About CRD Regional Parks

CRD Regional Parks protects and manages more than 13,000 hectares of spectacular and accessible natural areas in 34 Regional Parks & Trails on southern Vancouver Island and the Gulf Islands. Regional Parks protect and restore biodiversity, offer a range of compatible outdoor recreation and education opportunities, and provide accessible, joyful connections with the natural world.

There is a wonderful world of natural and cultural history to explore at our Nature Centres. Regional Parks staff and volunteer naturalists can answer your questions and point you in the right direction on the trails.



The Nature Centre is wheelchair accessible.

Francis/King Nature Centre

(Munn Road in Saanich)

CLOSED FOR THE SEASON

Open year-round – Saturdays, Sundays, holiday Mondays, 12–4pm. The Nature Centre and the Elsie King Trail are wheelchair accessible.

Witty's Lagoon Nature Centre

(Metchosin Road in Metchosin) Open year-round – Saturdays, Sundays, holiday Mondays, 12–4pm. The Nature Centre is wheelchair accessible.

FSC placeholder

Please take one, share

with a friend and recycle.

Download brochure in PDF

format www.crd.bc.ca/parks.

Connect with us

Capital Regional District



@crd_bc | #crdparks



CRDVictoria



Capital Regional District | Regional Parks

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PAWS in Parks

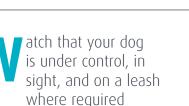
Pause to consider this simple canine courtesy



rotect nature by keeping your dog away from wildlife and sensitive areas



Iways respect others who might not velcome your dog's attention









Learn more at www.crd.bc.ca/petsinparks

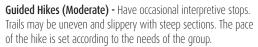
What You Need to Know

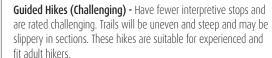
All programs run rain or shine. Try to arrive 10 minutes beforehand. Outings that require registration or fees are noted in the listing. Age recommendations are based on park terrain and program content.

Legend

Drop-in Event - Come by anytime between the hours that the event is offered.







design standards, and are suitable for visitors with limited mobility. **Accessible -** Events and outings on these trails meet universal



Youth & Adults



Register online

The CRD's secure online registration site allows you to browse, pre-register and pay immediately for a nature outing.

- 1. Browse nature outings
- 2. Select an outing
- 3. Create an account
- 4. Select a credit card payment option and complete your registration

Once registration is complete, a receipt and confirmation will be emailed to you. Payment options: VISA or Mastercard.

www.crd.bc.ca/parks-events

What to bring & how to dress

Carry a day pack with drinking water, a hat, extra clothes and a small snack (or lunch for longer outings). Please wear sturdy footwear and dress for the weather.

Pets

We like pets too. However, their presence can be disruptive. Please leave your animal friends at home

Feedback

Tell us about your experience by taking the short online survey at www.crd.bc.ca/parks-events. Your feedback is important to us to monitor and improve our services.

Top 10 Things to do this Fall at a Regional Park



- 1. Watch for spawning salmon at Sooke Potholes Regional Park.
- 2. Catch a CRD mushroom identification program.
- 3. Attend our annual Hawk Watch event to celebrate our local raptors' fall migration.
- 4. Check out the diversity of seaweeds at Island View Beach Regional Park.
- 5. Drop in to our Spook-tacular Halloween program at Francis/ King Regional Park.
- 6. Visit Beechey Head in East Sooke Regional Park to view turkey vultures kettling.
- 7. Enjoy the lush mosses and fall colours along Elsie King Trail in Francis/King Regional Park.
- 8. Hike up one of our hilltop parks, like Horth Hill and Lone Tree Hill Regional Parks.
- 9. Challenge yourself to explore a new regional park or trail.
- 10. Celebrate the return of buffleheads, and other overwintering waterfowl, at Witty's Lagoon Regional Park

Fall at a Glance

September

DATE EVENT

Who's Hooting? (Guided Walk)–Mill Hill Bear Necessities (Guided Walk)–East Sooke

The Beach Rocks (Guided Walk)–Island View Beach Forest Buddies (Guided Walk)–Francis/King

LOCATION

Sandy Shore Explore (Guided Walk)–Witty's Lagoon

People, Plants, Places (Drop-in Event)–Island View Beach Rascally Raccoons (Guided Walk)–Devonian

Marvelous Matheson (Guided Hike)–Matheson Lake

Birds of Witty's (Guided Walk)–Witty's Lagoon

Hawk Watch (Drop-in Event)–East Sooke 🔠 占

October

Birds of Beechey Head (Guided Walk)–East Sooke

Riverside Walk (Guided Walk)–Sooke Potholes A Salmon Story (Guided Walk)–Sooke Potholes

Forest Spook-tacular (Drop-in Event)-Francis/King

Forest Spook-tacular (Drop-in Event)-Francis/King

Forest Spook-tacular (Drop-in Event)–Francis/King

Forest Spook-tacular (Drop-in Event)–Francis/King

November

Salmon Sensation (Drop-in Event)

Fabulous Fungi (Guided Adult Walk)–Francis/King Fabulous Fungi (Guided Adult Walk)-Francis/King

Fabulous Fungi (Guided Adult Walk)–Francis/King

Wonderful Woodpeckers (Guided Walk)–Francis/King Marvelous Mushrooms (Guided Walk)–Francis/King

Ugh! A Slug! (Guided Walk)–Francis/King 統介

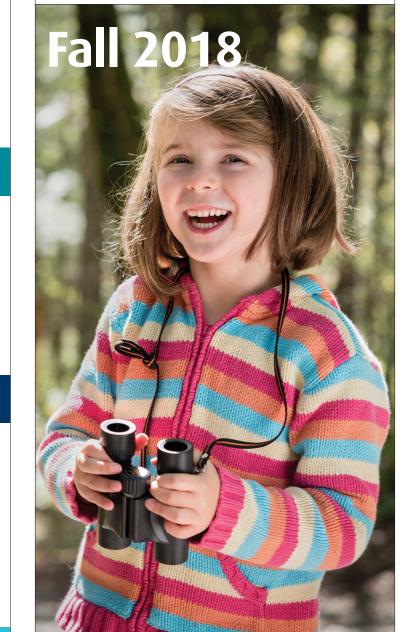
25 Squirrelly Squirrels! (Guided Walk)–Francis/King

September | October | November **2018**

Nature Outings and Events

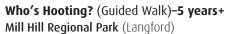
For Nature Lovers of All Ages

Regional Parks



September

Saturday, September 1 | 10–11:30am



The owls are hooting. Join a CRD Regional Parks naturalist to learn some owl calls, find out about these excellent night hunters, and get to know our BC owls. Meet at the information kiosk in the parking lot off Atkins Avenue.

BC Transit #53

Sunday, September 2 | 10:30am-12pm

Bear Necessities (Guided Walk)-5 years+ **East Sooke Regional Park** (East Sooke)

We can co-exist with these magnificent forest dwellers. Join a CRD Regional Parks naturalist to learn about the natural history of the black bear. Meet at the kiosk in the Aylard Farm parking lot off Beecher Bay Road.

Saturday, September 8 | 10–11:30am

The Beach Rocks (Guided Walk)-All ages **Island View Beach Regional Park** (Central Saanich)

The tide is out! Join a CRD Regional Parks naturalist and get a glimpse of the creatures that live beneath the rocks. Be prepared to get your feet wet (bring sandals or beach shoes). Meet at the grassy area adjacent to the picnic shelter off Homathko Road.



Sunday, September 9 | 11am-12pm 🛵 🎊





Forest Buddies (Guided Walk)-5 vears and under Francis/King Regional Park (Saanich)

Bring your little ones to Francis/King Regional Park to be the best buddies they can be to the forest! Help us meet the forest, feed the forest, and discover what animals live in the forest through inspiring sensory activities, songs, and stories. **There is no fee** for this program but you must pre-register by September 5 as space is limited. Visit www.crd.bc.ca/parks-events.

Tuesday, September 11 | 10–11:30am



Sandy Shore Explore (Guided Walk)-All ages Witty's Lagoon Regional Park (Metchosin)

Join a CRD Regional Parks naturalist for an intertidal exploration and discover the strange and wonderful creatures that appear between the tides. Be prepared to get your feet wet (bring sandals or beach shoes). Meet at the kiosk near the main beach off Metchosin Road

BC Transit #54 or #55

Saturday, September 15 | 11am-2pm



People, Plants, Places (Drop-in Event)-All ages **Island View Beach Regional Park** (Central Saanich)

Enjoy this beautiful park with CRD Regional Parks naturalists and quest nature walkers and ethnobotanists Earl Claxton Jr. and John-Bradley Williams. Play our plant challenge and see why Island View Beach is so special. Guided walks offered at 11:15am and 1pm. Look for the blue tent by the picnic area off Homathko Road.

Sunday, September 16 | 1-2:30pm



Rascally Raccoons (Guided Walk)-All ages **Devonian Regional Park** (Metchosin)

A CRD Regional Parks naturalist will lead you on a raccoon trail for a day in the life of these little rascals. Meet at the information kiosk in the parking lot off William Head Road.

BC Transit #54 or #55

Saturday, September 22 | 10am–1pm 📝



Marvelous Matheson (Guided Hike)-18 years+ Matheson Lake Regional Park (Metchosin)

Join a CRD Regional Parks naturalist for a hike around this gem of a lake. Discover some of the fascinating cultural and natural history of this park. Bring a snack, water, and wear sturdy footwear. There is no fee for this program but you must preregister by September 19 as space is limited. Visit www. crd.bc.ca/parks-events.

Sunday, September 23 | 9:30–11am



Birds of Witty's (Guided Walk)-8 years+ Witty's Lagoon Regional Park (Metchosin)

Witty's Lagoon Regional Park is a birder's paradise due to a combination of freshwater, salt water, mudflat, grassland and forest ecosystems. For the novice and intermediate birder, join a CRD Regional Parks naturalist for a glimpse of some of the birds that reside and visit this park. Bring binoculars if you have them. Meet at the Witty's Lagoon Nature Centre off Metchosin Road.

BC Transit #54 or #55

Saturday, September 29 | 11am-2pm 🛵 🧰







Hawk Watch (Drop-in Event)-All ages **East Sooke Regional Park** (East Sooke)

Have you ever seen turkey vultures kettling? Join CRD Regional Parks and the Victoria Natural History Society for this annual migration event. There will be live raptor demonstrations and activities at Aylard Farm, which are accessible to all ages and abilities. For those who want to add in a hike, there are experts with spotting scopes at the viewpoint above Beechey Head. The hike up to the viewpoint requires sturdy footwear and is a 20-minute trek up a steep and rocky trail. Bring binoculars, water, and a lunch. Drop in anytime between 11am and 2pm at the Aylard Farm parking lot off Beecher Bay Road.



October

Saturday, October 6 | 9am-12pm 👯



Birds of Beechey Head (Guided Walk)-9 years+ **East Sooke Regional Park** (East Sooke)

Join CRD guest naturalist, Geoffrey Newell, and walk to Beechey Head to observe raptors during their fall migration. Meet at the kiosk in the Aylard Farm parking lot off Beecher Bay Road.

Saturday, October 13 | 10am-12pm 🏋



Riverside Walk (Guided Walk)-18 years+ **Sooke Potholes Regional Park** (Sooke)

Here's a chance to explore Sooke Potholes with a CRD Regional Parks naturalist. Bring a snack, water, and wear sturdy footwear

There is no fee for this program but you must pre-register by October 10 as space is limited. Visit www.crd.bc.ca/ parks-events.

Sunday, October 14 | 1-2:30pm



A Salmon Story (Guided Walk)-5 years+ **Sooke Potholes Regional Park** (Sooke)

The journey a salmon takes is an amazing one, their story is filled with adventure, wonder, and danger. Join a CRD Regional Parks naturalist as you walk along the river learning about the salmon's story and the challenges they face. Meet at CRD Parking Lot #2.

Saturday, October 20 | 11am-2pm Sunday, October 21 | 11am-2pm Saturday, October 27 | 11am-2pm Sunday, October 28 | 11am-2pm

Forest Spook-tacular (Drop-in Event)–All ages Francis/King Regional Park (Saanich)

Drop by anytime between 11am and 2pm with family and friends for this spook-tacular afternoon of Halloween fun with CRD Regional Parks naturalists. At 11:15am and 1:15pm join the quided walks, if you dare - we'll fill the cauldron with spooky treasures from the natural world. Displays, Halloween crafts, and hot ghoulish brew await. Wear a costume and win a prize. Meet at the Francis/King Nature Centre off Munn Road.

November

Saturday, November 3 | 11am-2pm 🗦 🧰





Salmon Sensation (Drop-in Event)–All ages **Charters Interpretive Centre (Sooke)**

Salmon have returned to the rivers. Drop in anytime for fishyfun activities, a craft and guided walks with CRD Regional Parks naturalists along Charters River. A close-up look at these magnificent fish as they return to spawn and complete their lifecycle awaits. Meet at Charters Interpretive Centre off Sooke River Road.

Sunday, November 4 | 2-4pm 💉



Fabulous Fungi (Guided Adult Walk)-18 vears+ Francis/King Regional Park (Saanich)

Mushrooms play a vital role in our forests. Go beyond the basics of our forest fungi with CRD Regional Parks guest naturalist Kem Luther. On this adults-only guided walk, intermediate mushroom identification will be covered. **\$7+GST. Pre-registration** required by October 31 as space is limited. Visit www.crd. bc.ca/parks-events.

Saturday, November 10 | 10am-12pm 💦



Fabulous Fungi (Guided Adult Walk)-18 years+ Francis/King Regional Park (Saanich)

Mushrooms play a vital role in our forests. Go beyond the basics of our forest fungi with CRD Regional Parks quest naturalist Kem Luther. On this adults-only guided walk intermediate mushroom identification will be covered. **\$7+GST. Pre-registration** required by November 6 as space is limited. Visit www.crd. bc.ca/parks-events.

Saturday, November 10 | 1–3pm 🥋



Fabulous Fungi (Guided Adult Walk)-18 years+ Francis/King Regional Park (Saanich)

Mushrooms play a vital role in our forests. Go beyond the basics of our forest fungi with CRD Regional Parks quest naturalist Kem Luther. On this adults-only guided walk intermediate mushroom identification will be covered. **\$7+GST. Pre-registration** required by November 6 as space is limited. Visit www.crd. bc.ca/parks-events.

Saturday, November 17 | 10–11:30am



Wonderful Woodpeckers (Guided Walk)-5 years+ Francis/King Regional Park (Saanich)

Discover all of the tricks of the woodpecker trade. What makes them so good at what they do? Join a CRD Regional Parks naturalist and learn how to identify different woodpeckers by sight, sound and habits on this fun guided walk. Meet at the Francis/King Nature Centre off Munn Road.

Sunday, November 18 | 10–11:30am



Marvelous Mushrooms (Guided Walk)-5 vears+ Francis/King Regional Park (Saanich)

For the novice mushroom explorer. Join a CRD Regional Parks naturalist to discover more about fungi in the forest. **There** is no fee for this program but you must pre-register by November 13 as space is limited. Visit www.crd.bc.ca/ parks-events.

Saturday, November 24 | 10–11am



Ugh! A Slug! (Guided Walk)-5 years+ Francis/King Regional Park (Saanich)

Be it a Banana or a licorice slug, stroll with a CRD Regional Parks naturalist to peek under fallen logs and leaves in search of these giant gastropods that are one of nature's best recyclers. Meet at the Francis/King Nature Centre off Munn Road.

Sunday, November 25 | 10–11am 🛵 🌃



Squirrelly Squirrels! (Guided Walk)-5 years and under Francis/King Regional Park (Saanich)

What does it take to survive as a squirrel? With a CRD Regional Parks naturalist discover what keeps these furry creatures busy at this time of year. **There is no fee for this program but you** must preregister by November 20 as space is limited. Visit www.crd.bc.ca/parks-events.



