a group tour.

Green Thumb Day - for children from 7 through 11 years of age - Civic Garden Centre - July 14 to August 18 from 9:30 am to 2 pm; \$12 for each child of members; \$14 for non-members (per day). Call 397-1355 for more information.

Todmorden Mills Wildflower Preserve work days (9 am till noon):  
May 8, May 29, June 12, July 10, Sept. 18 and Oct. 23. Call Dave Money at 497-3788 for more information.

Kortright Centre - Warbler Weekend Hikes - May 15-16 from 8:30 am to 2:30 pm. Call 832-2289 for details. Advance tickets required. Ask for their summer program. Many activities planned.

 Sherwood Park - tree and shrub planting - Sat. May 15 from 9:30 am to 12:30 pm - a project of the Sherwood Park Advisory Committee of which TFN is a member. Call 392-6641 or 487-0252 for more information.

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# TFN OUTINGS

## May

- Saturday  
May 1  
10:30 am
- VALE OF AVOCA - nature arts  
Leader: Jeanette Cornish  
Meet at the St. Clair subway exit on the south side of St. Clair Ave. East, just east of Yonge St.  
Bring camera, sketching materials and stool, or just come & enjoy. The subject for drawing will be trees. Bring lunch. Steep slope into ravine.  
Don tributary, Toronto
- Sunday  
May 2  
2:30 pm
- TFN meeting  
73 Queen's Park Cres. East  
Northrop Frye Hall
- Tuesday  
May 4  
6:45 pm
- MT. PLEASANT CEMETERY - trees and shrubs  
Leader: Sheila Van Landeghem  
Meet at the cemetery entrance on the east side of Yonge St., 2½ blocks north of St. Clair Ave.  
Walking will be leisurely and on the level. A number of shrubs will be flowering in this very fine arboretum.  
Toronto
- Thursday  
May 6  
10:30 am
- EAST POINT - nature walk  
Leader: Carol Sellers  
Meet at the corner of Beechgrove Dr. and Coronation Dr. Bring lunch.  
A good time to observe migrating birds, early spring flowers such as June berries and buffalo-berry on the bluffs. We may climb down to the beach.  
Lakeshore, Scarborough
- Saturday  
May 8  
9 am  
to 5 pm
- TFN NATURE RESERVES - a day in the country  
Leaders: directors of TFN  
Call Eileen Mayo (445-4621) if you plan to attend. Confirm by sending a cheque for \$10.00 (NOT post-dated), payable to "Toronto Field Naturalists - bus trip" to the TFN at 20 College St., Unit 11, Toronto, Ont. M5G 1K2.  
Bus leaves from the southeast corner of Yonge St. and Old York Mills Rd. (south exit of York Mills subway station) promptly at 9 am and returns there at 5 pm. No washroom on bus but there are three outhouses at the reserve. Bring lunch.  
Explore our two nature reserves (the Jim Baillie, complete with marked nature trails, and the Emily Hamilton, our newest property). Both are forested wetlands -- great places to enjoy mosses, ferns, cedars, etc.  
Learn the song of the winter wren and thrill to the spring-time drumming of grouse. Few mosquitoes should be about this early.  
northeast of Metro
- PMCL BUS  
\$ bus fare  
prepaid

OUT OF  
TOWN

In that empty urn  
sings, thinks herself a diva,  
small nocturnal frog.

haiku by A. F. Wade  
Bermuda, 1991

## MAY OUTINGS (cont'd)

- Sunday  
May 9  
10:30 am
- ETOBICOKE CREEK - nature walk  
Leader: Richard Aaron  
Etobicoke Creek, Etobicoke
- Meet at the northwest corner of Rathburn Rd. and Elmcrest Rd.  
Bring lunch.  
Bring your mother (it's Mothers' Day) to see the explosion of spring ephemerals.  
Walk will end in mid-afternoon. With any luck, ALL the spring flowers should be in bloom on this walk.
- Wednesday  
May 12  
6:45 pm
- LOCKE HOUSE RAVINE - evening ramble  
Leader: Eileen Mayo  
East Don, North York
- Meet on the east side of Leslie St. at Lesmill Rd. (just south of Hwy. 401).  
This is not a very long walk in distance, but many trees, shrubs and wildflowers will be found blooming and birds migrating in this area.
- Thursday  
May 13  
10:30 am
- HUMBER FORKS - nature walk  
Leader: Joan O'Donnell  
Humber, Etobicoke
- Meet at the corner of Albion Rd. and Bankfield Dr. Walk may end at another public transit stop. Lunch optional.  
We will be exploring the area where the West Humber and the main branch of the Humber Rivers meet.
- Saturday  
May 15  
10 am
- GUILDWOOD PARK - birds  
Leader: Karin Fawthrop  
lakeshore, Scarborough
- Meet at the park entrance on the south side of Guildwood Pkwy. opposite Galloway Rd. Lunch optional.  
The woodlands surrounding the Guild Inn should be a good place to observe migrating birds at this time of year. Access to the foot of the bluffs is also possible for excellent views of this unique landform.
- +
- Saturday  
May 15  
10 am
- DERRYDOWN PARK - nature walk  
Leader: Allan Greenbaum  
Black Creek, North York
- Meet at the park entrance on the south side of Finch Ave. West where the street crosses the creek (half way between Keele St. and Jane St.). Bring lunch. Walk may end at a different public transit stop.  
Visit the "other Jane/Finch". A wonderful place to observe migrating birds and spring wildflowers.
- Sunday  
May 16  
1:30 pm
- HUMBER  
HERITAGE  
DAY
- HUMBER VALLEY - human & natural heritage  
Leaders: Mary Lou Ashbourne & Marj Mossman  
Humber, York
- Meet on the northwest corner of Eglinton Ave. West and Emmett Ave. Walk will end at a different public transit stop.  
This walk is part of a series of activities taking place along the Humber to celebrate the Humber River. Come and learn about some of the history of this part of the valley. Discover the rich natural heritage remaining which can be found along the river and on the adjacent tablelands.

Blossom-laden tree  
tousled by a gust of wind.  
Spring-time snow-shower.

haiku by J. Kenneth Cook

## MAY OUTINGS (cont'd)

- Wednesday  
May 19  
10:30 am
- GLENDON - nature arts  
Leader: Diana Banville  
West Don, North York
- Meet at the gates to Glendon College on the east side of Baviw Ave. at Lawrence Ave. East. Walk may end at a different public transit stop. Bring lunch. Bring camera, sketching materials and stool, or just come and enjoy the lovely campus and, perhaps, the adjacent valleyland.
- Thursday  
May 20  
6:45 pm
- MT. PLEASANT CEMETERY - birds  
Leader: Elizabeth Kellog  
Toronto
- Meet at the cemetery entrance on Yonge St., 2½ blocks north of St. Clair Ave. Bring binoculars, field guide and note book and be prepared to listen as well as look at birds.
- Saturday  
May 22  
9 am
- LESLIE STREET SPIT - birds  
Leader: Martin McNicholl  
lakeshore, Toronto
- Meet at the foot of Leslie St. Bring lunch. Even when there aren't many kinds of birds about, there are always lots of birds (gulls etc.) at the spit. Come and learn about the many kinds of birds that nest on this artificially created landform.
- Sunday  
May 23  
10:30 am
- ROUGE VALLEY - nature walk  
Leader: Robin Powell  
Rouge, Scarborough
- Meet at the Zoo entrance on Meadowvale Rd. Bring lunch. Walk may end at a different public transit stop. This could be a long walk with lots of hills to climb and wet places to cross. Many spring flowers should be in bloom and plenty of wildlife about (including deer).
- Monday  
May 24  
10 am  
\$ ferry tickets
- TORONTO ISLANDS - birds  
Leader: Helen Smith  
lakeshore, Toronto
- Meet at the ferry docks at the foot of Bay St. Bring lunch. This is usually the best time of year and the best place to see many kinds of birds. Bring binoculars and be prepared to LISTEN for birds as well as watch for them.
- Tuesday  
May 25  
10:30 am
- ROUGE VALLEY - nature walk  
Leader: to be appointed  
Rouge, Scarborough
- Meet at northeast corner of Sheppard Ave. East and Meadowvale Road. Walk may end at a different public transit stop. Bring lunch. This will be a more leisurely walk than the one on the weekend, but there is always lots of climbing in the Rouge. An excellent time for spring wildflowers and birds.

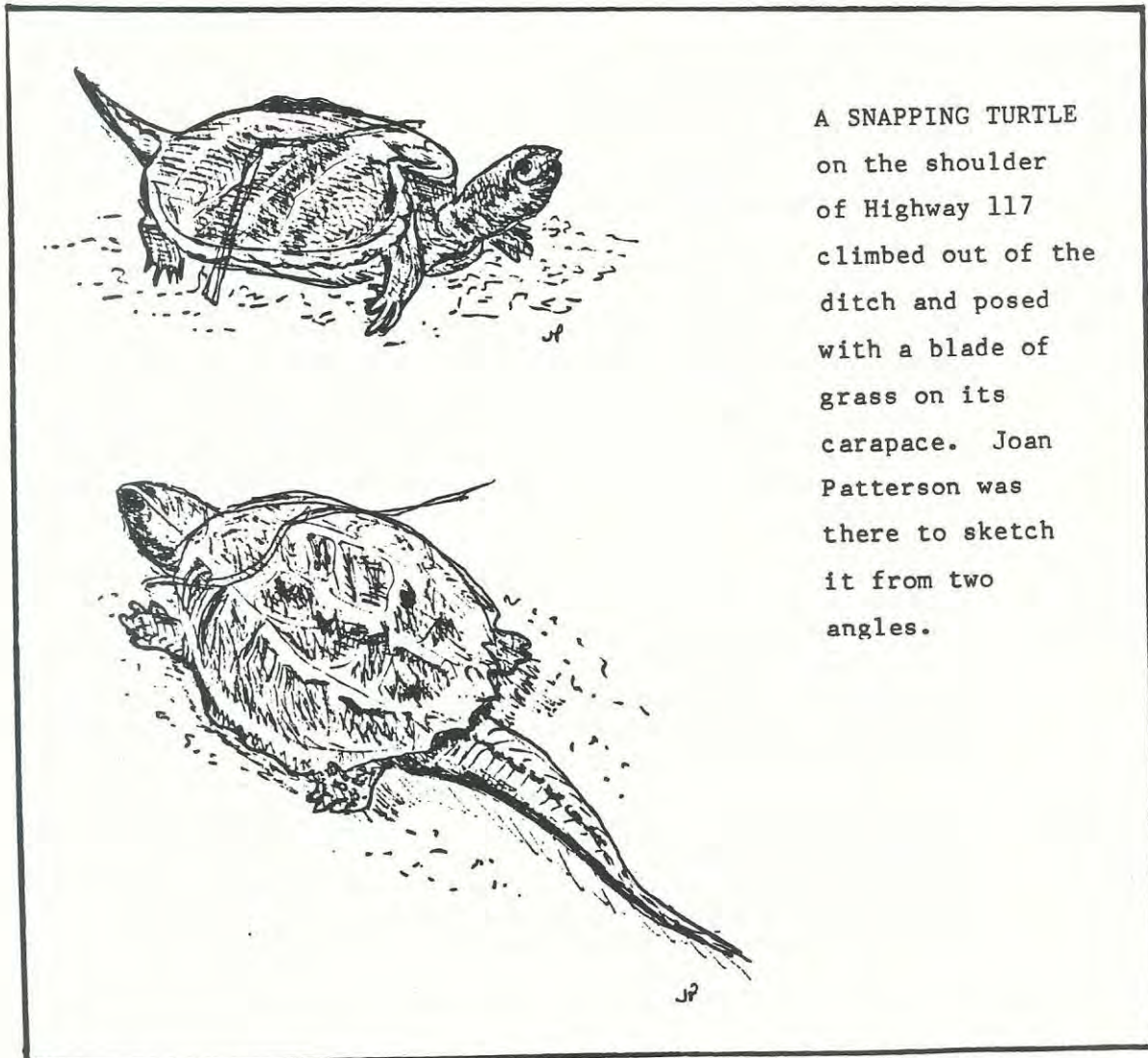
Did you have to cut the grass today?  
Oh, please, do stop and think!  
We couldn't find Veronica  
nor yet the Deptford pink.

Diana Banville  
Earl Bales Park  
July 11, 1990

## MAY OUTINGS (cont'd)

- Friday            GARRISON CREEK - evening ramble            Garrison Creek, Toronto  
 May 28            Leader: Sandy Cappell  
 6:45 pm          Meet at the Christie subway station. Walk will end at a  
                      different public transit stop.  
                      This walk will be north through city streets looking for signs of this  
                      long-buried creek and its source.
- Sunday            EAST POINT - waterfront greenway route            Lakeshore, Scarborough  
 May 30            Leader: Ken Cook  
 10:30 am        Meet at the foot of Morningside Ave. Bring lunch.  
                      This is a joint outing with the "Citizens for a Lakeshore Greenway". This  
                      is quite a long walk and may involve some climbing down to the beach.

▷



A SNAPPING TURTLE  
 on the shoulder  
 of Highway 117  
 climbed out of the  
 ditch and posed  
 with a blade of  
 grass on its  
 carapace. Joan  
 Patterson was  
 there to sketch  
 it from two  
 angles.

## OUTINGS (cont'd)

## June

- Wednesday  
June 2  
10:30 am
- BROOKBANKS RAVINE - nature walk  
Leader: Joan Patterson  
Meet at the southwest corner of York Mills Road and Fenside Dr.  
Bring lunch.  
We will be exploring the ravines of Deerlick Creek, a tributary of the East Don River. Good trails throughout this North York Park.
- East Don, North York
- Thursday  
June 3  
6:45 pm
- GERRARD RAVINE - evening ramble  
Leader: Ken Cook  
Meet at the Woodbine subway station on Woodbine Avenue north of Danforth Ave. Walk will end at a different public transit stop.  
Toronto contains many buried watercourses with only remnants remaining above ground. Learn to read the landscape of the city to find clues to a different past. Mostly on streets, but some climbing in and out of the ravine.
- Toronto
- Saturday  
June 5  
10:30 am
- HIGH PARK - nature arts  
Leader: Margaret Emminghaus  
Meet at the park entrance on Bloor St. West opposite High Pk. Ave. Bring lunch.  
Bring camera, sketching materials and stool, or just come and enjoy. The subject for drawing will be June flowers.
- Toronto
- Sunday  
June 6  
10:30 am
- EAST DON - nature walk  
Leader: Richard Aaron  
Meet at the northwest corner of Sheppard Ave. East and Leslie St. Walk will end at a different public transit stop.  
Bring lunch and your favourite field guide.  
We will be exploring the valley and identifying plants along the way. Many garden plants among the wild flowers as much of this area was farmed before it became parkland. Parts of this walk may require climbing and traversing of wet areas.
- East Don, North York
- Tuesday  
June 8  
10:30 am
- HUMBER OXBOW - nature walk  
Leader: Joan O'Donnell  
Meet at the northwest corner of Albion Road and Thistledown Blvd. Lunch optional.  
The floodplain of the Humber Valley is very large in this area and contains a remnant of a previous course of the Humber which has become a small lake. Many interesting wetland plants and animals to observe.
- Humber, Etobicoke
- Wednesday  
June 9  
6:45 pm
- CEDARVALE RAVINE - evening ramble  
Leader: Richard Aaron  
Meet at the Heath St. exit of the St. Clair West subway station.  
Bring your favourite wildflower field guide. May end elsewhere.  
A good chance to practice field identification of plants.
- Don tributary, Toronto/York

IT'S TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP IN TFN. See page 39. ▷

## JUNE OUTINGS (cont'd)

- Saturday  
June 12  
9 am  
WILKET CREEK - birds  
Leader: Ross Harris  
West Don tributary, North York  
Meet at the park entrance on the west side of Leslie St. (opposite the Inn on the Park), just north of Eglinton Ave. East. Bring lunch.  
This will be a leisurely stroll to look for and listen for birds. Bring binoculars, favourite bird book, and a note book and be prepared to LISTEN.
- Sunday  
June 13  
1:30 pm  
PROSPECT CEMETERY - nature walk  
Leader: Ken Cook  
Toronto/York  
Meet at the cemetery entrance on the north side of St. Clair Ave. West opposite Lansdowne Ave. Walk will end at a different public transit stop.  
This cemetery contains an excellent collection of ornamental trees and shrubs, many of them labelled. At this time of year they should be at their best with new leaves and flowers.
- Tuesday  
June 15  
10:30 am  
PIONEER VILLAGE - nature arts  
Leader: Betty Paul  
Black Creek, North York  
Meet at the village entrance on Murray Ross Parkway just south of Steeles Ave. West. Lunch optional.  
Bring cameras, sketching materials and stool, or just come and enjoy. Many subjects to draw, photograph or look at.  
\$ entry fee
- +  
Tuesday  
June 15  
6:45 pm  
ROSEDALE - evening ramble  
Leader: Sheila Van Landeghem  
Toronto  
Meet at the Rosedale subway station. Walk may end at a different public transit stop.  
Rosedale contains many examples of built and planted heritage. As well, it is intersected by several deep ravines containing tributaries of the Don River.
- Saturday  
June 19  
10 am  
RAINBOW CREEK - nature walk  
Leader: Robin Powell  
Humber tributary, Vaughan  
Meet at the northwest corner of Steeles Ave. West and Islington Ave. Bring lunch.  
Much climbing and many wet areas to cross on this ramble outside of Metro Toronto. Despite the significance of this wild area, many plans exist which will destroy it within the next few years.
- +  
Saturday  
June 19  
10 am  
GLENDON - trees  
Leader: Richard Aaron  
West Don, North York  
Meet at the gates to Glendon College (east side of Bayview Ave. at Lawrence Ave. East). Bring lunch. Walk may end at a different public transit stop.  
Earlier this year we visited this area to examine trees in winter. Now we are re-visiting this site to see what the trees look like at their best. The campus contains an excellent collection of ornamental trees and shrubs. We may also visit the valley to look at native trees and shrubs.

## JUNE OUTINGS (cont'd)

- Sunday  
June 20  
10:30 am LOWER DON - nature walk Don, Toronto/East York  
Leaders: Mark Wilson & Ed Freeman  
Meet at the Castle Frank subway station. Walk will end at a different public transit stop. Bring lunch.  
Come and learn about some of the many plans to clean up the Don River and return the valley to its natural state. We will be visiting the site of the former Don Valley Brick Works as well as the Belt Line ravine.
- Monday  
June 21  
6:45 pm WARDEN WOODS - evening ramble Taylor Creek, Scarborough  
Leader: Joanne Doucette  
Meet at the Warden subway station (southeast corner of Warden Ave. and St. Clair Ave. East). Walk may end at a different public transit stop.  
Celebrate the summer solstice by taking a walk in one of Metro's loveliest ravines. Could be some climbing as we look for rare wildflowers.
- Wednesday  
June 23  
10:30 am MOCCASIN TRAIL PARK - nature walk East Don, North York  
Leader: Siglinde McKay  
Meet on the east side of Don Mills Road at the Donway East south of Lawrence Ave. East. Walk may end at a different public transit stop. Bring lunch.  
This walk will be through part of the Charles Sauriol Conservation Reserve. A lovely wild valley to explore.
- Saturday  
June 26  
10:30 am YORK UNIVERSITY CAMPUS - shrubs Black Creek, North York  
Leader: Allan Greenbaum  
Meet at the corner of Sentinel Road and Murray Ross Parkway (north of Finch Ave. West, west of Keele St.). Bring lunch.  
Walk may end at a different public transit stop.  
The campus hedgerows and adjacent valley lands contain many species of both native and ornamental shrubs. Bring your favourite field guide and notebook.
- Sunday  
June 27  
1:30 pm HUMBER BAY - waterfront greenway exploration lakeshore, Toronto/Etobicoke  
Leader: Boris Mather  
Meet at the northeast corner of Windermere Ave. and the Queensway. Walk will end at a different public transit stop.  
Learn about plans for a walking trail along the Lake Ontario shoreline.  
This is a joint outing with the TFN and "Citizens for a Lakeshore Greenway".
- Tuesday  
June 29  
6:45 pm TAYLOR CREEK PARK - evening ramble Taylor Creek, North York  
Leader: Melanie Milanich  
Meet at the Victoria Park subway station (on the east side of Victoria Park Avenue, north of Danforth Ave.). Walk may end at a different public transit stop.  
A pleasant place for an evening walk -- good paths, lots of wildflowers, birds and history to study.
- Wednesday  
June 30  
10:30 am THOMSON MEMORIAL PARK - human & natural history Highland Creek, Scarborough  
Leader: Morris Sorensen  
Meet at the northeast corner of Lawrence Ave. East and Brimley Road. Bring lunch. Walk may end at a different public transit stop.  
This park is the "birthplace" of Scarborough. Level walking and much to enjoy.



## OUTINGS (cont'd)

## July

- Saturday SHERWOOD PARK - nature arts Burke Brook, Toronto  
 July 3 Leader: Terry Paradis  
 10:30 am Meet at the northeast corner of Mt. Pleasant Rd. and  
 Sherwood Ave. Bring lunch.  
 Bring camera, sketching materials and stool, or just come and enjoy this  
 lovely forest. The subject of this outing will be flowers and trees.
- Sunday L'AMOREAUX PARK - nature walk Highland Creek, Scarborough  
 July 4 Leader: Leslie Burns  
 1:30 pm Meet at the northeast corner of Birchmount Rd. and Silver  
 Springs Blvd.  
 This large local park contains some of the sources of Highland Creek.  
 As well as park facilities, this park contains a remnant woodlot.  
 Come and learn a little more of the human and natural history of Scarborough.
- Wednesday WEST POND - evening ramble Toronto  
 July 7 Leader: Richard Aaron  
 6:45 pm Meet at the northeast corner of the Queensway and Ellis Ave.  
 Walk may end at a different public transit stop.  
 This small pond just west of Grenadier Pond is a great place to look for  
 turtles etc. The wetland at the north end contains many kinds of ferns, and  
 sassafras trees border the northwest shoreline.
- Thursday ROUGE VALLEY - nature walk Rouge, Scarborough  
 July 8 Leader: to be appointed  
 10:30 am Meet at the northeast corner of Sheppard Ave. East and  
 Meadowvale Rd. Walk may end at a different public transit  
 stop. Bring lunch.  
 This should be a good time to visit the valleys of the Rouge. Some climbing  
 is usually necessary, but worth it for the unusual plants and animals to be  
 observed.
- Saturday SASSAFRAS RAVINE - nature walk West Don, North York  
 July 10 Leader: Sandy Cappell  
 10 am Meet at the southwest corner of Finch Ave. West and Dufferin  
 St. Bring lunch. Walk may end at a different public transit  
 stop.  
 Formerly part of someone's garden, this ravine contains the only sassafras  
 tree known to grow in the Don Valley. Lots of steep hills on this walk.
- Sunday UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO CAMPUS - evening ramble Toronto  
 July 11 Leader: Tracy Butler  
 6:45 pm Meet at the St. George subway station (northeast corner of  
 St. George St. and Bloor St. West. Walk may end at a different  
 public transit stop.  
 The campus is at its best during the summer with many grand trees to look  
 at as well as flowers and in the evening many nighthawks and chimney swifts  
 overhead. A bell concert at Hart House may be an added bonus.

HAVE YOU RENEWED YOUR TFN MEMBERSHIP? See page 39. ▸

## JULY OUTINGS (cont'd)

- Wednesday EAST DON VALLEY - nature walk East Don, North York  
 July 14 Leader: Carol Sellers  
 10:30 am Meet at the park entrance on the north side of Sheppard Ave.  
 East just west of Leslie St. Bring lunch. Walk may end at  
 a different public transit stop.  
 We will be looking for birds, butterflies and wildflowers. A good walking  
 trail exists.
- Thursday SHERWOOD PARK - evening ramble Burke Brook, Toronto  
 July 15 Leader: Deborah Butterfield  
 6:45 pm Meet at the northeast corner of Mt. Pleasant Rd. and  
 Sherwood Ave. Walk may end at a different public transit  
 stop.  
 Part of this park consists of mown grass and planted trees; the rest is  
 a truly lovely pine/beechnoak forest with an interesting understory of  
 witch hazel and maple-leaved viburnum. A pleasant place for a walk.
- Saturday HUMBER MARSHES - nature walk Humber, Toronto  
 July 17 Leader: Alfred Adamo  
 9 am Meet at the Old Mill subway station. Morning only.  
 Lots of poison ivy, nettles, mosquitoes, and wet places so dress appropriately.  
 The marshes are great places to see turtles basking and great blue herons  
 and ducks as well as unusual wetland plants.
- Sunday TODMORDEN MILLS - nature walk Don Valley, East York  
 July 18 Leader: Paula Davies  
 2 pm Meet at the village entrance on Pottery Road, west and downhill  
 from the corner of Broadview Ave. and Mortimer Ave.  
 We will be looking at the wildflower restoration project being undertaken  
 in the valley adjacent to the historic site. This is the project's  
 second year so it should be interesting to see what progress is being made.
- Tuesday SPADINA - nature arts Toronto  
 July 20 Leader: to be appointed  
 10:30 am Meet at the entrance to the grounds on the east side of  
 Spadina Rd. (next to Casa Loma), north of Davenport Rd.  
 Lunch optional.  
 Bring camera, sketching materials and stool, or just come and enjoy. The  
 historic house and restored Victorian gardens are always worth a visit.  
 Tours of the house may be made for a fee, but a visit to the garden is free.
- Friday GARRISON CREEK - evening ramble Garrison Creek, Toronto  
 July 23 Leader: Sandy Cappell  
 6:45 pm Meet at the Christie subway station. Walk will end at a  
 different public transit stop.  
 We will be following the route of this long-buried watercourse south to where  
 it entered Lake Ontario next to Fort York (the garrison).

## JULY OUTINGS (cont'd)

- Saturday  
July 24  
2 pm
- GRASS GARDEN, etc. - city garden tour Toronto  
Leader: Peter Iveson  
Meet on the south side of Front St. West at John St. Walk will end at a different public transit stop.  
Beginning at the Dome garden, we will be looking at other city parks with particularly interesting gardens. Lots of street walking (no hills).
- Sunday  
July 25  
1:30 pm
- SCARBOROUGH BLUFFS - lakeshore trail Lakeshore, Scarborough  
Leader: Ken Cook  
Meet on the south side of Kingston Rd. at Birchmount Rd. Walk will end at a different public transit stop.  
This is a joint outing with the "Citizens for a Lakeshore Greenway." Much climbing will be required as we explore the proposed route below the bluffs.
- Wednesday  
July 28  
11 am
- CHERRY BEACH - insects & plants Lakeshore, Toronto  
Leader: Bill Edmonds  
Meet at the corner of Cherry St. and Commissioners St. Bring lunch.  
Bring a magnifying glass and a small glass container for holding and viewing insects and plants. We will not be walking far. Mostly we will be sitting at picnic tables and trying to learn what we can about the fascinating lives of these small animals and their relationships to plants.
- Thursday  
July 29  
6:45 pm
- TORONTO'S UNDERGROUND - evening ramble Toronto  
Leaders: Ed & Priscilla Freeman  
Meet on the southwest corner of Front St. West and Bay St. Walk will end at a different public transit stop.  
Come and find out what this city is made of, the soils beneath us and the materials we have brought in. Look for fossils and enjoy the air conditioned streets below the buildings, particularly if it is a hot evening, or rainy.
- Saturday  
July 31  
11 am
- MURAL ROUTE - human & natural heritage Lakeshore, Scarborough  
Leader: Raphael Sussman  
Meet at the northwest corner of Kingston Rd. and Midland Ave. Walk will end at a different public transit stop.  
Bring lunch.  
This will be a long walk, but level all the way and close to public transit as we explore Scarborough north and south of Kingston Rd., including views of Lake Ontario.

To those who are surfeited with the crazy drama of human events -- or frightened by it -- I especially recommend the insect. The insect never ceases to astound with its capacity to combine beauty and ugliness, power and frailty, familiarity and otherworldliness -- all in a package so small we can eliminate it, if we will, with a stamp of a foot. But no fear, there will be others to take its place.

from THE PLEASURES OF ENTOMOLOGY by Howard Ensign Evans, Smithsonian Institution Press, Washington, D.C., 1985

## OUTINGS (cont'd)

## August

- Sunday  
August 1  
11 am  
SIMCOE'S DON - human & natural history Don, Toronto/East York  
Leaders: Aarne & Helen Juhola  
Meet at the Castle Frank subway station. Walk will end at a different public transit stop. Lunch optional. (May be purchased at Todmorden Mills where we are going.)  
To celebrate the 200th anniversary of the arrival of the Simcoe's, we will be walking from the site of their summer home to Todmorden Mills. Readings from Mrs. Simcoe's diary will be given along the way.
- Wednesday  
August 4  
6:45 pm  
LAKE IROQUOIS SHORELINE - evening ramble Toronto/East York  
Leader: Sandy Cappell  
Meet at the Summerhill subway station. Walk will end at a different public transit stop.  
Much climbing will be involved in this walk as we explore the ancient shoreline and bluffs of Lake Iroquois. Many interesting trees and gardens along the way.
- Thursday  
August 5  
10:30 am  
ROUGE VALLEY - nature walk Rouge, Scarborough  
Leader: to be appointed  
Meet at the northeast corner of Sheppard Ave. East and Meadowvale Rd. Bring lunch. Walk may end at a different public transit stop.  
Every season in the Rouge valley brings new sights and sounds. Summer flowers and butterflies should be at their best. Much climbing is required.
- Saturday  
August 7  
10:30 am  
HIGH PARK - nature arts Toronto  
Leader: Eric Wiersma  
Meet at the park entrance on the south side of Bloor St. West opposite High Park Ave. Lunch optional.  
Bring camera, sketching materials and stool, or just come and enjoy. The topic of study will be trees.
- Sunday  
August 8  
1:30 pm  
NECROPOLIS CEMETERY - trees for beginners Don, Toronto  
Leader: Tracy Butler  
Meet at the corner of Carlton St. and Sumach St.  
Bring your notebook and pen and field guide if you have one. Binoculars are sometimes helpful for looking at trees and seeds high up in the trees.
- Tuesday  
August 10  
6:45 pm  
SCHOOLYARD RENATURALIZATION - evening ramble Toronto  
Leader: Terry McGlade  
Meet at the southwest corner of College St. and Ossington Ave.  
Walk may end at a different public transit stop.  
We will be visiting the schoolyard for Ossington and Old Orchard Schools. Your leader has been involved in a program to change the schoolyard from a flat piece of asphalt to a "green place". Come and find out about this complex process. We may also have a walk in the neighbourhood.

Remember that picking plants is destroying the rich heritage that we have here. Don't be tempted to remove plants from their natural habitat, but leave them so that others may enjoy them too.

from TWELVE HONG KONG WALKS by Derek Kemp, Oxford University Press, Hong Kong, 1985

## AUGUST OUTINGS (cont'd)

- Wednesday August 11 10:30 am OLD TORONTO - nature walk Toronto  
 Leader: Ruth Munson  
 Meet at the northeast corner of Queen St. West and Augusta Ave. Bring lunch. Walk will end at a different public transit stop.  
 History and nature in parks and front yards will be the subject today as we wander through this downtown residential area.
- Sunday August 15 10:30 am EAST POINT - nature walk Lakeshore, Scarborough  
 Leader: Jerry Belan  
 Meet at the foot of Morningside Ave. Bring lunch.  
 This could be a long walk with some climbing of the bluffs. Migrating birds and butterflies may already be gathering and flocking along this unique stretch of natural shoreline.
- Monday August 16 6:45 pm BELTLINE RAILWAY - evening ramble Toronto  
 Leader: Nancy Fredenburg  
 Meet at the Eglinton West subway station. Walk will end at a different public transit stop.  
 This linear park cuts diagonally across the city. Many trees and backyards with bird feeders provide much of interest to naturalists.
- Tuesday August 17 10:30 am TORONTO ISLANDS - nature arts Lakeshore, Toronto  
 Leader: Ann Millett  
 Meet at the ferry docks at the foot of Bay St. Bring lunch. Bring camera, sketching materials and stool, or just come and enjoy. The island is always a good place to visit with its lakeshore scenery, birds and wildflowers, and a ferry trip to enjoy.  
 \$ ferry ticket
- Saturday August 21 9 am ECHO VALLEY PARK - nut trees Mimico Creek, Etobicoke  
 Leader: Tom Atkinson  
 Meet at the park entrance on the west side of Kipling Ave. just north of Burnhamthorpe Rd. Morning only.  
 This park was formerly part of the Corson Nut Tree Farm. Many very unusual species of nut trees, many of them grafted, grow here. A good time of year to see the nuts on the trees.
- Sunday August 22 11 am MORNINGSIDE PARK - nature walk Highland Cr., Scarborough  
 Leader: Joanne Doucette  
 Meet at the park entrance on the west side of Morningside Ave., north of Lawrence Ave. East, south of Ellesmere Rd. Bring lunch. Walk may end at a different public transit stop.  
 Much to see in this lovely large wild park. Some hill climbing and wet areas to cross.
- Thursday August 26 10:30 am SCARBOROUGH MEADOWS - nature walk Scarborough  
 Leader: Karin Fawthrop  
 Meet at the northeast corner of St. Clair Ave. East and Midland Ave. Bring lunch. Walk will end at a different public transit stop.  
 Walking may be rough in this area which was held for a transportation route. Not many trees, but lots of grasses. Both wild and garden flowers as well as birds inhabit this green corridor.

AUGUST OUTINGS (cont'd)

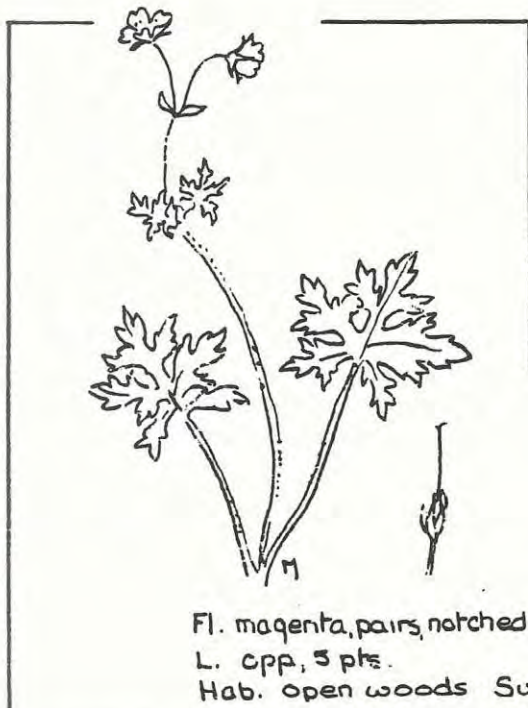
Saturday LESLIE STREET SPIT - birds Lakeshore, Toronto  
August 28 Leader: Don Burton  
9 am Meet at the foot of Leslie Street. Lunch optional.  
Many kinds of birds are migrating by now. Level walking and a slow pace  
on this outing.

Sunday WATERFRONT GREENWAY - nature walk Lakeshore, Toronto  
August 29 Leader: Ken Cook  
11 am Meet on the south side of Queen St. West at Roncesvalles Ave.  
Walk will end at a different public transit stop. Bring lunch.  
This will be a joint walk with the "Citizens for a Lakeshore Greenway"  
along the proposed route for a shoreline trail. A good opportunity to  
experience our waterfront heritage.

Tuesday EAST POINT - nature walk Lakeshore, Scarborough  
August 31 Leader: Carol Sellers  
10:30 am Meet at the foot of Morningside Ave. Bring lunch. Walk may  
end at a different public transit stop.  
An excellent time to visit this section of Scarborough Bluffs. Much to  
see -- birds, butterflies, wildflowers, scenery.

□

GERANIUM BICKNELLII GERANIACEAE  
Bicknell's geranium



BICKNELL'S GERANIUM  
is a rare Metro  
native, reported  
only from Wilket Creek  
Park.

(Drawing is from  
FLOWERS OF LONGFORD  
by Mary Anne Miller.)

Fl. magenta, pairs, notched  
L. opp, 5 pts.  
Hab. open woods Sum.

## Membership Renewal Notice

Your current membership expires June 30, 1993. To renew your membership for the year July 1, 1993 to June 30, 1994, and ensure receiving a September newsletter, send payment by June 30, 1993, to the address on the back.

Please renew NOW to help spread the work load for our volunteers and to save us the expense of sending the renewal notice and, please, NO post-dated cheques!

I wish to [        ] renew\*  
                      [        ] give a donation

Remittance enclosed in the amount of:

[        ] \$30 Family (2 adults, same address, children included)  
[        ] \$25 Single     [        ] \$25 Senior Family (2 adults 65+)  
[        ] \$20 Student     [        ] \$20 Senior Single  
[        ] [ \$\_\_\_\_\_ ] Donation (tax receipts issued for donations)

\* Please check your name and address on back and give us your current telephone number.

Telephone number \_\_\_\_\_

### NATURE INFORMATION CENTRE

For more than ten years the log cabin at the gates to Sunnybrook Park has been operated as a Nature Information Centre by members of the Toronto Field Naturalists, in cooperation with the Metro Parks and Property Dept.

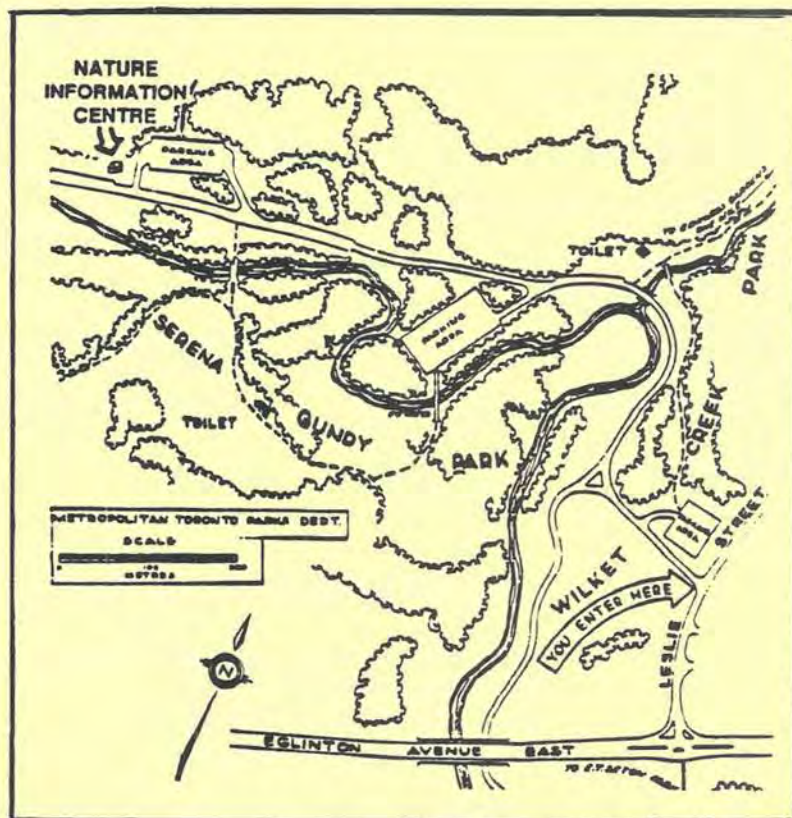
At least four members are present in the cabin every Sunday afternoon from 12 noon until 4 pm.

As well as displays, we provide free maps of parks, pamphlets about nature walks, other organizations, and plants, animals and landforms of Toronto.

We hope that many members will visit the cabin.

If you want to help or must change your booking, please call the TFN office (968-6255) and leave your name and number.

May 2 to October 10



# TORONTO FIELD NATURALISTS

20 College St., Suite 11  
Toronto, Ontario M5G 1K2

Publications Mail  
Registration No.  
6669

(416) 968-6255



## TORONTO FIELD NATURALIST

Published eight times a year by the Toronto Field Naturalists, a charitable, non-profit organization, the aims of which are to stimulate public interest in natural history and to encourage the preservation of our natural heritage.

### OTHER PUBLICATIONS

TORONTO FIELD NATURALISTS CLUB: ITS HISTORY AND CONSTITUTION, 1965 .....	\$ 2.00	INDEX OF TFN NEWSLETTERS (1938 to present) .....	\$ 10.00
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Survey #3 - Chapman Valley Ravine, 1975		VASCULAR PLANTS OF METROPOLITAN TORONTO, 1990 .....	\$ 8.00
Survey #4 - Wigmere Ravine, 1975			
Survey #5 - Park Drive Ravine, 1976			
Survey #6 - Burke Ravine, 1976			
Survey #7 - Taylor Creek-Woodbine Bridge Ravines, 1977			
Survey #8 - West Don Valley, 1978			

NO G.S.T.

All publications are available at the monthly general meetings or may be ordered from Toronto Field Naturalists, 20 College St., Suite 11, Toronto, Ontario, M5G 1K2. (Add \$2.00 per item for postage and handling).

### MEMBERSHIP FEES (No G.S.T.)

\$30 FAMILY (2 adults - same address, children included)

\$25 SINGLE, SENIOR FAMILY

\$20 STUDENT, SENIOR SINGLE

Tax receipts issued for donations

Membership fees and address changes should be sent to:  
20 College St., Suite 11, Toronto, Ontario M5G 1K2

