


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.

Beaver Lake Nature Centre 
(Beaver Beach off Elk Lake Drive in Saanich)
CLOSED FOR THE SEASON
The Nature Centre is wheelchair accessible.

Francis/King Nature Centre 
(Munn Road in Saanich)
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



Making a difference...together

Capital Regional District | Regional Parks
490 Atkins Avenue, Victoria, BC V9B 2Z8
Tel: 250.478.3344 | F: 250.478.5416
E: crdparks@crd.bc.ca | www.crd.bc.ca/parks

PAWS in Parks

Pause to consider this simple canine courtesy



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



Always respect others who might not welcome your dog's attention



Watch that your dog is under control, in sight, and on a leash where required



Scoop your dog's poop and take it to the trash



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.

Guided Walks - Have a casual pace with interpretive stops.

Guided Hikes (Moderate) - Have occasional interpretive stops. Trails may be uneven and slippery with steep sections. The pace of the hike is set according to the needs of the group.

Guided Hikes (Challenging) - Have fewer interpretive stops and are rated challenging. Trails will be uneven and steep and may be slippery in sections. These hikes are suitable for experienced and fit adult hikers.

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

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















Hawk Watch








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	LOCATION
1	Who's Hooting? (Guided Walk)–Mill Hill	
2	Bear Necessities (Guided Walk)–East Sooke	
8	The Beach Rocks (Guided Walk)–Island View Beach	
9	Forest Buddies (Guided Walk)–Francis/King	 
11	Sandy Shore Explore (Guided Walk)–Witty's Lagoon	
15	People, Plants, Places (Drop-in Event)–Island View Beach	
16	Rascally Raccoons (Guided Walk)–Devonian	
22	Marvelous Matheson (Guided Hike)–Matheson Lake	
23	Birds of Witty's (Guided Walk)–Witty's Lagoon	
29	Hawk Watch (Drop-in Event)–East Sooke	 

October

6	Birds of Beechey Head (Guided Walk)–East Sooke	
13	Riverside Walk (Guided Walk)–Sooke Potholes	
14	A Salmon Story (Guided Walk)–Sooke Potholes	
20	Forest Spook-tacular (Drop-in Event)–Francis/King	
21	Forest Spook-tacular (Drop-in Event)–Francis/King	
27	Forest Spook-tacular (Drop-in Event)–Francis/King	
28	Forest Spook-tacular (Drop-in Event)–Francis/King	

November

3	Salmon Sensation (Drop-in Event) Charters Interpretive Centre	 
4	Fabulous Fungi (Guided Adult Walk)–Francis/King	
10	Fabulous Fungi (Guided Adult Walk)–Francis/King	
10	Fabulous Fungi (Guided Adult Walk)–Francis/King	
17	Wonderful Woodpeckers (Guided Walk)–Francis/King	 
18	Marvelous Mushrooms (Guided Walk)–Francis/King	
24	Ugh! A Slug! (Guided Walk)–Francis/King	
25	Squirrely Squirrels! (Guided Walk)–Francis/King	 

September | October | November 2018

Nature Outings and Events

For Nature Lovers of All Ages

CRD | Regional Parks

Fall 2018



September

Saturday, September 1 | 10–11:30am 

Who's Hooting? (Guided Walk)–5 years+
Mill Hill Regional Park (Langford)

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.



Rascally Raccoons

Sunday, September 9 | 11am–12pm  

Forest Buddies (Guided Walk)–5 years 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 guest 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 pre-register 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.



Island View Beach Regional Park

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 guided 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 fishy-fun 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 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 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 guest 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 guest 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 years+
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  

Squirrely 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.**



Fabulous Fungi

Photo Rich Mably