

MACNAMARA FIELD NATURALISTS' CLUB

P.O. Box 391 Arnprior, Ontario K7S 3L9 – www.mfnc.ca. Like us on Facebook!

Meetings: first Tuesday of the month at 7:30 p.m., Arnprior Curling Club, 15 Galvin Street

Annual Memberships – Family \$30, Individual \$25 – Renew Online

Guests welcome: \$5 per meeting – Students welcome to attend for Free!

March 2015 BULLETIN

Also available online at mfnc.ca under Current Bulletin

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NOTICE

At the March 3 meeting, the membership passed Amendment 2 to Article 4 of our Constitution: Directors, to change the number of Board members to “a Board consisting of a minimum of seven (7) and a maximum of fifteen (15) Directors elected at a general meeting of members in good standing. “

UPCOMING MEETINGS

April 7 –Ottawa-based freelance naturalist and photographer **Tony Beck** will tell us about: **Spring Bird Migration in Eastern Ontario – how local bird populations change between Winter and Summer.**

May 5, 2015: 2015 is the International Year of Soil. **Dr. Valerie Behan-Pelletier**, an Honorary Research Associate (an Emeritus position) with the Research Branch of Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, will present: **Have you eaten any soil lately? Soil – Where oribatid mites live and where our food begins.** Soils are possibly the least understood of the planet’s ecosystems, and the most fragile, and are increasingly among the most degraded ecosystems in many parts of the world.

June 2, 2015: Brenda Van Sleuwen, Conservation Biologist – Eastern Ontario, Nature Conservancy of Canada will update us about **Gillies Grove and the Gervais property**, near Westmeath, Ontario, which has been purchased with a generous donations from the Ottawa Field Naturalist Club supplemented by a donation by our Club. Join us to better understand the importance of these NCC properties supported by our Club.

FIELD TRIPS Up-to-date information is posted on the website under the Events tab. Always check this site for last minute changes before heading out on a field trip.

IMPORTANT: Register for each trip at events@mfnc.ca

March 29: Annual Owl Prowl. Leader: Michael Runtz **Meet:** 7 p.m. in the parking lot of the Metro Store, 375 Daniel Street South, Arnprior. Park away from the store, close to Daniel Street. From the parking lot we will carpool and then drive to several locations where we will search for owls. **Dress very warmly; we will be standing outside the cars for periods of time.** Target species will be Barred and Northern Saw-whet Owls, and Eastern Screech-Owls. Along the way, expect to learn more about these fascinating birds from Michael as he discusses their ecology and behaviour. This is always a popular excursion so please register early. **NOTE: REGISTRATION IS NOW CLOSED. NUMBERS ARE AT CAPACITY.**

April 17: Frogs, Salamanders and Other Creatures of the Night. Note: This event is very weather-dependent and the postponement date is April 24. **Leader:** Jakob Mueller **Meet:** 7 p.m. on Stonecrest Road, at the corner of MacLaren Side Road. Park on the side of the road.

Welcome the sounds of spring as we search for Spring Peepers, Chorus Frogs, Wood Frogs, Spotted Salamanders, various bugs and other creatures that seem to come alive as the ponds finally melt. We will visit ponds in two different places in the Woodlawn-Dunrobin area. Wear your highest rubber boots, if you have some, dress warmly and bring a flashlight. **Bring the kids; this will be a very “kid-friendly” event!**

May 9: Bird Watching at Presqu’île Prov. Park in Brighton, Ontario. Details to follow.