

March | April | May 2020

Nature Outings and Events

For Nature Lovers of All Ages

CRD | Regional Parks

Spring 2020



Spring at a Glance

March

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION
8	Mystery Creature (Guided Walk)-Coles Bay	🚶
14	Park to Park (Adult Guided Hike)-Matheson Lake	🚶
18	Buzz About Bees (Drop-in Event)-Francis/King	🏛️ 🚹
22	Busy Beavers (Guided Walk)-Elk/Beaver Lake	🚶
26	Ugh! A Slug! (Guided Walk)-Devonian	🚶
28	Salmon Saturday (Drop-in Event)-Charters Interpretive Centre	🏛️
31	Nature Shapes (Guided Walk)-Francis/King	🚶 🚹
31	Nature Shapes (Guided Walk)-Francis/King	🚶 🚹

April

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION
5	Bear Necessities (Guided Walk)-Thetis Lake	🚶
11	Egg-cellent Nests (Guided Walk)-Francis/King	🚶 🚹
18	People, Plants and Places (Guided Walk)-Island View Beach	🚶
18	People, Plants and Places (Guided Walk)-Island View Beach	🚶
19	Hoo Hoo's Hooting? (Guided Walk)-Mill Hill	🚶
19	Hoo Hoo's Hooting? (Guided Walk)-Mill Hill	🚶
25	Family Fun Walk (Guided Walk)-Elk/Beaver Lake	🚶
26	Wildflowers of Mill Hill (Adult Guided Hike)-Mill Hill	🚶

May

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION
2	Beginner Birding Basics (Guided Walk)-Island View Beach	🚶
3	Wildflower Wonders (Adult Guided Walk)-Francis/King	🚶 🚹
17	Forest to Seashore (Guided Walk)-Witty's Lagoon	🚶
23	Feelin' Out Frogs (Guided Walk)-Elk/Beaver Lake	🚶
23	Feelin' Out Frogs (Guided Walk)-Elk/Beaver Lake	🚶
30	Up the Blooming Hill (Guided Hike)-Lone Tree Hill	🚶

What You Need to Know

All programs run, rain or shine, unless deemed unsafe. 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

Youth & Adults only



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.



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.

March

Sunday, March 8 | 1-2:30pm

Mystery Creature (Guided Walk)-All ages Coles Bay Regional Park (North Saanich)

Solve riddles and find the clues hidden along the trail with a CRD Regional Parks naturalist to discover who the mystery creature is. We'll learn fascinating facts and enjoy the beauty of Coles Bay along the way. Meet at the information kiosk in the parking lot off Inverness Road.

Saturday, March 14 | 10am-1pm

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

Here's your chance to explore two parks in one! Join a CRD Regional Parks naturalist at Matheson Lake for a walk to Roche Cove. Walk along the lake edge and the Galloping Goose Regional Trail. Learn about the history of these two regional parks and the regional trail and cross two more parks off your "parks-to-visit" list. Bring a lunch and water and wear sturdy footwear.

There is no fee for this program but you must pre-register by March 10 as space is limited.

Visit www.crd.bc.ca/parks-events.



Mystery Creature

Wednesday, March 18 | 11am-2pm

Buzz About Bees (Drop-in Event)-All ages Francis/King Regional Park (Saanich)

A honey of an event fit for the royalty of the insect world. What's the buzz about bees - are they really good dancers? Join us for bee crafts, guided walks and buzzing activities. You can even get a glimpse of live bees up close! You'll bee amazed, bee enchanted and bee happy. Meet at the Francis/King Nature Centre off Munn Road.

Sunday, March 22 | 10:30am-12pm

Busy Beavers (Guided Walk)-5 years+ Elk/Beaver Lake Regional Park (Saanich)

Join us at the shores of the Beaver Ponds to see an active beaver lodge. Participants will have a chance to learn more about this amazing mammal and its marvellous adaptations. Meet at the Equestrian Centre parking lot off Beaver Lake Road.

BC Transit #70, #72 or #75

Thursday, March 26 | 1-2:30pm

Ugh! A Slug! (Guided Walk)-All ages Devonian Regional Park (Metchosin)

Be it a banana or a licorice slug, they may surprise you with their amazing abilities! 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 information kiosk in the parking lot off William Head Road.

BC Transit #54 or #55



Buzz About Bees

Saturday, March 28 | 11am-2pm

Salmon Saturday (Drop-in Event)-All ages Charters Interpretive Centre (Sooke)

There's something fishy going on! Drop by between 11am and 2pm to check out the demonstration hatchery, see salmon fry, enjoy displays at the interpretive centre and explore along the river with CRD Regional Parks naturalists. Meet at Charters Interpretive Centre at 2895 Sooke River Road.

Tuesday, March 31 | 9:30-10:30am

Nature Shapes (Guided Walk)-5 years and under Francis/King Regional Park (Saanich)

There are so many ways to look at a forest. Bring your young ones along and join a CRD Regional Parks naturalist for hands-on activities to spot different shapes and patterns hidden in nature.

There is no fee for this program but you must pre-register by March 27 as space is limited.

Visit www.crd.bc.ca/parks-events.

Tuesday, March 31 | 11am-12pm

Nature Shapes (Guided Walk)-5 years and under Francis/King Regional Park (Saanich)

There are so many ways to look at a forest. Bring your young ones along and join a CRD Regional Parks naturalist for hands-on activities to spot different shapes and patterns hidden in nature.

There is no fee for this program but you must pre-register by March 27 as space is limited.

Visit www.crd.bc.ca/parks-events.



Salmon Saturday

April

Sunday, April 5 | 1-2:30pm

Bear Necessities (Guided Walk)-All ages
Thetis Lake Regional Park (View Royal)

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 washroom building at Main Beach.

Saturday, April 11 | 10-11:30am

Egg-cellent Nests (Guided Walk)-All ages
Francis/King Regional Park (Saanich)

Spring is here and the birds are busy! Join a CRD Regional Parks naturalist to discover the birds that call Francis/King Regional Park home. We'll explore the accessible Elsie King Trail keeping an eye out for our fine-feathered friends and their egg-cellent nests! Meet at the Francis/King Nature Centre off Munn Road.

Saturday, April 18 | 11am-12pm

People, Plants and Places (Guided Walk)-5 years+
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 and see why Island View Beach is so special. Meet at the grassy area adjacent to the picnic shelter off Homathko Road.



People, Plants and Places

Saturday, April 18 | 1-2pm

People, Plants and Places (Guided Walk)-5 years+
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 and see why Island View Beach is so special. Meet at the grassy area adjacent to the picnic shelter off Homathko Road.

Sunday, April 19 | 9:30-10:30am

Hoo Hoo's Hooting? (Guided Walk)-5 years and under
Mill Hill Regional Park (Langford)

A know-it-owl! Join a CRD Regional Parks naturalist to learn about what makes these night hunters so amazing. Bring your little ones for a walk in the forest and a story all about these birds.
There is no fee for this program but you must pre-register by April 15 as space is limited.
Visit www.crd.bc.ca/parks-events.

BC Transit #53

Sunday, April 19 | 11am-12pm

Hoo Hoo's Hooting? (Guided Walk)-5 years and under
Mill Hill Regional Park (Langford)

A know-it-owl! Join a CRD Regional Parks naturalist to learn about what makes these night hunters so amazing. Bring your little ones for a walk in the forest and a story all about these birds.
There is no fee for this program but you must pre-register by April 15 as space is limited.
Visit www.crd.bc.ca/parks-events.

BC Transit #53



Hoo Hoo's Hooting?

Saturday, April 25 | 1-2:30pm

Family Fun Walk (Guided Walk)-All ages
Elk/Beaver Lake Regional Park (Saanich)

Join a CRD Regional Parks naturalist for fun kid-friendly nature activities on a lovely walk in the park with your family! Bring a snack and water, and wear sturdy footwear. Meet at the grassy area adjacent to the picnic shelter in the Filter Beds parking lot off Beaver Lake Road.

BC Transit #70, #72 or #75

Sunday, April 26 | 10am-12pm

Wildflowers of Mill Hill (Adult Guided Hike)-18 years+
Mill Hill Regional Park (Langford)

An opportunity to explore the spring wildflowers atop Mill Hill which boasts a riot of colour. Hike the hill with a CRD Regional Parks naturalist and you'll learn the identities of beautiful blooms and hear interesting plant lore. **There is no fee for this program but you must pre-register by April 22 as space is limited.**
Visit www.crd.bc.ca/parks-events.

BC Transit #53

CONTINUED ON BACK PANEL



Wildflowers of Mill Hill

Saturday, May 23 | 9:30-10:30am

Feelin' Out Frogs (Guided Walk)-5 years and under Elk/Beaver Lake Regional Park (Saanich)

Spring is in full swing, and so are the frogs! Join a CRD Regional Parks naturalist in exploring the fabulous lives of the frogs that live in Elk/Beaver Lake, including why they sing, their lifecycle and their adaptations. **There is no fee for this program but you must pre-register by May 19 as space is limited.** Visit www.crd.bc.ca/parks-events.

BC Transit #70, #72 or #75

Saturday, May 23 | 11am-12pm

Feelin' Out Frogs (Guided Walk)-5 years and under Elk/Beaver Lake Regional Park (Saanich)

Spring is in full swing, and so are the frogs! Join a CRD Regional Parks naturalist in exploring the fabulous lives of the frogs that live in the lake including why they sing, their lifecycle and their adaptations. **There is no fee for this program but you must pre-register by May 19 as space is limited.** Visit www.crd.bc.ca/parks-events.

BC Transit #70, #72 or #75

Saturday, May 30 | 10am-12pm

Up the Blooming Hill (Guided Hike)-8 years+

Lone Tree Hill Regional Park (Highlands)

Join a CRD Regional Parks naturalist for a guided hike to the top of the peak at Lone Tree Hill Regional Park. We'll make stops along the way and see spectacular views. Bring a snack, water and wear sturdy footwear. **There is no fee for this program but you must pre-register by May 26 as space is limited.** Visit www.crd.bc.ca/parks-events.



May

Saturday, May 2 | 10-11:30am

Beginner Birding Basics (Guided Walk)-All ages Island View Beach Regional Park (Central Saanich)

Ever wanted to bird watch? This is a great time of year to start this new hobby as courtship and territory disputes fill the air with song. Learn what to look for and how to use a spotting scope and field guides. Bring binoculars if you have them. Meet at the grassy area adjacent to the picnic shelter off Homathko Road.

Sunday, May 3 | 10-11:30am

Wildflower Wonders (Adult Guided Walk)-55 years+ Francis/King Regional Park (Saanich)

Spring has sprung and wildflowers are here! Come for a leisurely stroll or roll with a CRD Regional Parks naturalist to see what's up along the universally accessible Elsie King Trail at Francis/King Regional Park. Discover what makes this park so special in springtime. Meet at the Francis/King Nature Centre off Munn Road.

Sunday, May 17 | 1-2:30pm

Forest to Seashore (Guided Walk)-All ages Witty's Lagoon Regional Park (Metchosin)

Join a CRD Regional Parks naturalist to explore three different habitats in one walk! Stroll through the forest to the lagoon and finally to the beach to discover what this special place has to offer as we follow the path to the sea. Meet at the Witty's Lagoon Nature Centre off Metchosin Road.

BC Transit #54 or #55



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.

Connect with us



Capital Regional District



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CRDVictoria



Making a difference...together

Capital Regional District | Regional Parks

490 Atkins Avenue, Victoria, BC V9B 2Z8

Tel: 250.478.3344 | Fax: 250.478.5416

E: crdparks@crd.bc.ca | www.crd.bc.ca/parks